Gospel  Pentecost Jn 20:19-23

As the Father sent me, so I send you: Receive the Holy Spirit.

In the evening of the first day of the week, the doors were closed in the room where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews. Jesus came and stood among them. He said to them, ‘Peace be with you,’ and showed them his hands and his side. The disciples were filled with joy when they saw the Lord, and he said to them again, ‘Peace be with you.

‘As the Father sent me, so am I sending you.’ After saying this he breathed on them and said: ‘Receive the Holy Spirit. For those whose sins you forgive, they are forgiven; for those whose sins you retain, they are retained.’

Reflection

Pentecost is the birth of the Church. Our hearts should be touched by the power of the Holy Spirit. Are we living our lives as if it is touched by the Holy Spirit? It is a challenge to see that we are all brothers of Jesus Christ. Have we really had a real personal experience of the Holy Spirit?

A priest from Poland told me this story…He was a young deacon who going to the town’s square when he was confronted with a group of people who were singing and dancing for their god. They were grabbing all these young people who instantly joined within the circle and danced with them and praising without realising what they were doing. The deacon was distressed to discover that people were just caught up and so influenced by this group. He said a prayer “Jesus please give them your Spirit and guide these people” and instantly the Deacon’s heart was filled with joy and peace. All of a sudden he was confronted by one of the people from the group who challenged him to join the group. The Deacon replied the only music he knew was that of the Holy Spirit given freely by God who shows love, forgiveness, and understanding. Not out of force but instead invited to dance to the music of the Holy Spirit and that Jesus loves all people. He said, “The Holy Spirit will bring you to Him sooner, rather than later.” The young man did not understand and was confused by the Deacon’s words. By the time they had the discussion most of the group dissipated and all the young people had left the group. Years later, the young man came to the deacon and asked if the priest recognised him, in which he didn’t. The young man replied “It is me from the town square singing and your words about the Holy Spirit has never left me so after years of searching I decided to become a Catholic Christian.” That is the power of the Holy Spirit.

At Confirmation, the Holy Spirit is sealed in our hearts. It is a gift given to us by God. Do we just put it aside or do we use it? Are we satisfied with the way we use the Holy Spirit and do we know how to use the Holy Spirit in our lives? We renew our Baptismal promises at Easter and Pentecost. Are we just satisfied with just the everyday ordinary and familiar? What are we really going to do with the Holy Spirit that is renewed in our life?

Prayer

When we are shut up behind the heavy doors of our own fears, anxieties, addictions, afflictions, sins, worries and woes, Lord let us receive your Spirit. Help the gift of the Holy Spirit to break open our doors and bathe us in grace. Come, Holy Spirit. Spirit of Jesus, you know our prayers. Amen.

Our Lady Help of Christians

On Friday 24th May it is the feast of Our Lady Help of Christians who is the patron saint of Australia. Please come and join us in prayer at Our Lady Help of Christians Liturgy prepared by Kindergarten, Year One and Year Two at 9.30 am at St Oliver’s Church. All welcome to come and pray for protection peace and unity for all Australians.

Mrs Franca Bonserio
Religious Education Coordinator
Understanding Your Child’s Report

Reporting time has come around once again. Before you look over your child’s report, we would like to explain the grading scale that constitutes a part of our reporting. As you know, your child’s achievement for each Key Learning Area is reported using a five point scale. This five point scale is from Year 1 to Year 6. Kindergarten uses a similar three point scale.

A – Excellent Achievement
B – High Achievement
C – Sound Achievement
D – Basic Achievement
E – Elementary Achievement

You may already have heard the phrase – “C is for Celebrate” - and that is certainly the case! Your child’s progress is tracked by the teachers using various methods of assessment including informal observations, practical activities and specific assessment tasks. These are then matched to the expected outcomes for that particular grade. Students who are achieving as expected for their grade are then awarded the overall grade of “C”. This is indeed something to celebrate!

The scale is designed to be broad so that it is able to reflect even the most capable student who is in actual fact working well beyond the expected grade level. To explain it further:

A – The student would be working and achieving well beyond the grade level. They may be part of an accelerated learning program or working on an individual “project – based” learning contract.

B – The student would be working and achieving at a level beyond that which would be expected at that time for that grade. They may be in an extension group or work occasionally on independent tasks.

C – The student is working and achieving at the level expected for their grade.

D – The student is working with some assistance to achieve at the level expected and may participate in small group focus lessons with a teacher or on individualised programs. Students who do not apply themselves and fail to complete tasks due to this lack of application may also find themselves here.

E – The student is not yet working at the grade level and requires support and intervention to achieve. Their learning tasks are modified and they receive small-group or individual learning support structured to meet their needs.

The reports will be sent home on the 11th June and Parent Teacher Interviews will be commencing from the 17th June. A note will be sent home at a later date for you to nominate a day and a time to meet with your child’s teacher.

We hope that this clarifies the grading scale for you. Now, open that report to see how your child has done . . . . and remember . . .

C means Celebrate!

~~~~~~~~~~~~~~

You Can Do It! Awards

Week 3

Well done to the following children who have been treating their teachers and classmates with respect.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Student Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kindergarten</td>
<td>Ava Brooks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 1</td>
<td>Lucia Brooks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 2</td>
<td>Manoghnna Ramagiri</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 3</td>
<td>Miranda Friscic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 4</td>
<td>Leila Nehme</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 5</td>
<td>Tania Sutiono</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 6</td>
<td>Jaeden Bowers</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This week, teachers have been looking out for children who have been following important school and classroom rules. Have you been a You Can Do It Kid this week?

Woolworths Earn & Learn Vouchers

We are collecting the Earn & Learn Vouchers again this year, please don’t forget to ask for them when you pay for your shopping and send them in to school. So far we have 2,891 points.