

# St Monica's Religious Education Newsletter



## The Angelus

The Angelus, a prayer of devotion commemorating the incarnation. At St Monica's, all students and teachers stop at 12pm when the Angelus bells ring, to pray this important prayer. Many parents have been asking for a copy of the prayer, to pray with their children. You will find this prayer on Page 3 of the bulletin.

## Welcome to 2015

Welcome to 2015. We hope you have had a restful break with your families, and you are ready for the new year.

On Sunday 1 February, we celebrated our Welcoming Mass, where we welcomed all our Kindergarten and new students. We also inducted our new Year 6 leaders and presented them with their leadership badges. It was great to see so many families at mass.

I'd like to send birthday wishes to Father Fernando and Sister Teresa, who celebrated their birthdays on the same day. Happy Birthday! It was also fantastic to see the Sisters again. They made such an impact in the lives of our students, parents and wider community last year, and everyone was very excited to see

them on Sunday. A huge thank you to Mrs Kneipp, who worked with me in planning the Mass, and prepared and sung the hymns for our Mass.

Coming up this term, we prepare for one of the most important times in our church calendar, Holy Week. Leading up to Holy Week we also have many whole school celebrations. All dates and locations are listed on the back of the bulletin. It would be great to see parents and members of our community attending.

This year, our Christ-centred leaders will be rotated throughout the year. I would like to take this opportunity to welcome into this role for Term 1:

- Kyah Day
- Mattheas Noonan

- Christian Stathopoulos
- Amalie Dona

I look forward to working with all the Year 6 leaders and having their assistance when planning and running school liturgies and masses.

In this issue of the RE newsletter outlines the Sharing our Story Units that will be taught in Term 1 in each stage, the liturgies and masses, the sacramental details and other important information relating to Religious Education.

I look forward to continuing our partnership this year. Please feel free to see me if you have any suggestions or questions about Religious Education at St Monica's.

Peace and love,  
**Michelle Rosewell**  
Religious Education Coordinator

### Early Stage 1:

#### Unit #1: God Loves Me

Students will *identify* special God– given qualities that make them unique, *describe and critically reflect* upon ways in which feelings are expressed, *recognise* and *appreciate* that God always loves them and *identify* ways in which they can show their love for their family and friends.

#### Unit #2: Lent: From Ashes to Easter

Students will *identify* Ash Wednesday as a special day which is the first day of Lent, *recall* the story of the first Palm Sunday, *recognise* special signs and symbols of Lent/ Easter and their relevance to the life of Jesus and *develop an awareness and appreciation* of Lent/Easter through participation in activities and celebrations of other classes and/or the whole school.

### Stage 1:

#### Unit #1: Jesus Helps Me to Love

Students will *recognise* Baptism as a ritual of initiation into God’s family, where they are called to love, share with, listen to and accept others, *recall* gospel accounts and parables which demonstrate how Jesus encouraged others to grow, *recognise* that Jesus calls them to love one another; and *list* ways of responding to this call and *appreciate* that as part of God’s family they are called to seek justice, truth and hope.

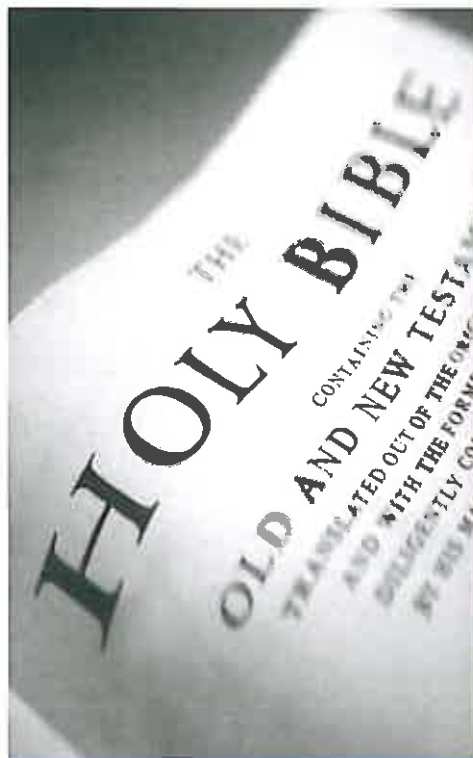
#### Unit #2: Lent: Being Alone

Students will *recall and reflect* upon times of being alone, *appreciate* that Jesus prayed to God his Father, *identify* prayer as a means of preparing to celebrate Easter, *recognise* Lent as a particular time for repentance and *participate* in a variety of prayerful experiences.

### Stage 2:

#### Unit #1: Talking and Listening to God

Students will *identify* the values that should inspire the ways in which we communicate with others, *retell* stories from the Bible which tell of the importance of prayer in the lives of God’s people, *grow in appreciation* of the prayers and prayer traditions in the Church that have been passed on from generation to generation and *work in groups to identify, write and pray prayers* of praise, thanks, sorrow and petition, *reflect on* the experience of



## Sharing Our Story

Sharing Our Story is the document used in The Diocese of Parramatta to guide the teaching of Religion in our Catholic schools. The units explore Bible scripture, Jesus’ mission, sacraments and Church teaching. Each Stage works with material that is relevant to the needs of its learners, using resources that engage and support understanding and connect students with the core learning of Catholic Faith.

spending time alone in individual prayer.

#### Unit #2: Lent: Practices and Promises

Students will *identify* and *give examples* of three forms of Lenten penance, *research* examples of Old Testament covenants, commandments and laws, *describe* how God established a covenant relationship with the people of Israel through Moses, *explain* the importance of the Ten Commandments and laws in the covenant relationship between God and the people of Israel and *propose* ways in which their relationship with God and others can be renewed this Lent through the fulfilment of promises to undertake Lenten practices.

### Stage 3:

#### Unit #1: Servant Leadership

Students will *compare and contrast* different styles of leadership, *identify and explain* characteristics of the servant leadership displayed by Moses and Jesus and *apply* the Christian ideals of leadership in their school community.

#### Unit #2: Easter Triduum: Crossroads

Students will *recall and explore* ‘crossroad’ situations in their own lives when they were faced with making decisions, *explain* how Jesus, Pilate, Judas, Peter and the other disciples were confronted with ‘crossroad’

situations, *link* events of Jesus’ passion, death and resurrection with the liturgies celebrated in Holy Week and Easter and *dramatise* Christian responses to real-life moral dilemmas.



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St Monica’s Religious Education  
Implementation Goal 2015:

For teachers and students to  
develop a broader  
understanding of prayer in it’s  
various applications.

## The Angelus

V. The Angel of the Lord declared unto Mary.

R. And she conceived of the Holy Spirit.

*Hail Mary, full of grace,*

*The Lord is with Thee;*

*Blessed art thou among women,*

*And blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.*

*Holy Mary, Mother of God,*

*Pray for us sinners,*

*Now and at the hour of our death. Amen*

V. Behold the handmaid of the Lord.

R. Be it done unto me according to thy word.

*Hail Mary...*

V. And the Word was made Flesh.

R. And dwelt among us.

*Hail Mary...*

V. Pray for us, O holy Mother of God.

R. That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

LET US PRAY

Pour forth, we beseech Thee, O Lord, Thy grace into our hearts, that we to whom the Incarnation of Christ Thy Son was made known by the message of an angel, may by His Passion and Cross be brought to the glory of His Resurrection.

Through the same Christ Our Lord.

Amen.

## 2015 Sacramental Program

If your child has received the *Sacrament of Reconciliation* and the *Sacrament of Communion* and is in Year 5 or above he/she is eligible to receive the **Sacrament of Confirmation on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> May @7:30pm**

Registration after Mass on:

- Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> February @ 5pm Mass
- Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> February @ 9am Mass.

Bring Copy of Baptismal Certificate and a Donation of \$30.

Parent Only Meeting in School Community Room, Daking Street on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> March @ 7:30pm

### Sacramental Dates for 2015

- Confirmation: Friday 22 May @ 7:30pm
- Communion: Weekend 23 August @ 9am
- Reconciliation: Friday 20 November @7pm

## St Monica's School Prayer

Dear Lord,

We thank you for our friends, family and teachers

Alleluia Praise the Lord for our houses, our energy to pass the day, our food and beautiful weather.

Support us now and always. May the peace of Christ be with us throughout the day.

May St Monica and her son St Augustine help us all through the week to be more and more like Jesus.

We pray for all *parts of the world that are in trouble*

St Monica, Pray for us.

Amen

## Project Compassion 2015

Project Compassion 2015 focuses on Food for Life. It throws a spotlight on global food issues and how Caritas Australia is empowering the world's poorest people to establish sustainable food sources for life.

Next week each family will be sent home a project compassion box, where they have donate or collect money to donate towards the project compassion appeal. There will also be project compassion boxes in each learning space.

Please have a look at the website: [caritas.org.au](http://caritas.org.au) for more information.



**Catholic Schools Week:**  
*'Educating for today and tomorrow'*  
Catholic schools week will be held from 8 – 14  
March. More details to follow!

# Term 1 Calendar of Upcoming Events

Here is a list of the Liturgies and Masses for Term 1, 2015. There is always an open invitation for you to join us in prayer. We hope that you might take up the opportunity to attend Mass with your child's class during the Term.

Week	Date	Event	Location
Week 3	Thursday 12 February	Stage 1 Parish Mass	Church, 9:15am
Week 4	Tuesday 17 February	Shrove Tuesday	Classrooms
	Wednesday 18 February	Ash Wednesday Mass	Church, 9:15am
Week 5	<b>First Week of Lent</b>		
	Thursday 26 February	ES1 Parish Mass	Church, 9:15am
	Friday 27 February	Stage 3 Parish Mass	Church, 9:15am
Week 6	<b>Second Week of Lent</b>		
	Wednesday 4 March	Stage 2 Parish Mass	Church, 9:15am
	Thursday 5 March	Stage 1 Parish Mass	Church, 9:15am
Week 7	<b>Third Week of Lent</b>		
Week 8	<b>Fourth Week of Lent</b>		
	Tuesday 17 March	St Patrick's Day Liturgy	Assembly area, 10:30am
	Friday 20 March	Stage 3 Parish Mass	Church, 9:15am
Week 9	Wednesday 25 March	Stage 2 Parish Mass	Church, 9:15am
	Wednesday 25 March	Annunciation of the Lord	In class prayer
	Thursday 26 March	ES1 Parish Mass	Church, 9:15am
Week 10	<b>HOLY WEEK</b>		
	Monday 30 March	Palm Sunday	Morning Liturgy
	Tuesday 31 March	Jesus at the Temple	Morning Liturgy
	Wednesday 1 April	The Last Supper	Morning Liturgy
	Thursday 2 April	The Crucifixion	Morning Liturgy