

# St Monica's Religious Education Newsletter



## Regina Coeli

The Regina Coeli is an ancient prayer that is sited or sung in the Catholic Church. The Regina Coeli is a prayer about our lady, the Blessed Virgin Mary. Each day at 12pm, the Regina Coeli will be said when the bells ring, replacing The Angelus from Easter Saturday until Pentecost. You can find The Regina Coeli in this newsletter, and practise it at home with your children.

## "Celebrating 100 Years"

Welcome back to Term 2 of 2015. We hope you have had a safe, holy and restful Easter break. Once again, we have a lot happening this term.

We began with our ANZAC Day liturgy last Friday that was led by our Stage 3 students. Our theme this year was **'Celebrating 100 Years'**. We reflected on the service of our diggers and prayed for soldiers who are fighting today for our country, and for other countries. It is always an emotional experience to think back to what our soldiers endured in fighting for the freedom we are lucky to have in our country today. Thank you to the parents who joined us for this liturgy, and to every student at St Monica's who displayed reverence and solemnity through their prayers and active involvement in the liturgy.

Coming up next week we have our Mothers Day mass. This will be held on Thursday 7 May at 9:15am. We would love to see all our mothers, grandmothers, aunts, and other significant women in our students lives at the mass so we can say thank you for everything that you do for us. We have a special surprise for you all on this day that everyone has been working very hard on!

There are many other important dates for liturgies, masses and sacraments for this term. Please check the Term 2 calendar on the last page of the newsletter.

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome into this role of Christ-centred leaders for Term 2:

- Hayley Herder-Beke
- Jordan Crockett
- Patrick Newey
- Salama Kunambi

I look forward to working with these Year 6 leaders this term and having their assistance when planning and running school liturgies and masses. Our leaders hold a big responsibility in this role, and are relied upon for updating, designing, creating and changing all of our schools liturgical displays and prayer tables. A huge thank you to our Term 1 leaders; Kyah Day, Mattheas Noonan, Amalie Dona and Christian Stathopoulos for all their hard work and dedication in this role.

I continue to look forward to seeing the amazing work of our students in the area of Religious Education in their books and displayed around our school. Please take time to complete and return the parent feedback sheet on the last page. Your opinions and feedback are highly valued.

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

## Early Stage 1:

### Unit #1: My Family Loves Me

Students will *recognise* the uniqueness of their family, *appreciate* the key elements of gathering and sharing in family celebrations, *retell* the story of the time the boy Jesus was lost by his parents and found teaching in the temple and *appreciate* that God's love is experienced through the caring people in their lives.

### Unit #2: God is Our Creator

Students will *grow in awareness* of and appreciation for the variety and beauty of God's creation, *identify examples* that demonstrate that the natural world is always changing, *retell* the first account of creation in Gen 1:1-3 and *list* ways in which they can care for creation.

## Stage 1:

### Unit #1: Easter Season: Together

Students will *recall and share* their family experiences of Easter, *recount* the events of the first Easter Sunday morning, *describe* how the Paschal Candle and the Alleluia are used in the Easter Season liturgies to celebrate that Jesus is risen and *participate* in a variety of Easter prayer experiences.

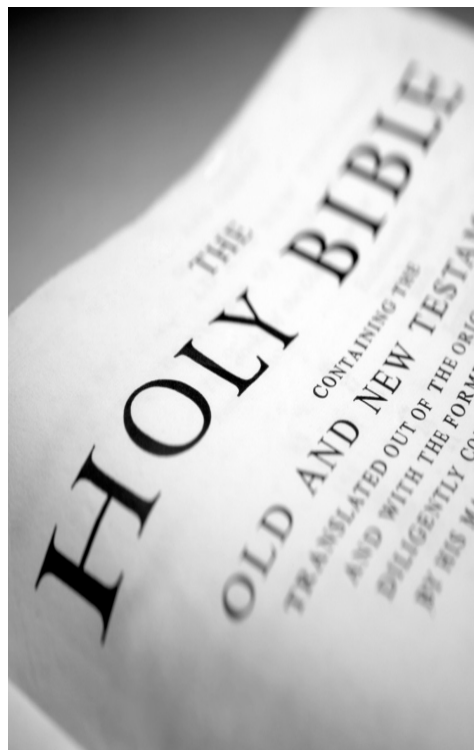
### Unit #2: Stories of Jesus

Students will *recall* significant events in their own life story, *state* that the Gospel accounts relate stories about Jesus and explain what these stories teach us, *recall* stories of Jesus and about Jesus and explain what these stories teach us, *recognise* ways in which they can respond to the love of Jesus revealed through these stories and *appreciate* the value of the Bible as the book which tells them stories of Jesus.

## Stage 2:

### Unit #1: Easter Season: New Life

Students will *identify* experiences where they experienced 'death' in the form of sadness, hurt, anger, frustration and 'new life' in the form of acceptance, reconciliation with others, peace and inspiration, *read, analyse and compare* the different accounts of the Resurrection to study how the disciples and followers of Jesus experienced new life through their belief in the risen Jesus, *identify* some key symbols, actions and prayers of the Mass,



# 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.

which express our faith as a Catholic community in the risen Lord.

### Unit #2: Eucharist: The Structure of the Mass

Students will *recognise* the key elements of a celebration, *recall* and *sequence* the key parts of the Eucharist, *explore* the meanings of the main symbols and actions in the celebration of the Eucharist and *appreciate* the Eucharist as a means of celebrating and expressing their faith.

## Stage 3:

### Unit #1: The Story of the Catholic Church in Australia combined with Heroes for God

Students will *outline* the way of life and faith of Australian Catholics in the early years of European settlement, *recall* key aspects of the life and mission of Caroline Chisholm, *recount* the story and contribution of one significant Australian Catholic, *develop* an awareness and appreciation of the importance of Catholic schools as a major activity of the Australian Catholic Church and *recognise* the richness of the various cultural expressions and rites of Catholicism that make up the Catholic Church in Australia. The Driving Question the students will be working on is: ***How can we tell the stories of significant characters and their contribution to the development of Australian Catholic schools?***



All students will be bringing home their Religion books at the end of Week 3 for you to look at their work, and have a discussion about your child's learning. We would love to hear some feedback from you about the learning and teaching of Religious Education at St Monica's. Students also get excited when they have your feedback written and they are able to share it with their peers.

## 2015 Sacramental Dates

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



# Prayer at St Monica's

## Regina Coeli

*L: Queen of Heaven, rejoice, alleluia.*

*R: For He whom you did merit to bear, alleluia.*

*L: Has risen, as he said, alleluia.*

*R: Pray for us to God, alleluia.*

*L: Rejoice and be glad, O Virgin Mary, alleluia.*

*R: For the Lord has truly risen, alleluia.*

*L: Let us pray.*

*R: O God, who gave joy to the world through the resurrection of Thy Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, grant we beseech Thee, that through the intercession of the Virgin Mary, His Mother, we may obtain the joys of everlasting life.*

## 2015 Sacramental Program

The Sacrament of Confirmation will be held this term, on Friday 22 May at 7:30pm. The students who are receiving this sacrament will continue the remainder of their lessons for the following three weeks.

If your child has received the *Sacrament of Reconciliation* and is in Year 4 or above he/she is eligible to receive the **Sacrament of Holy Communion on the weekend of 22 and 23 August.**

**Registration for First Eucharist** will be held after Mass on:

- Saturday 30 May @ 5pm Parish Mass
- Sunday 31 May @ 9am Parish Mass.

Please bring Copy of your child's Baptismal Certificate, Reconciliation Certificate and a Donation of \$30.

**Parent Only Meeting** in School Community Room, Daking Street on Tuesday 9 June @ 7:30pm

## types of prayer

This year our school formation goal is about introducing our students to the various prayer forms. The five types of prayer that we will be focussing on throughout the year will include:

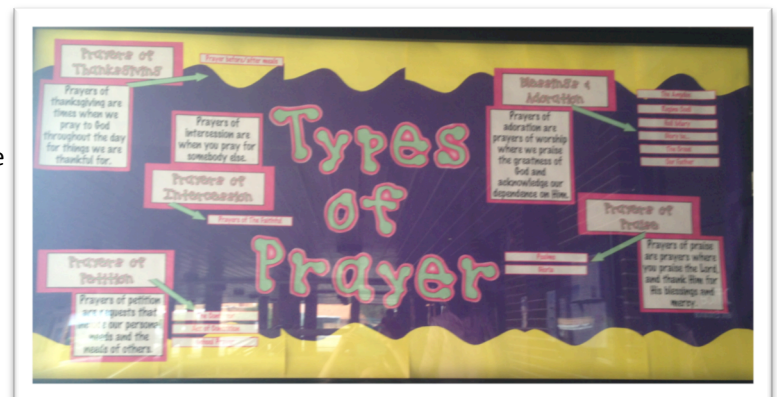
**Prayers of Petition:** Prayers of petition are requests that include our personal needs and the needs of others. Examples of prayers of petition include The Confiteor, The Act of Contrition and The School Prayer.

**Prayers of Praise:** Prayers of praise are prayers where you praise the Lord, and thank Him for His blessings and mercy. Examples include The Gloria and The Psalms.

**Blessings and Prayers of Adoration:** Prayers of adoration are prayers of worship where we praise the greatness of God and acknowledge our dependence on Him. These prayers include The Hail Mary, The Our Father, The Angelus, Regina Coeli and The Glory Be.

**Prayers of Intercession:** Prayers of intercession are when you pray for somebody else. Examples include Prayers of The Faithful.

**Prayers of Thanksgiving:** Prayers of thanksgiving are times when we pray to God throughout the day for things we are thankful for. Examples include prayers before and after meals.



Display board created by Hayley Herder-Beke, Sally Essey, Abbi Lewis and Alysha Dunnett.



Liturgical display created by Hayley Herder-Beke and Jordan Crockett.

# Term 2 Calendar of Upcoming Events

Here is a list of the Liturgies and Masses for Term 2, 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 7 May <b>Religion books sent home</b>	Mothers Day Mass	Church, 9:15am
Week 4	Wednesday 13 May Thursday 14 May	Stage 2 Parish Mass Stage 1 Parish Mass	Church, 9:15am Church, 9:15am
Week 5	Thursday 21 May <i>Friday 22 May</i>	ES1 Parish Mass <i>Confirmation</i>	Church, 9:15am <i>Church, 7:30pm</i>
Week 6	Monday 25 May Thursday 28 May <i>Saturday 30 &amp; Sunday 31 May</i>	Our Lady Help of Christians Stage 1 Parish Mass <i>Registration for Holy Communion</i>	Time, venue TBA Church, 9:15am <i>5pm &amp; 9am Mass</i>
Week 7	Thursday 4 June	Grandparents Day Liturgy	Hall, 9:15am
Week 8	Thursday 11 June Friday 12 June	ESI Parish Mass Stage 3 Parish Mass	Church, 9:15am Church, 9:15am
Week 9	Thursday 18 June	Stage 2 Parish Mass	Church, 9:15am
Week 10	Friday 26 June	Stage 3 Parish Mass	Church, 9:15am

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## Religious Education Parent Feedback

Please complete the following questions and return to the office or in the class office bag.  
Thank you for taking the time to review Religious Education at St Monica's.

1. What main aspects of RE do you like to see/enjoy participating in at St Monica's? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

2. What suggestions can you make in addition to what you already see? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

3. What is your preference for liturgies and prayer celebrations? (Please circle one)

Morning

Middle of the day

Afternoon

4. Is there anything you would like to see in the RE Newsletter that will be informative for you? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

5. Any additional comments: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_