



St Oliver's Primary School

Newsletter

33 Wigram Street, Harris Park
Email: stolivers@parra.catholic.edu.au

Tel: 8633 8300
Website: www.stoliversharrisark.catholic.edu.au

At St Oliver's we are called to unite in service by living out our Mercy Values and striving to be quality learners who contribute positively to our community.

Term 3 Week 5

<http://www.stoliversharrisark.catholic.edu.au/home>

20th August 2020

DATES TO REMEMBER

September

Thursday 24th

Last day of Term 3

Friday 25th

Staff Development Day -
no students

Term 4

October

Monday 12th

Staff Development Day -
no students

Tuesday 13th

First day of Term 4

Wednesday 28th

October - Rescheduled
School Photos

Gospel

[Mt 15:21-28](#)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Woman, you have great faith.

Jesus left Gennesaret and withdrew to the region of Tyre and Sidon. Then out came a Canaanite woman from that district and started shouting, 'Sir, Son of David, take pity on me. My daughter is tormented by a devil.' But he answered her not a word. And his disciples went and pleaded with him. 'Give her what she wants,' they said 'because she is shouting after us.' He said in reply, 'I was sent only to the lost sheep of the House of Israel.' But the woman had come up and was kneeling at his feet. 'Lord,' she said 'help me.' He replied, 'It is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the house-dogs.' She retorted, 'Ah yes, sir; but even house-dogs can eat the scraps that fall from their master's table.' Then Jesus answered her, 'Woman, you have great faith. Let your wish be granted.' And from that moment her daughter was well again.



Reflection

The overarching theme derived from today's readings is the question of insider-outsider. We see here that the divisions and barriers that emerge out of human experience have been shattered by the graciousness of God. Jesus' openness to 'the other' finds a precedent in the prophetic tradition. Isaiah spoke of a time when outsiders would join insiders in worshipping God, thus dissolving the categories of insider and outsider. He was, of course, referring to the age of eschatological fulfilment. This age dawned with the coming of Jesus. Jesus himself moved out of the constraints of his own cultural worldview, and he directs us to do the same. People are either excluded because of gender, culture or religious perspective, or included only because they are able and willing to conform to discriminatory standards. In the reign of God, this should not be the case. People are accepted along with their own cultural profiles.

God's embrace first enclosed even those who rejected Jesus, and then God's plan of salvation unfolded in a new way. An invitation to enter the kingdom was issued to the Gentiles, those who had been considered outsiders. If outsiders are now insiders, what has happened to the former insiders? Paul insists that they are still insiders. God has not simply shifted the identifying boundaries; God has dissolved them. In the interim between the dawning of the eschatological age and the end of time, the invitation to be included remains open to all.

© Dianne Bergant CSA

90
Celebrating 90
years of Catholic
education at St
Oliver's
1930-2020



PRAYER FOR THE PEOPLE OF LEBANON

following the Beirut blast

God of Compassion,

You are strength to those who suffer and comfort to those who grieve.
We pray for the people of Lebanon in this time of disaster.
Embrace those who died so suddenly and console those
who grieve for loved ones.

United in solidarity with our Lebanese sisters and brothers we pray:
For healing and strength for those injured and suffering
That the international community will respond with generosity
and compassion
And that stability and peace will be restored in Lebanon.

We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.

- Jo Brady RSJ Caritas Australia



Student prayer

Dear God, please help Lebanon recover from the big explosion that they had and help all the adults and children to recover. Amen. Kameliah Yr 5

Dear God, I thank you for my family and friends, I thank you for food and water and also a roof over my head. Please help me to be loving and kind always. I also pray for those who are suffering from Covid 19. Please bless them and stop the virus. I pray for Victoria, especially because of the second wave but other than that, thank you for keeping Australia safe and happy. Please help those who suffered from the bomb in Lebanon. I feel very sorry for those who lost their loved ones. Please help them and let this never happen again. I also pray for my family in India during Covid 19. India just keeps getting more and more cases, so please bless my beautiful family. Amen. Navleen Yr 5

Dear God, please help all those infected with the coronavirus and those who are losing their jobs in China and Australia because of the virus. May God help and bless these people. Amen. Mathieu Yr 5

Sacraments of Initiation - First Reconciliation and First Eucharist 2021

Due to COVID 19 the timeline for Sacraments has been delayed. Registrations for Sacrament of Reconciliation will be open later in the year.

New Sacrament Team

At St Oliver's we are currently changing the way we approach the Sacramental Program for children. Firstly, we would like to thank St Patrick's, Parramatta who have worked in collaboration with us to lead the sacramental journey for candidates in recent years.

We are now operating in our service of the sacraments independently as a community at St Oliver's. With Rev Chris de Souza's (PP) guidance and leadership, a newly formed community team has begun reimagining how the formation of the Sacraments can help all those in St Oliver's, Harris Park community to walk humbly in the way of Jesus, serving all of God's people and to be a formation experience for all.

Currently, families who are intending to enrol their child/ren into the Sacraments (Reconciliation and Eucharist) and their child is currently in Year 2 or above (or are / have turned 8 years old in 2020) you have the opportunity to join us for an online ZOOM information session on Tuesday, 13th October at 6:00pm:

- Click here to register:
 - [Sacraments at St Oliver's event registration](#)

Sacrament of Confirmation

Those family members who are looking to enrol their child/ren into the Sacrament of Confirmation in 2020 please contact Anthony Matthews to enrol directly. Due to COVID 19 this process in 2020 has been placed under the care of the Parish:

- stolivers@parra.catholic.edu.au

The newly formed Sacramental program at St Oliver's, Harris Park will help accompany families and candidates on their faith journey where families will:

- Inquire
- Explore
- Form
- Celebrate
- Love

The responsibility of the Parish Sacramental team will help design and lead formation which will allow families and community to discover the Sacramentality of God and will experience love which fosters the understanding that we are living and active people made in the image and likeness of God.

Many thanks

Very Rev Christopher de Souza
Parish Priest

Monica Officer, Barbara Young, Anthony Matthews
Sacramental Team Leaders

Sacrament of Eucharist

Congratulations to the students listed below who received Jesus in the Sacrament of Holy Communion on Sunday.

The preparation for these families was different and had to be reimagined. It was ever present that the Holy Spirit was with them to Christ.

Lord Jesus Christ, in the Sacrament of the Eucharist you left us the outstanding manifestation of your limitless love for us. Thank you for giving our children the opportunity to experience this love in receiving the Sacrament for the first time. May your Eucharist presence keep them ever free from sin, fortified in faith, pervaded by love for God and neighbour, that they may continue to receive you throughout their lives. Amen.



| | | | | |
|--------|---------|--------|-------|---------|
| Xavier | Metcof | Jordan | Diya | Matylda |
| Pierre | Francis | David | Chase | Ryan |

PBS4L NEWS

FOCUS WEEKS 4-5

At St Oliver's we are safe with our equipment and belongings.



OLI'S STAR CLASS

Congratulations to Year 2



Learner Quality Awards

| | | | | | |
|---|-------------|---|---------|---|---------|
| K | Elijah | 1 | Dimitri | 2 | Emma |
| K | Grace | 1 | Jel | 2 | Tristan |
| K | Dev | 1 | Nathan | 2 | Joann |
| K | Shaun | 1 | Audrey | 2 | Nuella |
| 3 | Isata | 4 | Sophie | 5 | Ava |
| 3 | Herewini | 4 | Mya | 5 | Akeem |
| 3 | Saisha | 4 | Zaq | 5 | Elie |
| 6 | Christopher | | | | |
| 6 | Maria-Kayla | | | | |
| 6 | Angeline | | | | |

"Tell them from me" survey 2020

Over the next two weeks we will be inviting students, teachers and parents to provide feedback on their experience of our school using an online survey. The surveys are an important part of our whole school evaluation and planning process.

We would like to invite you to complete the *Tell Them From Me (TTFM)* Partners in Learning survey. As we value the role of parents and carers within our school community we would greatly appreciate your feedback. The information you provide will be used to maintain our commitment to working together in partnership to further improve student learning and wellbeing at St Oliver's Harris Park.

The survey is anonymous and will take approximately 20 minutes to complete. You are able to access the parent survey on your computer or mobile device by using the URL below:

<http://tellthemfromme.com/stolivers2>

Celebrating
90 years
of Catholic
education at St
Oliver's
1930-2020

History of St Oliver's

SPORT COLOUR HOUSES AT ST OLIVER'S AND THEIR MEANINGS **MACARTHUR – Blue**

This colour house is named after John Macarthur who arrived in Sydney with the second fleet. He was granted land in Rosehill where he cleared and cultivated the land for growing crops. In 1793 he had 'Elizabeth Farm' cottage built named after his wife, Elizabeth. He was one of the early pastoralists of NSW and began Australia's wool industry.

Celebrating
90 years
of Catholic
education at St
Oliver's
1930-2020

History of St Oliver's

SPORT COLOUR HOUSES AT ST OLIVER'S AND THEIR MEANINGS **MCAULEY – Gold**

This colour house is named after Catherine McAuley who founded the Sisters of Mercy in Ireland in 1831. Catherine looked after children, the sick and the poor. The Sisters of Mercy began their work in Australia in 1881 in Parramatta. The Mercy nuns moved in to the Convent at Harris Park in 1926 and established St Oliver's Primary School in 1930.

Celebrating
90 years
of Catholic
education at St
Oliver's
1930-2020

History of St Oliver's

SPORT COLOUR HOUSES AT ST OLIVER'S AND THEIR MEANINGS **RUSE - Green**

This colour house is named after James Ruse who arrived on the first fleet and was given the first land grant in New South Wales at what is now known as Rosehill. He grew the first commercial crop of wheat in the colony at his farm 'Experiment Farm'.

Celebrating
90 years
of Catholic
education at St
Oliver's
1930-2020

History of St Oliver's

SPORT COLOUR HOUSES AT ST OLIVER'S AND THEIR MEANINGS **PLUNKETT – Red**

This colour house is named after our patron saint St Oliver Plunkett. St Oliver was Archbishop of Ireland and established schools, ordained priests and confirmed thousands of people. He suffered a great deal and was eventually executed because of his religious beliefs. Our school is named after St Oliver.