



Newsletter No. 13

19 May 2021

The vision of St Lawrence Catholic Primary School, Balcatta is to share the message of God's love and friendship in a community of learners, developing the full potential of each child.



Fr Francis Jordan

*Founder of the Society of the Divine Saviour
and Sisters of the Divine Saviour.*

*The Vatican has announced the beatification
of Fr Francis Jordon.*

John Baptist Jordan was born on 16th June 1848 into a poor family in the village of Gurtweil, in the southwest of Germany. He was the second child of Lawrence and Notburga Jordan, who took him to be baptised the day after his birth with the name of John Baptist. His early life was uneventful, but even as a child he had to work hard and do his share to support the family, because his father had been invalided due to an accident.

At his first communion a strange incident occurred. It seemed to him that a dove fluttered over his head, but since no-one else saw it he kept the vision to himself. But from that time he committed himself to God and felt that he had a vocation to the priesthood. He was a talented and lively boy and well liked in the village. Because of the poverty of the family he could not continue at school. Instead he learned the trade of painter and decorator and travelled widely for several years practising his new profession. In this way he saw the great spiritual and material needs of the people.

Jordan was eventually able to begin his journey to the priesthood by taking lessons in Latin from a friendly priest. He then went to the Gymnasium in Constance for two years to complete his basic education. It was not easy for him to sit in the class with much younger boys, but by dint of hard work he graduated with good marks, particularly in languages. From there he went to the Diocesan Seminary of St Peter in Friburg (Germany), where he was ordained in 1878 at the age of thirty. Already in the Seminary he showed great interest in the Missions and in the apostolate of the press and began to have ideas about starting a work that would unite Catholic forces in the spread and defense of the faith.

Due to the Kulturkampf—the opposition of the Prussian State to the Catholic Church—he was unable to exercise his ministry in his home Diocese and his Bishop sent him to Rome to study oriental languages. He went to live at the Campo Santo Teutonico right next to St Peter's Basilica, where he soon became known for his gift of acquiring oriental languages.

This extraordinary gift for languages—he had a working knowledge of more than forty languages—meant that in 1880 he was given the opportunity by the Congregation for the Propagation of the Faith to travel on their behalf to the Middle East.

On this tour of Egypt and Palestine Jordan took the opportunity to discuss his plans with many eminent Churchmen; their interest in his ideas gave him great encouragement. While climbing Mount Lebanon he had a profound spiritual experience. The words of John 17:3 ran through his mind “Eternal life is this, to know you, the one true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent.” He came down from the mountain resolved to put his plans into practice.

*On his return from the Middle East he began to search for collaborators. By this time, he had moved to the house of S. Brigitta in Piazza Farnese where he established a printing press and started printing the monthly magazine *Der Missionär*.*

On the 8th December 1881 in the Chapel of St Brigida in Rome, Father Jordan and two other priests took private vows as members of the Apostolic Teaching Society. It is this date which is kept as the foundation day of the Salvatorians.

Father Jordan would have achieved little if he had depended solely on his own abilities. Those who followed him did so because they realised that he was a man of God. They knew him to have deep faith and trust in God. Over and over again his plans had to be modified in the face of circumstances and the demands of the Church—Jordan bowed to these changes as expressions of the will of God.

He kept a Spiritual Diary in which he poured out his deepest thoughts and prayers. This Spiritual Diary is a remarkable document, and it remains a source of inspiration to his spiritual sons and daughters. Father Jordan was very much devoted to the See of Peter and went each day to St Peter’s Basilica to pray at the tomb of the Apostle. It was often said, ‘If you want to see a Saint, go to St Peter’s and you will see Father Jordan at prayer.’

Over the years Jordan’s health was gradually undermined. Some of the reasons for this were: the stresses and strains of turning his ideas into a concrete reality; the daily worries involved in running a house of over a hundred priests, brothers and scholastics; the work of establishing the Society in many different countries in a short space of time, and the attacks he suffered in a press campaign against him in 1906. So, in 1915 when Italy entered the First World War and the Generalate moved to Switzerland, Jordan stood down as Superior General and Father Pancratius Pfeiffer took his place. Father Jordan’s health took a further turn for the worse and he died in the care of the Daughters of Charity in Tavers, Switzerland on 8th September 1918. His remains are interred in a special chapel in the general headquarters of the Society of the Divine Saviour in Rome.

We see in Father Francis Jordan a man of great faith and depth of character. Early in his life he committed himself to the Lord, and to the realisation of the special task he knew he had been given. His vision, determination and faith attracted many people to follow him and join him in trying to win the world for the Saviour. His ideas have not lost their relevance with the passing of time. If anything, his idea of working closely with groups of apostolically minded laity is more relevant than ever.

Kindly taken from: <https://www.sds.org.au/about/our-founders/fr-francis-jordan>

Inspiring Christ-Centre Leaders

The School Advisory Council meet last week. The sound financial management of the school and a future forward focus are the core business of the St Lawrence School Advisory Council. The Council supports the Principal in managing the school from a financial perspective and looks at the future prospects of the school and plans for any future developments that may need to take place. The Advisory Council may also look at future objectives to enhance the school. We have been reviewing some points that were raised in a “Thinktank” with the P&F pre-COVID-19. We are now discussing some of these points and reflecting on their relevance in this current landscape. One key focus has been maintaining a “community” aspect of our school. This has certainly been a very difficult task to navigate, especially with the prevailing circumstances and the encumbrance these have meant to social gatherings and events.

I would like to give our P&F a shout out for all they have been doing despite the impact of restrictions. The core business of the P&F is to build community and support the school. Naturally, these key areas are significantly disrupted when social events are unable to take place or if they do, under considerable restrictions. Our P&F have maintained a positive outlook and kept a keen eye on ways to respond to the circumstances and try to maintain an upbeat community disposition.

I thank the 2020 and 2021 team for their enthusiasm in these times and their continued support of the school, which ultimately is for the betterment of our children.

Catholic Schools of Excellence

I read this recently in a Principal’s journal of professional reading and was struck by its simplicity yet its accuracy. Do we have debate, or do we strive for dialogue that is purposeful, eventful and seeks to be forward moving?

DEBATE OR DIALOGUE?

DEBATE	DIALOGUE
Assuming there is one right answer and you have it.	Assuming that others have pieces of the answer.
Combative: attempting to prove the other side wrong.	Collaborative: attempting to find common understanding.
Trying to win.	Trying to find common ground.
Listening to find flaws and make counter-arguments.	Listening to understand.
Defending your assumptions.	Bringing up your assumptions for inspection and discussion.
Searching for weaknesses and flaws in the other position.	Searching for strength and values in the other position.
Seeking an outcome that agrees with your position.	Discussing new possibilities and opportunities.



Acknowledgement: S A Rosell and H Gantwerk in “Moving Beyond Polls and Focus Groups”, Vanderbilt University Press

Catholic Pastoral Communities

A huge thank you to the vast majority of parents who are adhering to the car park rules. You are to be applauded for your patience and understanding. I know that waiting can become frustrating but as we all know it takes time for little children to get into cars, put their belts on and attend to their bags. I would ask the parents who do not abide by the rules of the carpark to consider others the next time they use the Church car park drive through. At the end of the day, it is the safety of our children that is paramount to me. If that costs an extra few minutes in the waiting, then the investment is well spent! Thank you.



Accessible, Affordable and Sustainable



Our souls may lose their peace and even disturb other people's, if we are always criticizing trivial actions - which often are not real defects at all, but we construe them wrongly through our ignorance of their motives.

Saint Teresa of Avila

God bless each and every one of you.



*Sheldon Carey
M Ed, B Ed, Grad Dip
Principal*



*Blessed Francis
Jordan Pray for us*

PASTORAL CARE



Prayers to Father Adam Babinski who recent celebrated a special birthday. We are blessed to have the service of two wonderful Parish Priests and are grateful for all they do to support our school. We trust Father Adam celebrated his birthday well.

HOME LEARNING TIP

Five Tips to Balance Technology Use in Your Family

Tip one: Create a family technology policy

Tip two: Be an educated role model

Tip three: Designate technology-free zones

Tip four: Designate technology tune out times

Tip five: Talk to other families, see what works in their homes to have balance in the home.

PARISH NEWS

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION FOR ADULTS (RCIA)

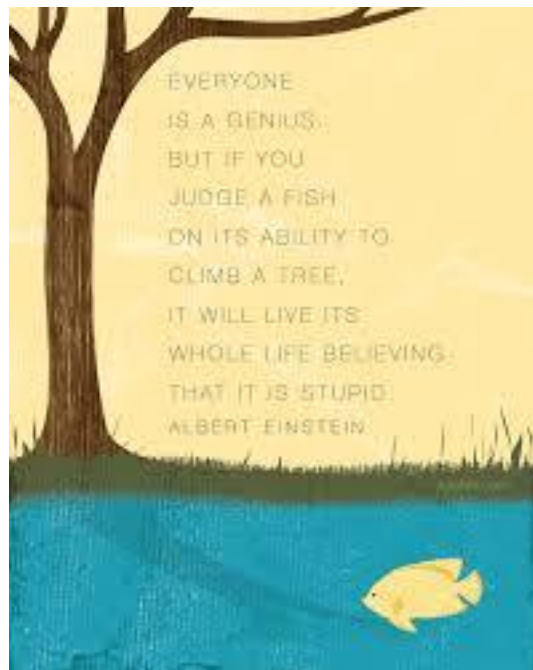
The parishes of Balcatta and Nollamara will jointly begin the RCIA course later this year. An inquiry night will be held at St Lawrence and Mary Immaculate Church, 392 Albert St, Balcatta, on Wednesday 23rd June starting at 7.30pm. If you are interested in coming to see what Catholics believe or if you would like to become Catholic, please could you let us know by contacting one of the numbers below for further information.

BALCATT:

Jo	0416 509 685
Bronwyn	0400 248 902
Parish Office	9344 7066

NOLLAMARA:

Cathy	0427 778 835
Terry	0413 389 773
Parish Office	9345 5541



FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPALS

IMPORTANT DATES

As calendar dates are subject to change, please confirm events by checking the calendar on our school website <https://www.stlawbal.wa.edu.au/>

NAPLAN 2021

We have been so proud of the way our Year 3 and 5 students have embraced the NAPLAN assessments. We are proud of their determination and commitment to achieve their personal best. We are also proud of our dedicated teachers who work diligently to ensure that all students demonstrate growth in their learning. We remind parents that NAPLAN is only one test. All children complete other assessments throughout the school year and it is through the analysis of these results that teachers tailor their programs to effectively meet the needs of the children they teach. NAPLAN assessments provide our schools with valuable data about how we as a school are progressing. We are also able to track children's progress over time. The data can highlight areas of success and identify areas that we can further improve.

SCHOOL PHOTOS

School photos are scheduled for Wednesday 26th May 2021. Kindy, Pre- Primary and Year 1 to 6 classes will have their photos taken on Wednesday. The Pre-Kindy class will have their photos on Thursday. Children from Year 1 to 6 will need to be in their full winter uniform with their school jumper (no vest). Year 6 students will wear their leavers jacket. Children with long hair must have their hair tied up with blue or white accessories. Pre-Primary will need to wear their sports uniform. Photo envelopes have been sent home. Please return all envelopes on Photo Day. **Every student must return their envelope even if they are not buying photos.** The instructions are on the envelopes and are self-explanatory. If you would like a family photo, please collect an envelope from the office.

MATHEMATICS

Students at St Lawrence are engaged in a range of learning experiences in maths lessons that develop skills, understandings and confidence to be successful mathematicians today and in the future.

Students explore, engage in and develop important mathematical ideas, knowledge and skills that they will draw on in their lives. We focus on providing students with hands on learning experiences using a wide variety of resources to support and develop their understanding of key concepts in Mathematics.

Teachers have recently began using the Launch, Explore, Summarise model in their classrooms when teaching some maths lessons. This model of teaching mathematics immerses students in an environment of inquiry that promotes structured and purposeful investigations. This week Benjamin Saulsman and Mistelle Moore, Numeracy Consultants from the Catholic Education Office modelled the Launch, Explore, Summarise model in some of our classrooms.

There are three phases in a Launch, Explore, Summarise maths lesson:

Launch

The teacher discusses a problem without giving the children instructions on how to solve it. Teachers scaffold the learning required so the children can solve the problem successfully.

Explore

Students are given time to explore and engage with the task.

Summarise

During the summarise phase the teacher selects students to share their thinking and solutions.

Teachers use enabling prompts to help students who are having difficulty with a task and extending prompts to extend student thinking.



CLASS NEWS

YEAR THREE

NAPLAN is over for another year, so we are back to our normal routine.

In Maths we are applying our knowledge of subtraction and addition mental strategies to solve written problems. We are learning key words that will help us identify which operation we need to use to solve these number stories. On Monday 31st May the children from Year 3 to 6 will be involved in a STEM Incursion run by Woodside. Children will be using their Science, Technology, Maths and Engineering skills to problem solve a situation.

We are now preparing for the Sacrament of Penance. Children are learning that “a sin is when people do something that they know goes against God’s rules. When something happens and people did not mean for that to happen, that is not a sin that is called an accident. Sometimes people can make a wrong choice or give a wrong answer because they do not know the right choice or answer, this is called a mistake. If people know God’s rules and deliberately choose to do what is wrong, that is a sin.” Please reinforce this concept with your children and share with them your First Reconciliation moment.



With the help of Sister Elizabeth, we are creating nail and cotton Reconciliation art pieces. Some children are enjoying using hammers for the very first time. We thank Sister Elizabeth for giving up her time to help us create our master pieces.

Just a reminder that we have **Reconciliation Parent meeting on Wednesday 26th May at 7pm** in the School hall and the **Family workshop on Wednesday 2nd June**.

Miss Kathleen Tranquille, Year Three Teacher

YEAR FOUR

The Year Four children have been learning about persuasive texts and what it means to persuade people. A big focus of this writing unit is looking at the different language we use to convince people about a particular topic and how this language can impact a person's opinion about the topic.



PROBLEM SOLVING IN YEAR FOUR



In Numeracy, we are working on our problem-solving skills and learning how to explain out mathematical thinking. We had Mr Benjamin Saulsman from the Catholic Education Office come into our classroom to teach us about Launch, Explore and Summarise - an inquiry-based approach to Mathematics. The children were faced with a puzzling addition problem that required them to use the properties of algebra to find the value of the shapes. I was so proud of the engagement and excitement the children had during this activity.

In Religion, we have been looking at emotions and how to manage our emotions. We learnt about Emotional Intelligence - the ability to identify, understand and manage the emotions we feel. We have also been looking at some different strategies we could use to help us in everyday life - deep breathing and mindful moments in particular.

Miss Kayla Fogliani, Year Four Teacher

YEAR FIVE

A big thank you to all the Year Fives for the wonderful way in which they approached all their Naplan Testing with a positive attitude and growth mindset. I was very proud of their organisational skills and hardworking attitude. Well done boys and girls. Let's keep up this excellent work ethic and growth mindset approach.

We enjoyed working with Mr Saulsman who came in to do a Maths lesson with us. He was very impressed by the way in which the children worked together and were able to explain their reasoning when explaining how they solved the problems set.

School photos will take place on Wednesday 26th May. Please ensure all envelopes are returned on this day. Please do not send in envelopes and money beforehand.

Our next Sacred Saints game will be on Friday 28th May against St Gerard's. The children represented our school proudly last time we played Sacred Saints, so I am looking forward to this continuing next week.



*Have a great week.
Mrs Roselyn Pizzino Year Five Class Teacher*

YEAR SIX

On Thursday 13th May the Year Six students competed in their first Sacred Saints at the Noranda Sporting complex. The students competed against Our Lady of Lourdes. They competed in various soccer, football and netball matches. Students showed great sportsmanship and made St Lawrence proud. A great afternoon was had by all!

Students are working very hard on their Science project. They are coming along beautifully!

I have had a sensational two weeks in Year Six. The students have been wonderful and they have worked really hard and applied themselves to their learning. Mr Haydon will be back on Monday 24th May.

Reminders for the coming weeks:

- School Photos: Wednesday 26th May - Students must wear their leavers jackets.
- Sacred Saints: Friday 28th May against St Gerard
- Science project due by the end of the week (Week 6)



Mrs Angela Carnevali, Year Six Teacher (Relief)

National Simultaneous Storytime 2021



Today Year 1 had a visit from Commander Carey who read the story “Give me some space” by Philip Bunting. The children were all prepared, wearing their space helmets, and were thoroughly entertained by the story of Una, who dreamed of going to space.



Thank you to Mrs Frenzel for preparing the wonderful displays, costumes and helmets for the event.



Mrs Jane Stanton, Teacher Librarian

CANTEEN NEWS

THANK YOU

To my helpers last week Anne O and Adele C, much appreciated.
Year 2 parents/grandparents if you are available to help for a couple of hours on Friday 28th May, please let me know. Your help would be very much appreciated.

MENU TUESDAY 1 JUNE

Week 7 is Wellness week and there is a pupil free day on Friday 4th June. The canteen will be open on Tuesday 1st June and we will be having a sushi.

Other menu items for the day are Nuggets \$4 or strips \$4. Toasties - Cheese \$3.50 Ham and Cheese or Ham Cheese and Tomato \$4 Tuna or Chicken Cheese and Mayo \$4.50.



Sushi day
Tuesday 1st June
5 piece \$5.50
6 piece \$6.50
Tuna, Chicken Teriyaki
or Veg



PIC•COLLAGE

2021 Canteen Staff

COMMUNITY NEWS

ATTENTION SCHOOL COMMUNITY

One of the two Traffic Wardens who works at the Children's Crossing on Main Street (near Street – Sylvia Street), Balcatta is unable to work until approximately the beginning of July. We are working to have a relief Traffic Warden attend the crossing.

Students and the school community are reminded to please be vigilant whilst crossing without one of the warden's present.



Annette Hayden | 88963 | Staff Officer
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