During this term, the students of Year 6 are looking at the Sacraments of Service. After discussions and using drama to demonstrate our understanding of these Sacraments, we have written an explanation of our thinking.

Our Understanding Of Vocation as portrayed by Jacinta, Christian and Vanessa

Vocation is a divine call to God’s service or to the Christian life. Vocation is not just an ordinary call, this is a special call from God and we should rest. Vocation is about the call to service in Religious Life. Priests, Nuns, Brothers and Deacons are called to serve others to know and love God. Vocation is when you have a strong feeling that you need to follow a certain career or job that you are interested in to earn money for your family so you can support them in their lives as strong Catholics.

Our understanding of the Sacrament of Matrimony as portrayed by Rita, Hugo, Najd, Elias, Julie-Anne and Tony

Marriage is when two people make a promise to each other and commit their lives to each other. They know that they have to respect, love and encourage each other throughout their lives. The couple must trust and respect each other’s values. The couple must always stay close to God and support their family to become strong Catholics. The ring is a symbol of never ending love.

Our understanding of Holy Orders as Portrayed by Joanne, Charbel, Andre, Edward, Brayde and Chenise

Holy Orders are when you are called by God to commit yourself to the church and to serving others. For example, the Priest commits himself to the church and God by not getting married, so he can dedicate his life to serving those in his community. He also worships and praises God himself. Other members of the church community, the Nuns and Brothers, also commit themselves to God. They are willing to serve God by helping those in need. The Nuns and Brothers help teach school students about God and Jesus, to help them understand why Jesus gave his life for us. They also help in hospitals by helping the ill get better. The Priest helps the church community by teaching them more about their religion; he celebrates mass and the Sacraments, and helps us with our spiritual growth.

Our understanding of how people express their love for God portrayed by Alain, Isabel and Ray

We think that when people express their love for God it is a holy thing to do because they are the true servants of the Lord. Expressing your love for God shows the real commitment of how we dedicate our love for him. People express their love for God in different ways, such as praying, offerings and to serve the people like Jesus did when he washed the disciples feet. God’s love for us is unconditional, so we should love him the same way. If God died on the cross for us to live, we should show him that his death is valuable, and never forget how he loved us. If we whole-heartedly love God, then we will receive the true salvation that he saved for us.
This morning I left Sydney for Melbourne to begin the first stage of my spiritual pilgrimage. My pilgrimage will take me on a journey that follows the pathway St Mary of the Cross MacKillop took to bring the gift of Education to as many young Australians as possible. This week I will explore the Mary MacKillop Heritage Centre and celebrate Mass at several beautiful historic churches in Melbourne. My colleagues and I will embrace prayer, reflection and silence in our daily spiritual nourishment.

Mr Tony Hughes will be Principal in my absence. I welcome him back again to our wonderful Holy Family community.

Live Jesus in your heart

Mrs Baird

---

**FACES- new student information system**

Last week we went live with our new student information system- FACES. All student attendance will now be online. It is important that parents escort their child to the office in the morning if you are late to school. Mrs Ali will process the online attendance for your child at the office. Your child will receive a card that informs the class teacher that attendance has been recorded. I thank you in advance for your continued support in all school procedures and policies.

**Grandparents Day Mass**

Invitation for Parents, Grandparents and Friends to attend our Grandparents Mass on Friday the 24th of July. Mass will begin at 9.15am.

**Parents Learning walk**

A note went home this week inviting parents to join the Principal on a Learning walk on Wednesday the 5th of August. Please place this date in your diary.
New date for Soccer Gala Day
On Thursday 23rd our Soccer team will be travelling to Penrith to participate in the Diocesan Gala Day. The children will travel to the venue by bus with Miss Peachey and Mrs Issa. I sincerely thank Mr Ken Beasley for driving our students to the event in the parish bus.

Professional Learning Journey
Last week our class teachers participated in two days of professional learning with Mr Magerison from the Catholic Education Office. The focus of the Professional learning was Religious Education programming and assessment.

Along with this, each week our teachers collaborate with specialist educators from the Catholic Education Office to ensure teacher programs in the areas of Literacy and Numeracy meet the learning needs of all students. Our teachers work tirelessly to ensure teaching and learning is creative, engaging and fun.

Premier Reading Challenge
The close off date for the Premier Reading Challenge for 2015, is 21st August. All online students reading records have to be complete by this date.

Woolworths’ Earn & Learn is Back!
Make a difference for your school.
From now until Tuesday 8th September 2015, simply shop at Woolworths and you will receive one Woolworths Earn & Learn Sticker for every $10 spent, excluding cigarettes, liquor and gift cards. Collect these Woolworths Earn & Learn Points and we will be able to redeem these for educational resources.

Please get busy collecting the stickers.

Calendar

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>July</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 23rd July</td>
<td>Boys Soccer Gala Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 24th July</td>
<td>9:15am Grandparents Day Mass</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Birthday Wishes!
Congratulations to the following students who celebrate their birthday this week: Harrison Edwards, Josaia Visie, Amir Ayoub and Norm Nakhoul.

Diocesan and Community News
Holy Family Parish needs your help! If you have made your first Holy Communion and you are interested in being an altar server a training day will be held on Saturday, 1 August at 12:00 p.m. at Holy Family Church. But if you cannot make it then another time can be arranged for you whenever you are free. To serve the Mass is one of the greatest honours we have because we are serving Jesus Himself. You don’t need to have any experience in altar serving because all training will be provided. So if you can help out then please speak with Father Andrew either in person or by emailing eastgranvilleparishoffice@gmail.com. Thank you and God bless you.

In Christ we Live, Love and Learn.