



Newsletter No. 9

1 April 2020

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.

Last Supper – Passover

Now on the first day of Unleavened Bread, when they killed the Passover Lamb, His disciples said to Him, "Where do You want us to go and prepare, that You may eat the Passover?"

And He sent out two of His disciples and said to them, "Go into the city, and a man will meet you carrying a pitcher of water; follow him."



Wherever he goes in, say to the master of the house, The Teacher says, "Where is the guest room in which I may eat the Passover with My disciples?" "Then he will show you a large upper room, furnished and prepared; there make ready for us."

So His disciples went out, and came into the city, and found it just as He had said to them; and they prepared the Passover.

In the evening, He came with the twelve. Now as they sat and ate, Jesus said, "Assuredly, I say to you, one of you who eats with Me will betray Me." And they began to be sorrowful, and to say to Him one by one, "Is it I?" And another said, "Is it I?" He answered and said to them, "It is one of the twelve, who dips with Me in the dish. The Son of Man indeed goes just as it is written of Him, but woe to that man by whom the Son of Man is betrayed! It would have been good for that man if he had never been born."

And as they were eating, Jesus took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them and said, "Take, eat; this is My body." Then He took the cup, and when He had given thanks He gave it to them, and they all drank from it. And He said to them, "This is My blood of the new covenant, which is shed for many. Assuredly, I say to you, I will no longer drink of the fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new in the kingdom of God."

And when they had sung a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives.

Mark 14:12-26

Inspiring Christ-Centre Leaders

In these challenging times, I am well aware of the difficulties facing us all. Each one of us, children, parents, carers, staff are facing a barrage of challenges. Having said that it never ceases to amaze me how wonderfully resilient we are. Children adapting to new learning platforms and changes in their learning environments. Parents coming to terms with the difficulties teachers face on a day-to-day basis leading instruction and delivering curriculum. These unprecedented changes present as frustrating to many as you navigate these challenging circumstances. Our teachers have sent out a wealth of information to support the remote learning requirements. I strongly encourage you all to ensure you read the teachers' detailed support documentation. Many of the questions and requests from parents being sent to teachers have already been explained in the support materials. I have read a number of the emails some parents have sent to teachers and although I sympathise with the frustrations, there is no excuse for abusive, aggressive and disrespectful correspondence. Teachers are doing their best in these difficult circumstances. They are responding to up to 30 children remotely along with up to 30 parents, whilst maintaining their curriculum planning and general online support. It is impossible for them to act beyond their physical capacities. They are doing their best, which is extremely commendable.

Please be patient, reread all their instructions and support materials. Know you can only complete what you can. Provide sufficient break times for the children; help relieve their boredom and frustrations. When it is all getting too much. Stop. Do something else, as noted before in previous correspondence, teach your children something you wished you had learned when a child...how to cook a lasagne, how to count in another language, plant winter bulbs or herbs, to iron. It is important to stay calm, do what you can, do not worry if some activities were not completed and read all the notes from the teachers.

Hard times I know, we are all in this together and should all be rowing the same boat in the same direction.

Catholic Schools of Excellence

Please be advised that students can wear both the summer or winter uniform when returning to school in Term II. We always have a two-week period of grace before the official winter uniform is mandated. However, given the current circumstances I will waver this for a slightly long period to allow parents time to access the correct winter uniform. Thank you for your support with adhering to our Uniform Policy. It is a requirement of enrolment to support **all** policies of the school and I greatly appreciate when we all do.

Catholic Pastoral Communities

All Catholic Schools are required to have an Evangelisation Policy. This policy helps our school to shape and form the Evangelising mission of a Catholic School within the Catholic Church.

The Principles underlining our Evangelisation Policy are:

- At St Lawrence we are called to share the Word of God with those in the school community.
- God's message of hope will be shared with all.
- Every effort is made to please God as we imitate Christ in all we do and all we say.
- The Evangelisation Policy sits within the Quality Catholic Schooling domain Catholic Identity and encompasses the entire life of the School.

The Procedure underlying our policy is:

At St Lawrence we endeavour to spread the mission of Jesus Christ in word and action; by offering students primary proclamation and initiatory catechesis:

- Providing students with many opportunities to witness their faith
- Foster the sacramental life of our school community
- Pastorally care for all members of the school community

Accessible, Affordable and Sustainable

In these difficult times, we are currently looking at ways we can support our community. If you have lost income and are in need of support please make contact, there are many ways our school can and will support individuals who are in need of some extra support at this time. Please feel free to contact me directly if you need a confidential chat regarding ways we can support. As a system, we and the Catholic Education Office are also looking at other possible forms of relief. I will keep you posted when more certain information becomes available.

God bless each and every one of you.



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



PASTORAL CARE

We pray for all our community as we move through our Lenten journey. May alms, prayer and fasting help us all grow in our love of God.

Home Learning Tip

Please read carefully all the information your teachers have forwarded to you articulating Remote Learning support.