



St Mary's  
Catholic School  
Tauranga

## newsletter

ISSUE 3: 5 March 2020

### Ash Wednesday Liturgy 26 February



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Our People Our Place

# be. informed

[oxforddictionaries.com / informed.](http://oxforddictionaries.com/informed)

adj: having or showing knowledge of a subject or situation.

## Message from the Principal

### First Sunday of Lent, Cycle A

Sunday, March 1, 2020

### Gospel Reading

Matthew 4:1-11



Jesus fasts for 40 days in the desert and is tempted by the devil.

### Background on the Gospel Reading

In each of the three Synoptic Gospels (Mark, Matthew, and Luke), after Jesus' baptism by John, Jesus is reported to have gone to the desert to fast and pray for 40 days. In each case, while in the desert, Jesus is tempted by the devil.

Matthew and Luke give more detail than Mark does, but each one tells how the devil tempts Jesus in the desert. In Matthew, as in Luke, the devil presents three temptations to Jesus. The devil tempts Jesus to use his power to appease his hunger; he tempts Jesus to put God's promise of protection to the test; and he offers Jesus all of the kingdoms of the world if Jesus will worship the devil. In each case, Jesus resists the temptation, rebuking the devil with words from Scripture.

The account of Jesus' temptation in the desert is filled with allusions and parallels to the Old Testament, including the story of the people of Israel. The Israelites spent 40 years wandering in the desert in Exodus, for example, and Jesus spends 40 days in the desert. As the Israelites were tempted during the Exodus, so too is Jesus tempted.

Each temptation offers insight into both God and the human condition. Jesus' rejection of the temptations shows that he will not put God to the test. Grounding himself on the word and authority of Scripture, Jesus rebukes the devil, confident in God's protection and faithfulness.

As we start our journey through Lent, our Sunday readings call us to adopt the same confidence that Jesus had in the face of temptation: God's word alone will suffice; God's promise of protection can be trusted; God alone is God.

### Dear Parents/Caregivers,

I want to thank all of our parent volunteers who have helped with all the sports, trips and activities associated with St Mary's so far. This helps us as a school immensely and we are grateful for your support.

Our Ash Wednesday Liturgy was a wonderful occasion to celebrate the beginning of Lent. Our student leaders, Mrs Rush and myself along with Aquinas College representatives attended Mass at 8am on Wednesday morning and brought the ashes back to school to place on our communities foreheads. This was a great way to show the school/parish connection.

I hope all our families have the opportunity to share the eucharist with our parish and Aquinas College this Sunday at 10.30am Mass.

### Coronavirus

Currently we are sending out all the correct and relevant information around this to our community via facebook or email. This is information sent to us from the Ministry of

Education and the Ministry of Health. Please remember to stress to your children as we are the importance of washing our hands regularly and cleaning surfaces. We will continue to keep our community updated as we hear.

### Social media is a part of our world

This is so important for us adults to understand and model good practices to our children. The best form of communication is face to face. Please continue to model those good practices to our children by following school policies when posting any information associated with St Mary's Catholic School Tauranga. If you require any information around this go to the website below and type in the policy you require.

<https://stmarystga.schooldocs.co.nz/index.htm?toc.htm?1893.htm>

### Rubbish

Thank you to all our families that are able to encourage their children to continue to take their rubbish home. This certainly helps our local environment.

## 2020 Term Dates

Sunday 8 March

Aquinas College School Mass 10.30am

Monday 9 March

Whanau Walter Art Gallery 12.30pm

Tuesday 10 March

- Catch up with James Murray 9am in the staff room
- A small group of Kapa Haka students perform at the Tauranga Library 10.30am
- Whanau Akkerman Art Gallery 12.30pm
- PTA Meeting 7pm
- Aroha team WBEET forms are due today

Wednesday 11 March

- Whanau Rush Art Gallery 12.30pm
- International afternoon tea 2pm

Thursday 12 March

- Whanau Akkerman Mass 9am
- Whanau Laban Art Gallery 12.30pm
- New Entrant Meeting 3.15pm
- Sacramental enrolments close today

Friday 13 March

PTA Outdoor Adventure Day

Monday 16 March

Sacramental Programme begins 4pm

Tuesday 17 March

- Catch up with James Murray 9am in the staff room
- South Cluster Swimming 9am

Wednesday 18 March

Whanau Robbie Art Gallery 12.30pm

Thursday 19 March

- Whole School Mass - St Joseph at 9.30am - all students and staff travel to and from St Mary Immaculate by bus
- Mayoral Welcome for International Students

Friday 20 March

Outdoor Adventure postponement day

Tuesday 24 March

- Catch up with James Murray
- Board of Trustee Meeting 6pm

Thursday 26 March

- Whanau Robbie Class Mass and exposition 9am
- Benediction 2pm

Friday 27 March

- Teacher Only Day - school is closed
- Aquinas EPro 8

School will be closed on these Teacher Only Days. Please put these dates in your diary.

\* Friday 27 March

\* Friday 29 May

\* Monday 10 August

be.  
Christ-like

be.  
reflective

be.  
creative

### Procedure for concerns

If there are any concerns throughout the year with your child please contact the teacher first. The teacher is the first contact and where necessary it is best to meet face to face. If you are not satisfied then it is good to contact the Team leader then make a time to come in and see myself or a member of the Senior Leadership team.

### Uniform Expectation

One of our school unwritten rules at the moment is that we expect our children to enter and exit school in the correct school uniform, shoes as well. Over the next couple of weeks we will be keeping a close eye on our uniform standards.

### Catch up every Tuesday this term

Every Tuesday at 9am for this Term I will be in the staffroom to meet family members, welcome them and ask and answer questions that you have. This is an opportunity to build strong relationships and for me to meet as many of the St Mary's community as possible.

### Teacher only days for Terms 1, 2 & 3

St Mary's School will be closed for Teacher Only Days on the following dates.

**Friday 27th March** there will be a Teacher only day where the teachers will be undertaking Professional Development.

**Friday 29th May** there will be a Teacher only day with our Catholic Kahui Ako.

**Monday 10th August** there will be a Teacher only day where the teachers will be undertaking Professional Development.

### Outdoor Adventure Day

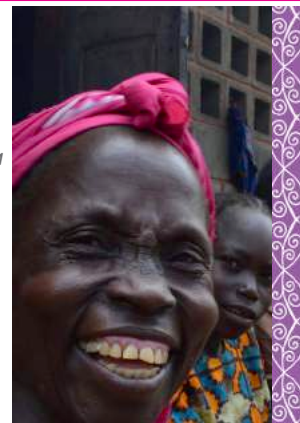
Finally, I look forward to seeing all our children enjoy Outdoor Adventure Day next week. Many thanks for the great response from our families who have offered to help out on the day.

**James Murray**  
Principal

### Special Character

E te whanau, tena koutou katoa.

*This year for Caritas students will be learning about different countries and their needs. In Tika and Maramatanga students will learn about the needs of those in Kiribati, the Holy Land and Timor-Leste. In Whakaponu students will learn about the needs of those in Cambodia, Tonga and Papua New Guinea. In Aroha students will learn about the needs of those in Kiribati, Philippines, Tonga and Fiji.*



### Pray for Solidarity Te Inoi mō te Kotahitanga

Almighty and ever-living God,  
E Te Ariki, e te Atua ora tonu,  
empower your one human family  
to join hands on our journey of  
faith.  
Send us your spirit of hope,  
so that we may work  
to alleviate human suffering

The theme for Lent 2020 is Renewed by the Spirit. Pope Francis challenges us all to be transformed and renewed by the Spirit so that we can follow the path of love. When we do this we become God's ambassadors on Earth.

The 2020 our school resources are entitled Caritas in Action: Restoring Hope and Spreading Love and feature inspiring stories from all around the world of how Caritas is working alongside communities in need to restore hope and help them overcome challenges.



### Renewed by the Spirit

"God wants to speak to the world by your  
life... do not abandon the path of love"

Gaudete et Exultate, Pope Francis, 2018

### Sacramental Programme 2020

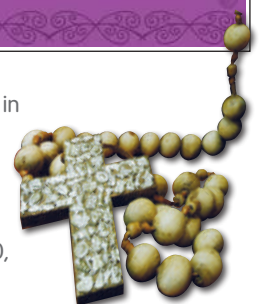
The online enrolment form is now live on the Parish website for children who are in Year 5 and above.

Sacramental enrolments close on Thursday 12th March. No late enrolments will be accepted.

For more information visit the parish website  
>Sacramental Life > Sacramental Programme 2020,

or contact Margie Cooper in the parish office 5786209.

<http://taurangamoanacatholic.nz>





## MARAMATANGA NEWS

In Māramatanga we have been learning about our Hub Rules. We read the story 'The Tree House Treaty' and then wrote our own rules. We signed our name on a feather, decorated our feather and then created a beautiful korowai. The korowai hangs in our Hub to remind us how important it is to follow our School and Hub Rules.



(Evie wearing our Māramatanga Korowai)



- I follow our Hub Rules when I listen carefully to others - Isabelle R
- I follow our Hub Rules when I play nicely with others. I use my kind hands, feet and words - Charlie
- I use our Hub Rules when I use my walking feet - Jessica
- I use our Hub Rules when I Show 5 - Eli
- I use our Hub Rules when I use my quiet voice inside - Tallulah

Where are we from? We are learning that our families come from different places, including Sri Lanka, India, Korea and Fiji. In Week 8 we will celebrate our cultural differences by wearing our cultural costumes to school and sharing food from that country.



We are also learning about each other. We created a jumbo jigsaw puzzle. We can learn a lot about each other by looking at the pieces of the puzzle. We have a Family Tree in Māramatanga. It helps us talk about our families.



## Estuary monitoring

Whanau Walter recently completed the first estuary monitoring survey for 2020 which is part of our school science curriculum. We found a range of species including pillbox crabs, tunnelling mud crabs, cat worms, whelks and triplefin fish. The students used a range of equipment and robust scientific methods to gather their data. This data now gets shared with the Regional Council as part of their ongoing research about the health of our harbour environment. Many thanks to our parents Kirsty Carter, Megan Nelis, Janet Kirk, Kelvyn Parry and Chris Goss for their support. Thank you also to our science expert Emma Richardson, Mrs Walter and Mr Mills for their organisation.



## GET FITTED BY THE EXPERTS TODAY

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Every time you buy a pair of shoes.

Have you started the school year and found that your child's shoes are too small or they are in need of a new pair?

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www.theathletesfoot.co.nz

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(07) 282 7963

Do you have any of the following good condition toys that are no longer used at home?

We would love to use them here at St Mary's!

- \*Lego and duplo
- \*Wooden blocks
- \*Pop up tents
- \*Diggers
- \*Sand pit toys
- \*Rebounders
- \*Metal cooking trays, muffin trays, ladles, pots, bowls etc for use in sandpit
- \*Diggers, dump trucks
- \*Good condition toys



Please drop anything you would like to donate to the school office.



## Aroha Swimming Sports

On Tuesday 17th March the following students will be representing the school at the South Cluster Swimming Championships. Good luck to you all.

**Yr 6 Boys** - Tiare Workman, Peter Chang, Sidney Orchard, Vaughan Murray, George Hopkins. **Yr 5 Boys** - Matthew Rogers, Lachlan Murray, Henry Hopkins, Sammy Farrelly, Tom Mason, Harry Gross, Jude Tarr, Lachlan Talbot. **Yr 6 Girls** - India Scholes, Areta Kahura, Cleo Sands, Jahren Ralia, Rose de Jong, Mandy Levis. **Yr 5 Girls** - Addison Sands, Jessica Cha, Mackenzie Jury, Milli Banbury, Greer Sander.



We helped Mr Murray plant his Kōwhai tree in our native garden after Celebration hui on Friday.



## FIJI BUILD FUNDRAISER MOVIE NIGHT



**Grab a friend or 3 for a fun night at the 'feel-good' movie of the year!!**

**Thursday 12th March, Rialto Cinema, 7:15pm (complimentary nibbles from 6:30pm).**

**Tickets \$20pp - all proceeds go to the house-build in Vanuakula, Fiji.**

### TICKETS:

Phone Mary (accounts) 543 2400 or Yvonne 027 2096179.

**militarywives**

*Support the Aquinas Fiji team and get ready to sing-along, laugh, cry and cheer!*



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be.  
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