

3 DECEMBER, 2021

St Francis Newsletter

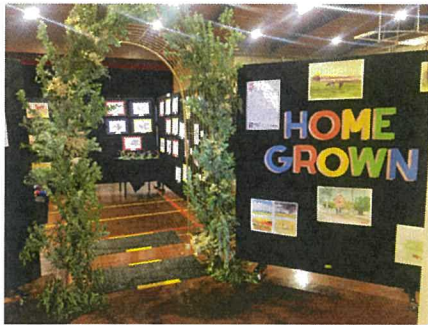
*'Where there is charity and wisdom, there is neither fear nor ignorance'
- St Francis of Assisi*

Dear Families,

We finished the year with a great celebration of our Home Grown Art Exhibition on Tuesday night, with a range of artworks to view, followed by an entertaining performance from Bushwahzee. We had students, along with mums, dads and grandparents tapping along, as the students sang and danced for the enthusiastic crowd!

It was great to welcome families and the wider community to share in the event with us for the first time this year. On the night I thanked the parents for joining us, the students for creating to artwork and the staff for their time and dedication to instruct children in The Arts domain and for their efforts in setting up and displaying the student pieces.

A special thank you to Zoe Toll for our wonderful floral entrance decorations - it really set the scene and invited our guest into viewing the exhibition.



Congratulations to Grace (Grade 4) on winning the Mackillop Art Exhibition's People's Choice Award (Primary) for her photograph titled 'Locked Away' - what an achievement!

Pictured is the winning entry (Grace is the child with the huge smile!)

Calendar

TERM 4

6-10 Dec - Swimming Week

Thur 9th Dec - End of Year
Graduation Mass

Mon 13th Dec - Grade 5/6 Excursion

Tue 14th Dec - Grade 6 Excursion

Wed 15th Dec - Student's Last Day



Last Sunday marked the beginning of Advent, a time to Prepare for the celebration of Christmas with the birth of Jesus.

The Portuguese have a proverb that 'God writes straight with crooked lines'. We know that it is not always easy to discern what God is writing. Our world, indeed our own lives, can be marked by so many contradictions, and tensions. Can there be faith in the midst of disappointment?

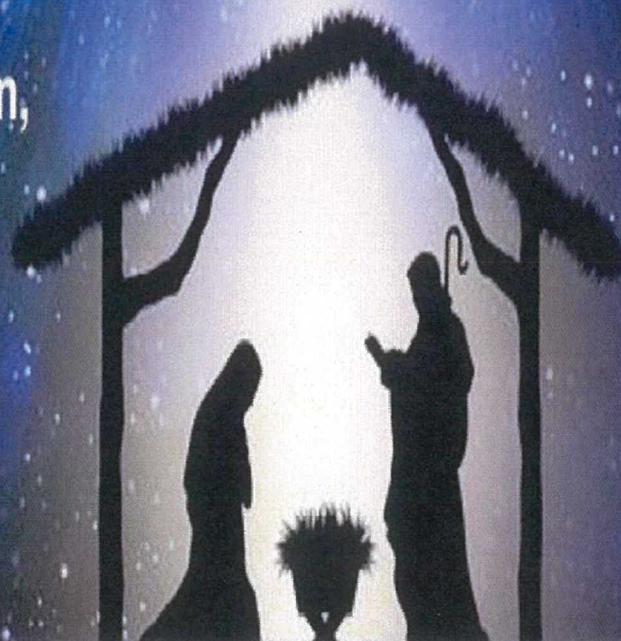
The readings for the beginning of Advent this week agree in proclaiming that the answer is 'yes', for the people of faith.



St Francis, Nathalia is a child safe school. We promote the safety, wellbeing and inclusion of all children.

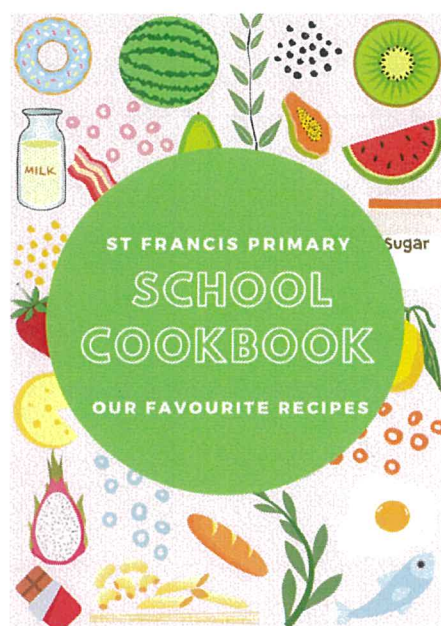
Lord you wait for us
to come and see you.
You wait to shine light
where there is darkness,
To show love
where there is hate,
To share peace
where there is conflict.
Lord you wait for us
to come and see you.
You wait for us
to remember
what has been fulfilled,
to prepare
for what must still be done.
You wait in hope and expectation,
Longing for us
To shine your light,
To show your love,
To share your peace.

Christine Sine godspacelight.com



School News

School Cookbook



Jemma Bell has been hard at work putting together a school cookbook for families this term. We were delighted to provide families with an early Christmas present and hand out a free cookbook on Tuesday night. For those families who didn't get a chance to collect them on Tuesday, they were sent home with your child this week.

There are additional cook books available to purchase for families or friends for the minimal cost of \$10 from the office.



Swimming

Our school swimming program takes place from Monday 6th Dec - Friday 10th Dec, 2021. We look forward to our lessons at the Nathalia Swimming Pool.

Our program has a strong emphasis on water safety and remains just a small part of swimming lessons for all children. The YMCA will provide swimming instructors for students, who will cater to all swimming abilities.

Athletics

We were finally able to hold our School Athletics carnival last Friday after a long wait with the weather also on our side after some dire predictions early in the week. The day was celebrated with great spirit, enthusiasm and the joy of friendly competition.

Thanks to our wonderful parents who put on a lovely lunch for the students, to the students for participating so well and our staff for organising the events.

A huge thank you to Jesse for organising and running the successful day.

2022 Fee Schedule

The 2022 Fee Structure is attached at the back of this week's newsletter. As discussed at the School Council last week, the School Fee Structure has been set for 2022.

It includes School Fees (per family) and a Capital & Maintenance Levy (per family). Student Levies are structured according to year level and include: a Curriculum & Information Communication Technology (ICT) Levy and a Camp, Sport, Excursion & Other Levy.

In 2022 the Family school fees have increased by \$0.50 per week (40 week school year). This is in recognition of the current uncertainty due to the COVID-19

pandemic. The levies for Grades 4-6 students account for Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden program and senior class activities (e.g. Winter Sports).

If families would like to request direct debits stop over the January period, please contact the school office no later than Tuesday 7th December. Thank you.

Parenting Ideas

Parents are known for putting their children's needs ahead of their own. With the mantra of 'be involved' in your child's life a dominant parenting message, it's now common for parents to neglect their own social and wellbeing to give their children the best possible start in life.

This selfless approach is commendable, but questionable if it means you are constantly stretched, stressed and tired. Parenting is draining. Kids by their very nature take more than they give. Even the most loving, affectionate child will exhaust you at times so it's important to replenish, refresh and reinvigorate yourself.

See Michael Grose's article, '[Parent self-care matters](#)' for more.

End of Year Mass

Our final whole school mass will be held on Thursday 9th December @ 10am. For this event, families are able to celebrate the school year, farewell our 2021 Grade 6 graduates and welcome our 2022 leaders.

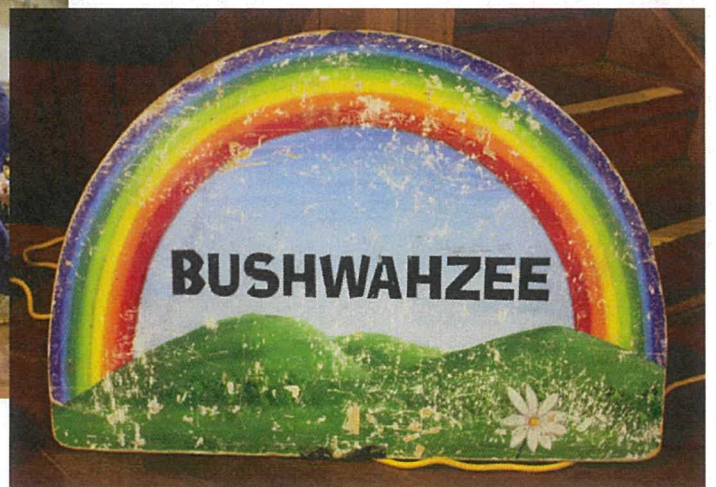
Our FMDM award presentations will also occur on the day.

As this event will be held outside, everyone is welcome to attend.

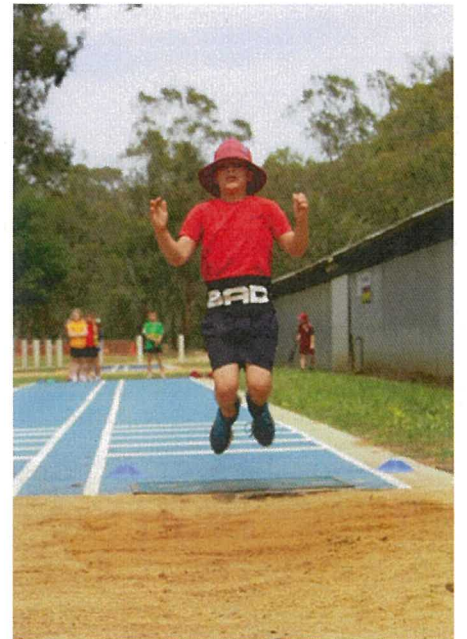
Home Grown Art Exhibition



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Athletics Carnival





AWARD WINNERS



Foundation	Harper B	For always being a kind friend to everyone and a willing helper in our classroom. You help to make our classroom a happy place to be Harper.
1/2	Beth L	For always being kind, sincere and valuing others. You spread a spark of kindness wherever you go, when in the classroom and out at play. You always include others and are passionate about your love and care of animals; sharing your stories makes us smile!
2/3	Hunter M	For being a happy and joyful member of our class and school! Hunter is a respectful and caring individual who helps others whenever there is a need! Well done Hunter! And thanks for all the jokes you share with me!
4	Ruby C	For your positive attitude to your learning, your growth this term has been fantastic. Well done.
5/6	Josh B Jayce Jack A	Brilliant class presentation Awesome leadership at our Athletics Carnival Completing his home learning tasks
Art	Isobel L Beth L Javier M	For taking more risks in your Artworks and having a lot of Christmas cheer to share in Art. A fantastic effort Isabel. Beth, I love your creativity and passion in Art. Your work always shows great detail, and choice of colours; especially your Christmas decorations. Great work Beth! Javier, you have grown as an artist over the course of the year. You are an enthusiastic worker, I've loved your Christmas artwork. Well done Javier!
Italian	Jayce L Will M	For showing great leadership during our bocce games. You have been a great leader in Italian all year. For showing great perseverance during Bocce never giving up and trying different styles to get the bocce to the jack.
Science	Tanner Q Grace L	Being very enthusiastic throughout this unit on "Melting Moments". Way to Go, Tanner! Taking risks and being committed to learning. Keep at it, Grace!



Principal's Award

Congratulations to Millie for great sportsmanship at Athletics and your willingness to encourage others. You were a fantastic contributor to your Sports House.

Well done!

Pastoral Wellbeing



Human Beings are Social Creatures

Let school help your young person

- flourish
- thrive
- connect
- conquer

Positive Behaviours Intervention and Support (P.B.i.S)



Congratulations to our 'Gotcha' award winners who demonstrated our PBiS Expectations of being a **SAFE, RESPONSIBLE & CARING** learners at school.



Grade 6 Graduates - We celebrate our amazing Grade 6 students in their last few weeks at St Francis.



Name: Aidan Young

Favourite Sport/Team: Long distance running

Favourite meal: Fish and Chips

Favourite book: Footrot Flats and Garfield

What would you say was your best trait? Very expressive

What makes you happy? Old buildings and trees

What is your favourite memory at St Francis? Bendigo Camp

Name: Zander

Favourite Sport/Team: Football/North Melbourne

Favourite meal: Taco bowls

Favourite book: Harry potter and the order of the Phoenix

What would you say was your best trait? Friendly

What makes you happy? My family and hunting

What is your favourite memory at St Francis? Athletics and swimming

What do you want to be when you are older? To drive / ski in the southern 80



Name: Jack

Favourite Sport/Team: AFL - Hawks

Favourite meal: Pizza

Favourite book: Narnia

What would you say was your best trait? Creative and hands on

What makes you happy? Friends and family

What is your favourite memory at St Francis? In Grade 6 we built a hut.

What do you want to be when you are older? A farmer or a builder

INSIGHTS

Parent self-care matters



Parents are known for putting their children's needs ahead of their own. With the mantra of 'be involved' in your child's life a dominant parenting message, it's now common for parents to neglect their own social and wellbeing to give their children the best possible start in life. This selfless approach is commendable, but questionable if it means you are constantly stretched, stressed and tired. Parenting is draining. Kids by their very nature take more than they give. Even the most loving, affectionate child will exhaust you at times so it's important to replenish, refresh and reinvigorate yourself.

Parenting author Maggie Dent says, "If we don't care for ourselves, not only do we run the risk of parenting less effectively and compassionately, but we are not modelling self-care for our children." Taking time for yourself seems obvious, however, the reality for many parents is that they are hard-wired to prioritise the wellbeing of others.

Start by giving yourself permission. Setting strict boundaries around key self-care activities help to make sure self-care happens. Turning occasional self-care into an ongoing habit is a great way to make sure you look after yourself. First, you need to give yourself permission to prioritise mental health and wellbeing, at least some of the time. So, what self-care activities should you be prioritising?

Get physical

Exercise is great for both mind and body. It releases endorphins, the feel-good hormone that enhances mood and helps put you in a positive state of mind. Exercise releases cortisol, the stress hormone, which builds up gradually over time, leading to anxiety and depression if not managed. You don't need to go to the gym to get the benefits of exercise. A brisk daily walk is an excellent self-care strategy for busy parents. It's affordable, accessible and has the bonus of taking you outside, which has added wellbeing benefits.

Stay social

Alfred Adler, the father of individual psychology, maintained that the people who lived the most content lives paid close attention to their social lives. When children come along, a parents' social life can easily play second fiddle to that of their children. Alternatively, social media becomes the main mode for staying in touch with friends, which is a poor replacement for face-to-face contact. One way of staying social is to schedule activities such as playing sport, joining a book club or sharing a coffee that keeps you connected to other adults.

Be mindful

Staying in the present moment, even for just a minute or two, can help you better manage parenting stresses. Engaging your senses is a good way to relax and find some inner peace. Enjoying the present moment, or mindfulness, can be practised by taking a walk, listening to music, or a taking a five minute meditation. Breathing exercises help reduce stress, so incorporate deep breathing into your daily routine to help stay fresh and alert.

parenting*ideas

Seek out play

If you think that play is just for kids, then think again. Everyone needs activities in their lives that sustain them and bring them joy. It's important to expand the definition of play to include hobbies and interests such as music, collecting things, making, tinkering and performing. Playful activities that contribute to parent self care are freely chosen, fun and create a state of flow so that you become lost in the activity. Playful activities boost your mood and help you manage the challenges and enjoy the pleasures of family life.

Decide to savour

If you feel that you're always in rush, the chances are that you don't have the opportunity to savour anything. Whether it's the first cup of coffee in the morning, snuggling up to your child at bedtime or reading a favourite book before bed, commit to savouring something and make it a daily habit.

In closing

Taking care of your physical, psychological and social needs helps you be the best parent you can be. Set aside time for self-care even when you feel like you don't have a single second to devote to yourself. Experiment with different self-care activities to figure out which strategies work best for you, your family and your lifestyle.



Michael Grose

Michael Grose, founder of Parenting Ideas, is one of Australia's leading parenting educators. He's an award-winning speaker and the author of 12 books for parents including *Spoonfed Generation*, and the bestselling *Why First Borns Rule the World and Last Borns Want to Change It*. Michael is a former teacher with 15 years experience, and has 30 years experience in parenting education. He also holds a Master of Educational Studies from Monash University specialising in parenting education.



**MUSIC LESSONS.
ENROLMENTS NOW BEING TAKEN FOR 2022.**

- **Vocal**
- **Guitar**
- **Keyboard/piano**
- **Drums**
- **Bass guitar**
- **Ukulele**

Dillmac Entertainment has tutors teaching at the following schools:

- Katunga Primary School
- Lockington Consolidated School
- Nathalia Primary School
- Sacred Heart Tatura
- SMOTA Nathalia
- St. Francis Nathalia
- St. Patricks Tongala
- Tongala Primary School

Dillmac also runs classes after school in our Kyabram and Echuca Studio.

Group lessons:

- **Tots & Tunes** - 2-4 yr olds – introduction to everything performing arts
- **Dance** – Modern Dance and Tap available
- **PERFORMING ARTS** – Singing, Acting, Dancing Performance all in ONE class!!!!

For an enrolment form or more information please call 0427 349 912 or email andrewmoore@dillmac.com

OUR SUNDAY CELEBRATION

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT / C

05 DECEMBER 2021

PREPARE A WAY FOR THE LORD. The season of Advent is a time in which we prepare for the Lord's coming. We prepare for the feast of Christmas which commemorates his first coming as a child in Bethlehem. And we prepare also for his final coming in glory. We do this by heeding John the Baptist's call to repentance, and by striving for 'peace through integrity, and honour through devotedness'.

INTRODUCTORY RITES

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON cf. Isa 30: 19, 30

O people of Sion, behold, the Lord will come to save the nations, and the Lord will make the glory of his voice heard in the joy of your heart.

GREETING

P. In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

R. Amen.

P. Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

R. And with your spirit.

PENITENTIAL ACT

P. Brethren (brothers and sisters), let us acknowledge our sins, and so prepare ourselves to celebrate the sacred mysteries.

P. You were sent to heal the contrite of heart: Lord, have mercy.

R. Lord, have mercy.

P. You came to call sinners: Christ, have mercy.

R. Christ, have mercy.

You are seated at the right hand of the Father to intercede for us: Lord, have mercy.

R. Lord, have mercy.

P. May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life.

The Gloria is not said during Advent

COLLECT

P. Almighty and merciful God, may no earthly undertaking hinder those who set out in haste to meet your Son, but may our learning of heavenly wisdom gain us admittance to his company. Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever.

R. Amen.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING

Bar 5:1-9

A reading from the prophet Baruch.

Jerusalem – God will show you splendour.

Jerusalem, take off your dress of sorrow and distress,

put on the beauty of the glory of God for ever, wrap the cloak of the integrity of God around you,

put the diadem of the glory of the Eternal on your head:

since God means to show your splendour to every nation under heaven, since the name God gives you for ever will be, 'Peace through integrity, and honour through devotedness.'

Arise, Jerusalem, stand on the heights and turn your eyes to the east:

see your sons reassembled from west and east at the command of the Holy One, jubilant that God has remembered them.

Though they left you on foot, with enemies for an escort, now God brings them back to you like royal princes carried back in glory.

For God has decreed the flattening of each high mountain, of the everlasting hills, the filling of the valleys to make the ground level

so that Israel can walk in safety under the glory of God.

And the forests and every fragrant tree will provide shade

for Israel at the command of God;

for God will guide Israel in joy by the light of his glory

with his mercy and integrity for escort.

The word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 125. R. v. 3

R. The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy.

1. When the Lord delivered Zion from bondage, / it seemed like a dream. / Then was our mouth filled with laughter. / on our lips there were songs. **R.**

2. The heathens themselves said: 'What marvels / the Lord worked for them!' / What marvels the Lord worked for us! / Indeed we were glad. **R.**

3. Deliver us, O Lord, from our bondage / as streams in dry land. / Those who are sowing in tears / will sing when they reap. **R.**

4. They go out, they go out, full of tears / carrying seed for the sowing: / they come back, they come back, full of song, / carrying their sheaves. **R.**



SECOND READING

Phil 1:3-6, 8-11

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians.

Show yourselves sinless and without blame in the day of Christ.

Every time I pray for all of you, I pray with joy, remembering how you have helped to spread the Good News from the day you first heard it right up to the present. I am quite certain that the One who began this good work in you will see that it is finished when the Day of Christ Jesus comes. God knows how much I miss you all, loving you as Christ Jesus loves you. My prayer is that your love for each other may increase more and more and never stop improving your knowledge and deepening your perception so that you can always recognise what is best. This will help you to become pure and blameless, and prepare you for the Day of Christ, when you will reach the perfect goodness which Jesus Christ produces in us for the glory and praise of God.

The word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Lk 3:4, 6

Alleluia, alleluia!

Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths: all people shall see the salvation of God. Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Lk 3:1-6

P. The Lord be with you.

R. And with your spirit

P. A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

R. Glory to you, O Lord.

All people shall see the salvation of God.

In the fifteenth year of Tiberius Caesar's reign, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judaea, Herod tetrarch of Galilee, his brother Philip tetrarch of the lands of Ituraea and Trachonitis, Lysanias tetrarch of Abilene, during the pontificate of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah, in the wilderness. He went through the whole Jordan district proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the sayings of the prophet Isaiah:

A voice cries in the wilderness:

Prepare a way for the Lord,
make his paths straight.

Every valley will be filled in,
every mountain and hill be laid low,
winding ways will be straightened
and rough roads made smooth.

And all mankind shall see the salvation
of God.

The Gospel of the Lord.

R. Praise to You, Lord Jesus Christ

HOMILY

PROFESSION OF FAITH APOSTLES' CREED

Or the Nicene Creed may be said.

I believe in God, / the Father almighty, / Creator of heaven and earth, / and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, / who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, / born of the Virgin Mary, / suffered under Pontius Pilate, / was crucified, died and was buried; / he descended into hell; / on the third day he rose again from the dead; / he ascended into heaven, / and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty; / from there he will come to judge the living and the dead. / I believe in the Holy Spirit, / the holy catholic Church, / the communion of saints, / the forgiveness of sins, / the resurrection of the body, / and life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

After the priest raises the paten with the bread and prays, and then the chalice, we respond to each prayer:

R. Blessed be God for ever.

P. Pray, brethren (brothers and sisters), that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.

R. May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands for the praise and glory of his name, for our good and the good of all his holy Church.

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

P. Be pleased, O Lord, with our humble prayers and offerings, and, since we have no merits to plead our cause, come, we pray, to our rescue with the protection of your mercy. Through Christ our Lord.

R. Amen.

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

P. The Lord be with you.

R. And with your spirit.

P. Lift up your hearts.

R. We lift them up to the Lord.

P. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

R. It is right and just.

PREFACE I OF ADVENT

After the Preface, we sing or say:

All: Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts.

Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

THE MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION

P. The mystery of faith.

All: When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup, we proclaim your Death, O Lord, until you come again.

COMMUNION RITE

P. At the Saviour's command and formed by divine teaching, we dare to say:

All: Our Father, who art in heaven . . .

P. Deliver us, Lord, we pray . . .

All: For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours now and for ever.

P. Lord Jesus Christ, who said . . .

R. Amen.

P. The peace of the Lord be with you always.

R. And with your spirit.

P. Let us offer each other the sign of peace.

All exchange a sign of peace

LAMB OF GOD

All: Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, grant us peace.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P. Behold the Lamb of God, behold him who takes away the sins of the world. Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.

R. Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON Bar 5: 5; 4: 36

Jerusalem, arise and stand upon the heights, and behold the joy which comes to you from God.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P. Replenished by the food of spiritual nourishment, we humbly beseech you, O Lord, that, through our partaking in this mystery, you may teach us to judge wisely

the things of earth and hold firm to the things of heaven. Through Christ our Lord.

R. Amen.

THE CONCLUDING RITES

P. The Lord be with you.

R. And with your spirit.

P. May almighty God bless you,

the Father, and the Son, ✠ and the Holy Spirit.

R. Amen.

P. Go in peace, glorifying the Lord by your life.

R. Thanks be to God.

BREAKING OPEN THE WORD

TRUST IN GOD'S HELP

As we prepare for the Lord's return, today's readings encourage us to continue the journey we have started but challenge us as well. Baruch gave heart to the generation of the exile by speaking about the highway that God was building for their return. At the dawn of the time of the Messiah, John the Baptist makes use of the same image but reminds us that the highway that is being built in the desert is not only God's work but ours. Our co-operation is needed as the rough places of our hearts are smoothed, the mountains we force God to cross are made level, and the valleys filled in.

Paul calls the Christians of Philippi to take heart as they wait for the Lord's return. Paul was devoted to all Christian communities he had founded and ministered to, but the Philippians had a special place in his heart, and he called them his jewel and crown (cf. Philippians 4:1). They were a Macedonian community that had suffered much (cf. 2 Corinthians 8:1-3) and yet supported him greatly in his ministry emotionally, financially, and spiritually (Philippians 4: 14-16).

We see the encouragement that Paul gives them as they prepare for the Lord's return. He knows that it is not always easy to discern what is good and necessary but he reassures the Philippians by reminding them that the Lord who started the good work in them will bring it to completion.

CHRISTOPHER MONAGHAN CP

A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL

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ST. MARY'S PARISH, NATHALIA

**Sunday 5th November 2021
Second Sunday Of Advent C**

**As we come to worship, we acknowledge the original custodians of this land.
*The safety of children and the vulnerable is a priority in our parish.***

**PARISH PRIEST: FR. MICHAEL GRACE: Phone 0419 794 511
PRESBYTERY: Phone 03 5866 2694
MASS: Thursday In the Church at 12:30pm**

PARISH EMAIL: natchurch3@bigpond.com

PARISH SECRETARY: DARCY WARREN: 0468 385 675 OR 5869 1294

NATHALIA: SUNDAY MASS: 9.00am

**NUMURKAH: SATURDAY MASS: 6.30pm
SUNDAY MASS: 10.30am**

DUTY ROSTER:

**Reader: Volunteer Commentator: Volunteer
Offertory: Volunteer Communion to the Sick: Volunteer
ALTAR: 5th December 2021M. Wilson December Linen: M. Bourke**

NEXT WEEK:

**Reader: Volunteer Commentator: Volunteer
Offertory: Volunteer Communion to the Sick: Volunteer
ALTAR: 12th December 2021 M. Wilson December Linen: M. Bourke**

RECENTLY DECEASED:

Please pray for those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Father Peter O'Reilly, Catherine Heard, Tim Farell, Sue Gooley, Dot Buckley, Harold Cockbill, Norma Warren, Des. Dunn, Joan Stafford, Graeme Bernhardt.

Please pray for all those who are ill, especially: Sally McKeown, Molly Hargreaves, Christine McIntyre, Norm Walsh, Neil Clardey, Paul Speekman, Paul Quinn, Sister Jennifer Sanders, Sister Tarcisius (Fay Clifton) Julian Segafredo, Panagiota Spanos, Martin Russell, Kath Heaton, Paul Congues, Veronica Williams, Rodney Barry.

PLANNED GIVING PROGRAM: Envelopes: \$130.00 Plate: \$70.00

FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE WORK OF THE PARISH CAN BE MADE THROUGH THE BENDIGO BANK.

Account Name: St. Mary's Catholic Church

BSB: 633 000 Account Number: 1100 22928

Feel free to advise the staff that you wish to contribute to St Mary's Catholic Parish, as they have offered to assist where possible. Providing a reference, such as your name or Planned Giving envelope number, allows tracking of your contribution.

CHURCH ROSTER: Please note that this will Roster will be operated on a volunteer basis at each Mass until enough people have registered their intention to undertake these ministries. Please enter your name on the list at the rear of the church, or ring me on 0438693225. Thank you, Joy West.

FATHER MICHAEL GRACE FAREWELL MASS: St. Mary's Catholic Church Nathalia on Sunday 30th January 2022 at 10:30am on that day St. John's Baptist Church Numurkah will have 9.00am Mass. St. John's Baptist Church Numurkah will have a Mass on Saturday February 5th after 6.30pm

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING: Thursday 9th December at 10am in the Sister Carmel Spratt Meeting Room

ADVENT PRAYER: For the Church in Australia: as we continue our journey to the Plenary Council, we pray that we may become the joyful, Hope-filled, Servant Church that Christ calls us to be. Amen.

COLOUMBAN CALENDARS 2022: are now available. Please see Marie Birch to purchase yours for the bargain price of \$10 each.

CHRISTMAS CARDS: for sale at the back of the church, still \$7 for a pack of 10 conveying the true meaning of Christmas.

POEM TIME TO REFLECT: Take time to think- it is the source of all power.

Take time to play- it is the secret of perpetual growth.

Take time to read – it is the foundation of wisdom.

Take time to pray – it is the greatest power on earth.

Take time to love and be loved- it is a God given privilege.

Take time to be friendly – it is the road to happiness.

Take time to laugh – it is the music of the soul.

Take time to give- it is too short a day to be selfish.

Take time to work – it is the price of success

Take time for charity- it is the key to heaven.

SIGNING IN: Please remember to sign in using the QR codes in the entry. This help ensure compliance with the State Government regulations.



St Francis Primary School Nathalia

Chapel Street (PO Box 66) Nathalia VIC 3638
Tel: 5866 2271 Fax: 5866 2136
ABN: 54 412 713 465



St Francis will provide a child safe environment where all children have the right to be treated with respect and will be protected from harm.

School Fees Schedule 2022

The School Fee Structure has been set for 2022. It includes School Fees (per family) and a Capital & Maintenance Levy (per family). Student Levies are structured according to year level and include: a Curriculum & Information Communication Technology (ICT) Levy and a Camp, Sport, Excursion & Other Levy.

In 2022 the Family school fees have increased by \$0.50 per week (40 week school year). This is in recognition of the current uncertainty due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The levies for Grades 4-6 students account for Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden program and senior class activities (e.g. Winter Sports).

FAMILY SCHOOL FEES / LEVY STRUCTURE	
	Family Fees
School Fees	\$1,220.00
Capital & Maintenance Levy	\$230.00
Total	\$1,450.00

STUDENT LEVY STRUCTURE							
	Prep	Grade 1	Grade 2	Grade 3	Grade 4	Grade 5	Grade 6
Curriculum & ICT Levy	\$460.00	\$460.00	\$460.00	\$460.00	\$685.00	\$685.00	\$685.00
Camp, Sport, Excursion & Other Levy	\$125.00	\$125.00	\$125.00				
Camp, Sport, Excursion & Other Levy (Including 1 night Camp)				\$200.00			
Camp, Sport, Excursion & Other Levy (Including 1 night Camp)					\$200.00		
Camp, Sport, Excursion & Other Levy (Including 3 night Camp)						\$375.00	
Camp, Sport, Excursion & Other Levy (Including 3 night Camp)							\$375.00
TOTAL	<u>\$585.00</u>	<u>\$585.00</u>	<u>\$585.00</u>	<u>\$660.00</u>	<u>\$865.00</u>	<u>\$1030.00</u>	<u>\$1030.00</u>

School Banking Details: BSB - 083 543 Account No. - 479763404 Reference: Student Name
Fee invoices will be sent at the beginning of the school year.
EFTPOS available at Admin Office

CURRICULUM & ICT LEVY

This levy covers part of the cost of supplies and resources for classrooms and specialist classes, e.g. Art, Music, Library, Italian. This levy also provides resources for the Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden (SAKG) and BluEarth programs.

Additionally, it also assists the school to provide iPads for use across the school. The levy is higher for students in Grades 4, 5 & 6, as students have their own iPads for school. Costs for inter school Winter Sports and Swimming programs are also included in this levy.

CAMP, SPORT, EXCURSION & OTHER LEVY

This levy covers part of the costs associated with the provision of Camps, Excursions and Physical Education Programs. Interschool sports with our school cluster (including bus expenses) are included in this fee also.

CAMPS

The cost of camps are subsidised by the school. This is to ensure that all students have the opportunity to participate in this valuable experience.

PAYMENT OF SCHOOL FEES & LEVIES

The range of educational opportunities and experiences has been offered within the context of our budgeting. It will therefore be important that payment of fees and levies are honoured. We are very aware of the rising costs for families and this is given careful consideration in the process of setting school fees and levies. However due to Government school funding agreements, there is an expectation that Catholic school communities contribute to the cost of education.

In order to assist families, we encouraged payment via direct debit. This allows for regular payments to be made equally over the 40 school weeks. Direct debit request forms are available from the office or the school website.

Please note: If your current payment arrangement is direct debit you will receive a letter shortly with your revised payment amount for the 2022 school year.

PAYMENT OPTIONS

All fees and levies for the year will be billed at the start of the school year. Families will receive a school fee statement in early February 2022. The school provides a number of options for the payment of school fees and levies.

Payment in Full: – Fees paid in full at the beginning of the school year.

Payment per Term: – Fees paid at the beginning of each term with the final payment due at the start of 4th Term 2022.

EFTPOS: – Payments can be made at the office using your debit or credit card.

Direct Debit: – Payments made weekly, fortnightly, monthly or quarterly from your nominated bank account. Please collect from the office or download a direct debit request form.

Direct Credit: – Payments may be made directly to the school bank account via online banking.

St. Francis' School - National Australia Bank, BSB: 083-543, Account No: 47976-3404. Please use the student name as a reference.

If you have any questions regarding school fees, levies or payment options please contact the office.