Dear Parents

Looking for something worthwhile to do for yourself during the coming season of Lent? How about having a look at how you participate as a member of our single human family that is equally marvellous, fascinating and perhaps threatening in its diversity. Lent is often a time given over to “holy” words of repentance and promises of self-reform but: “However many words you speak, what good will they do if you do not act on them?” *Buddha.*

The challenges of our times are not only political and social, they are spiritual: “the modern world is ‘desacralised’, that is why it is in crisis. The modern person must rediscover a deeper source of personal spiritual life.” *Carl Jung.* It is difficult to grow spiritually, morally or ethically, if we fail to give due recognition that all people are equally valuable and important. We can’t grow spiritually, morally or ethically if we belittle people different to us in their appearance, manner and customs in order to make us feel more important as human beings. We will begin to grow spiritually, morally and ethically, when we are ready to sincerely embrace the truth and fascination of our differences and welcome the common yearnings we have about life.

Stephanie Dowrick expresses this sentiment beautifully when she writes: “Seeing life itself as sacred—yours, mine, all of life—makes our differences far less frightening. More importantly, it makes sense of how like one another we are in our simplest and most profound longings. Whatever our culture, religion or language, we want food, shelter and good health. We want to be able to get up in the morning, enthusiastically, and sleep safely at night. We want health, safety and happiness for our loved ones. We want to know that our lives are purposeful and sometimes gracious. We want to feel part of something greater than ourselves. We want and need inspiration and meaning.” *Extract, Seeking the Sacred.*

St Paul in his inspiring letter to the people of Philippi encouraged them to, “Show an agreeable attitude to everyone.” He suggested how they might be able to do this: “All this is true, all that is worthy of reverence, all that is holy and good, all that is lovely to look at and beautiful to hear, all that has virtue and all that deserves praise, let that be the content of your thinking.” *Phil. 4: 5,8,9.*

Our spirituality is as personal as our breath or our fingerprint, but, as we move through the forty days of Lent, we might on occasion, surrender freely to the quiet with us, to rediscover the resources and strengths that are there. We might begin to see better and appreciate more, the value of our existence, to see ourselves with more gratitude and respect and to see others in a like manner.

“*Spirit of God within me, help me this Lent to grow in gratitude for my life. Help me to reveal the face of Christ, to other people as they enter into my life.*” *Amen.*

Wishing you every blessing for the week ahead.

Danuta Haka
PROJECT OF COMPASSION

Fourth Week of Lent Weekly Story

Lorraine’s story - Australia—Our place

Six years ago, Pintupi woman, Lorraine, discovered she had kidney failure. With treatment hundreds of kilometres away, the Purple House in Alice Springs has become her second home. With Caritas Australia’s support, she is able to take stay connected to her country and culture and pass on her traditional knowledge to younger generations.

“There is a big mob of Aboriginal people working here. It is our place; we are welcome all the time.” Lorraine

Lorraine grew up in Papunya, 300km west of Alice Springs in the Northern Territory. Six years ago, after being diagnosed with kidney failure, Lorraine, 39, learnt that she had to undergo a lifetime of weekly dialysis treatment. Deeply connected to culture, her mob and their dreaming, she is now living in a hostel in Alice Springs to receive treatment and desperately misses home. “I have to sleep indoors all the time. Someone cooks our food and cleans our rooms. I have no family here. I stick to myself. I am homesick.”

To keep her spirit alive, Lorraine visits The Purple House which was established in 2004 by Western Desert Nganampa Walytja Palyantjaku Tjutaku Aboriginal Corporation, to support First Australian patients who have been dislocated from country and culture.

Caritas Australia is supporting a new income-generating social enterprise at the Centre – making and selling bush balms.

“My favourite balm is Irremenke Irremenke. It is a good bush medicine that our grandparents used to make. It is good for pain and headaches. It is a cheeky plant, it is hard to find and hard to grow. I love the smell of the bush balm mix boiling up. It reminds me of home,” said Lorraine.

This bush balm program offers people aged 23-75 who are chronically unwell, a sense of purpose, comfort and wellbeing. It gives them the opportunity to pass on traditional knowledge and values, ensuring participants retain their connections with home.

Until the doctors say that Lorraine is palya (good) and she is able to receive local treatment, The Purple House and the bush balm program is her home away from home.

“There are young people learning these things too. That is good, so the old ways are not lost.” Lorraine

Mr David Ison
Religious Education Coordinator

SOCIAL SKILLS PROGRAM

The social skill for next week is:

R-E-S-P-E-C-T

T—Think before you act.

THANK YOU

A BIG THANK YOU to Antonia O’Dwyer (Mia Yates’ grandmother) who entered in the Rexona Bash for Cash promotion. Mrs O’Dwyer nominated St Michael’s and won $12,500 for the school!

The money will be spent on reading material to top up our resources in line with the new National Curriculum which has a literature based focus.

Once again, thank you Mrs O’Dwyer.

DESKS AND CHAIRS AVAILABLE

Due to the recent refurbishment of the Year 5 and 6 classrooms there are still a few student desks and chairs that we no longer require.

We would be happy for you to take desks and/or chairs for a small donation.

Please contact the office for further information on 9639 0518.

PARISH NEWS

After 10

After 10 happens straight after 10 am Mass on Sundays. It’s a great opportunity to meet new people, have a good cuppa and catch up with others. WHEN: 9 and 23 March. All welcome.

Good Friday 10 am Stations of the Cross Play

Are you interested in helping out with the Good Friday 10 am Stations of the Cross play? We are looking for volunteers in school years 5 to 12. In addition if you are a young adult keen to play an acting/supervising role on the day, we would love to hear from you.

Contact Jerry 0423 342215 or email youth@stmichaelsbh.org.au

Lenten Reflection Group

Come and join in The Lenten Reflection Groups. If you are new to the Parish or wanting to make friends, this is a good opportunity to meet and share with others. There will be a booklet available and we will meet every Wednesday in Lent, beginning 12 March. If you require a daytime group that can also be arranged. Please contact Parish Office on 9639 0598,

Barbara Stenning 9639 9581 or Anne Sullivan 9624 6916.

World Day of Prayer

This year World Day of Prayer service will be held at Wesley Uniting Church, Castle Hill. The World Day of Prayer committee in Egypt has prepared the Order of Service for 2014, the theme being ‘Streams in the Desert’. The service will be held at 32 Showground Rd, Castle Hill, on Friday 7th March, starting at 7.30pm. All are welcome.
## Dates to Remember

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fri 7 Mar</td>
<td>Yr 6 Excursion – Narrabeen Sport &amp; Recreation Academy – Depart 7.30 am; return approx. 6.00 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Catholic School’s Week 9 – 15 March</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tue 11 Mar</td>
<td>Classes 2Red and 2Blue attend Parish Mass at 9.15 am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed 12 Mar</td>
<td>Classes 5Red and KBlue attend Parish Mass at 9.15 am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed 12 Mar</td>
<td>Yr 4 Reconciliation – 10 am in the Church</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thu 13 Mar</td>
<td>Classes 3Blue and 3Red attend Parish Mass at 9.15 am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri 14 Mar</td>
<td>Catholic School’s Week Eucharistic Liturgy in the Church at 10.15 am followed by morning tea; and open classrooms from 11.30 am—1.00 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri 14 Mar</td>
<td>P&amp;F—Family Portrait Fundraiser</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sat 15 Mar</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Tue 18 Mar</td>
<td>Classes 4Yellow and 4Green attend Parish Mass at 9.15 am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed 19 Mar</td>
<td>Classes 3Yellow and 3Green attend Parish Mass at 9.15 am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed 19 Mar</td>
<td>Yr 6 Reconciliation – 10 am in the Church</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thu 20 Mar</td>
<td>Classes 1Green and 6Green attend Parish Mass at 9.15 am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri 21 Mar</td>
<td>School Cross Country Years 2-6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tue 25 Mar</td>
<td>Classes 1Red and 6Red attend Parish Mass at 9.15 am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed 26 Mar</td>
<td>Classes 4Red and 4Blue attend Parish Mass at 9.15 am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thu 27 Mar</td>
<td>Classes KYellow and 5Green attend Parish Mass at 9.15 am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri 28 Mar</td>
<td>Yr 5 Liturgy in the Church at 10.15 am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri 28 Mar</td>
<td>NSWCPS Swimming trials - Homebush</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon 31 Mar</td>
<td>National Young Leaders Day (Yr 6 Leadership team)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tue 1 Apr</td>
<td>Classes 1Yellow and 6Yellow attend Parish Mass at 9.15 am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed 2 Apr</td>
<td>Classes 1Blue and 6Blue attend Parish Mass at 9.15 am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thu 3 Apr</td>
<td>Classes 2Green and 2Yellow attend Parish Mass at 9.15 am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tue 8 Apr</td>
<td>Classes 5Yellow and KGGreen attend Parish Mass at 9.15 am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed 9 Apr</td>
<td>Classes KRed and 5Blue attend Parish Mass at 9.15 am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed 9 Apr</td>
<td>NSWPSSA Swimming</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thu 10 Apr</td>
<td>Classes 3Blue and 3Red attend Parish Mass at 9.15 am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thu 10 Apr</td>
<td>Student and Citizen of the Term Awards – 2.30 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri 11 Apr</td>
<td>Whole School Mass 10.15 am End of Term 1 Concludes 3.10 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>School holidays Mon 14 April—Fri 25 April</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon 28 Apr</td>
<td>Term 2 Commences</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Student of the Week

**Term 1 Week 5**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>KBlue</th>
<th>Lachlan Martin</th>
<th>3Red</th>
<th>Benjamin Walters</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>KGreen</td>
<td>Isabelle Stevens</td>
<td>3Yellow</td>
<td>Ashley Gremmo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KRed</td>
<td>Lachlan Cefai</td>
<td>4Blue</td>
<td>Georgia Marshall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KYellow</td>
<td>Gabriel Younan</td>
<td>4Green</td>
<td>Thomas Saad</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1Blue</td>
<td>Jemma Adamek</td>
<td>4Red</td>
<td>Kristen Betros</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1Green</td>
<td>Elizabeth Semenov</td>
<td>4Yellow</td>
<td>Amelia Woodroffe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1Red</td>
<td>Samuel Kable</td>
<td>5Blue</td>
<td>Amy Gow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1Yellow</td>
<td>Jacob Kelly</td>
<td>5Green</td>
<td>Joshua Fox</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2Blue</td>
<td>Kaitlin Giffney</td>
<td>5Red</td>
<td>Brooke Woodroffe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2Green</td>
<td>Robert McKay</td>
<td>5Yellow</td>
<td>Ashleigh Petrovic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2Red</td>
<td>Alexander Sobb</td>
<td>6Blue</td>
<td>Nancy Boutros</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2Yellow</td>
<td>Marcus Borg</td>
<td>6Green</td>
<td>Georgie Lamond</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3Blue</td>
<td>Dulansa Rajawasam</td>
<td>6Red</td>
<td>Tiana Anderson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3Green</td>
<td>Laura Croucher</td>
<td>6Yellow</td>
<td>Daniela Jurcivic</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## 2015 Enrolment Procedures

Enrolment packages for Kindergarten 2015 can be collected from the school office from 10 March—20 May 2014.

School Open Morning for 2015 Enrolments is Thursday 10 April from 9.30 am to 11.00 am.

Please contact the school office on 9639 0518 for further information.

## Student Banking

**Just a reminder to:**

- Please ensure that the student number is written on the deposit slip each week.
- Please ensure the deposit slip is fully filled out each week, otherwise the banking will be returned without being processed.
- Please ensure the correct money amount is in the banking pouch for your child and recorded correctly on the deposit slip.

Thank you.

*Kim, Banking Coordinator*

## Catholic School's Week

**9-15 March**

**MORNING TEA - FRIDAY, 14 MARCH**

Eldest Child’s Name..............................................................

Class ..................................................................................

Number of guests attending the morning tea (please circle)

1 2 3 4
**News from 4Green**

**Why Lent is so important**

I am so grateful to God for all He has done for me. Now I need to do something for Him. How can I do this? Well we can all do this by embracing more prayers in your life and by obeying His Ten commandments. It is so important to do this because God has put us on this Earth for a reason. Our grade motto this year is ‘Actions speak louder than words?’ This means that we need to show God that we love Him through what we do, not what we say. So in this happy time of Lent we need to show really how much you love Him and He will do something for you to show how thankful He is. I will do this because I love God so much. I would never stop following in His footsteps and never follow in the footsteps of evil. So show God how much you love Him through your actions, not words. Remember what He has done for you. I hope this has put a great lot of love in your heart and put your faith into action. Remember God is in the Heavens like a beautiful shining star.

Lent is so important because we show God how much we love Him by giving up things, like Hungry Jacks and chocolate. We also thank God for our Mum and Dad and our lives. We love Him by following the footsteps of Jesus. If someone is very sick you pray to God and He will try to answer our prayers. God is so special because He made us this beautiful world that we live in. He made animals, grass, trees, leaves and soil. We give up things because Jesus gave up things for 40 days and nights in the desert with no one at all. I love God with all my life like gold and silver diamonds on Earth. We should give up things because think of what God has done for us and what you have done for Him in your life so far since you were baptised in Jesus’ home in the Church. This is why it is so important to give up things for Lent every year of your whole entire life.

---

**SCHOOL FEES**

Term 1 school fees have been issued and are due to be paid 7 March 2014. Thank you to those parents who have paid their fees in full or taken up the flexible payment plan offered. Please contact Mrs Borsato if you would like to discuss your payment plan on 9639 0518.

---

**COLLECTION OF CHILDREN IN THE AFTERNOON**

For the safety of all children, please note that children are not to be picked up from the Year 2 verandah as they collect their bags. Children are dismissed on the 3.10 pm bell and then go to the playground for parent pick up or go to other allocated areas. If you are collecting your child from parent pick up, please wait on the top playground area not on the Year 2 verandah.

Thank you to all the parents/carers who have returned the signed policy update forms which were handed out regarding going home arrangements.

Thank you also for your support and assistance in following the new policies which has had a positive effect on maximising learning time and minimising stress for the children.

---

**P&F Mailbox**

A P&F mailbox is located in the foyer of the school office for any mail, etc which needs to go to the P&F. Mail is collected on a regular basis. Children can deposit mail direct to the P&F via this mailbox.

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**Parents Representative Council**

**Diocese of Parramatta**

The Parents Representative Council (PRC) is the diocesan parent organisation that represents the parents and guardians of children attending Catholic schools in the Diocese of Parramatta. The Council consists of parent representatives from primary and secondary schools and works in partnership with the Bishop, the Catholic Education Office, priests and school staff to support the education of our children.

**Upcoming Presentation:**

**The Transition to High School: Helping your child to build resilience & navigate change**

**Date:** Wednesday 26 March 2014

**Time:** 7.00 pm (doors open 6.30 pm)

**Venue:** St Paul’s Catholic College, 198 Old Prospect Rd, Greystanes

**RSVPs preferred to** prcparraevevents@hotmail.com

**Contact:** Selina Calella, PRC President

**Email:** prcparrapresident@gmail.com
REMINDER!

Family Portrait Fundraiser

$20 for one 10” x 13” framed colour portrait

For $20, you receive a 10” x 13” framed colour portrait! The sessions are in 15 minute blocks and you can select a day and am or pm from below.

Friday 14th March 4pm to 8pm - school hall studio portrait
Saturday 15th March 1pm to 6pm only available - outdoor school grounds photography

S A T U R D A Y 1 5 T H M A R C H M O R N I N G IS B O O K E D O U T

Laura Jean Fundraising will organise a time with you on the day to pick up your framed portrait from the school. Additional optional photo packages will be available for your consideration at that time. After the RSVP date, the P&F will be in touch with you to confirm your 15 minute slot for your photographic session and when best to arrive at the school. For any queries, please contact Lyndal Pascoe - lyndal017@yahoo.com.au

We apologise, but as this is a fundraiser, we cannot refund if you cancel your booking or are not present on the day.

Please select your preferred day AM or PM below and RSVP by **Tuesday 11th March** to the school office with your payment of $20 in an envelope marked “P&F Portrait Fundraiser”

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Friday 14th March</th>
<th>PM</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Saturday 15th March</td>
<td>PM</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Name: ...................................................................................................................................................................................

No of people attending session: ...........................................................................................................................................

Email address: ...........................................................................................................................................................................

Phone: .....................................................................................................................................................................................

Included with this booking is $20 [ ] cash or [ ] cheque

(cheques payable to “St. Michael’s P&F”)

What does it mean to be a P&F Committee member?

At St Michael's P&F we strongly believe in our motto - Community, Friendship and Education. We are a united group of parents working towards the common goal of raising much needed funds to support our children's school as well as raising community awareness and forming new friendships.

Being a volunteer on the committee is an ideal way to contribute to the school in a capacity that fits around your own lifestyle. Whether it is being a helping hand at a fundraiser or attending the quarterly meeting to voice your opinion, either way, your input and effort is appreciated. There is no minimum time requirement - it's open to suit you and your family.

This year's P&F is a diverse range of parents with children from all different grades. We have formed new friendships and we support each other, appreciating that all of us have differing work hours, busy schedules and differences of opinion. Working together as a team we have put together a sustainable fundraising calendar and will have a fabulous time as a group to achieve our end goals.

We have a strong committee this year of 14 members plus an executive team of 4.

Melanie Barton - President
Lyndal Pascoe - Vice President
Leah Kable - Treasurer
Marina Grainger - Secretary

We are always keen to welcome new members - if you are interested or have any questions please contact us!

Find us on:
facebook.

www.facebook.com/PSStMichaelsPrimaryBaulkhamHills
Please go and “LIKE” our page for updates & news!

If you have any concerns or feedback, please email: pandfstmichaels@gmail.com -
We thank you for your continued support!

www.pandfstmichaelsbaulkhamhills.com

Thank you!
We've had a great response to our first 2014 fundraiser. This is a little reminder to get your booking in as spaces are filling!
If you have any queries please contact Lyndal: lyndal017@yahoo.com.au
SPORTS NEWS

Congratulations to the following students who were successful at the Diocesan Swimming Carnival and now progress to the NSW CPS Swimming Carnival on 28 March 2014:

- Ryan Lange
- Amelia Harvie

Senior boys relay: Darcy Brette, Nicholas Iordanou, Ryan Lange, Brayden Marshall

Junior girls relay: Felicity Arundell, Amelia Harvie, Lauren Malysiak, Anneke van Zoggel.

Mr Steve Kovelis
Sports Coordinator

Mount St Benedict College

Open Day Sunday 9 March 10 am - 2 pm. Prospective Parent Information Evening for Year 7, 2016. Monday 10 March 7pm. Please note: Families with a daughter in year 5 should apply now for Year 7, 2016.

449C Pennant Hills Rd, Pennant Hills Ph: 9980 0444
www.msb.nsw.edu.au

OLMC Parramatta

Open Day - Sunday March 2

Our Lady of Mercy College Parramatta invites you to its 2014 Open Day on Sunday 2 March 2014. Discover the College’s rich tradition and cutting edge education, enjoy a ‘comfortable cup of tea’ and join in the celebrations as we mark 125 years of Mercy Excellence at OLMC in 2014.

Sunday, 2 March 10.00 am – 2.00 pm. Principal’s welcome at 10.00 am and 12.00 noon.

Reservations can be made by visiting www.olmc.nsw.edu.au or phone 8838 1263 to reserve your place or obtain further information.

UNIFORM SHOP—2014

Every Thursday during Term time
8.30 am—9.30 am

Please ensure your child’s name is mentioned on all items of clothing.

SUMMER AND WINTER UNIFORM PRICE LIST FORM

Available on our website at the following location:
http://www.stmichaelsbhills.catholic.edu.au/school-notes

PLAY RUGBY LEAGUE WITH THE BRUMBIES

FINAL REGISTRATIONS

Does your child love watching Rugby League on the television and is always kicking a ball around the backyard? Then playing rugby league may be the game for him/her.

The Baulkham Hills Brumbies play in the Parramatta Catholic Schools Convents Association and games are played on Sundays. Children learn the skills of rugby league in a safe and enthusiastic environment. All Mini League games are played with the coach on the field and allow all children to remain safe, get involved and have fun!

Registrations are closing soon. The cost for the 2014 season is $120 for one child and $180 for a family. This is great value for money and includes a training shirt, shorts, socks and end of year trophy.

Please call Simone if you are interested in registering your child. If you have any questions about our club or the game itself please call today.

Registrar - Simone Urquhart - 0412 996 479

Loreto Normanhurst

Open Day, Saturday, 15 March 2014 from 11 am to 3 pm.

This is an opportunity to experience the best in 21st Century learning as you explore the beautiful grounds and enjoy morning tea, a light lunch or barbecue.

- Presentations by the Principal and the Directors of Learning & Pastoral Care.
- Classroom and extra-curricular activities including art, music, drama and sport.
- Tours of the School and Boarding School

COME AND SEE THE SCHOOL IN ACTION!

91 – 93 Pennant Hills Road Normanhurst
Visit www.loretohn.nsw.edu.au for more details

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