



St Mary's
Catholic School
Tauranga

newsletter

ISSUE 6: 15 April 2020

*What families are doing during
lockdown*



13th Avenue, Tauranga, New Zealand

E office@stmarystga.school.nz

T 07 578 8066

www.stmarystga.school.nz

Our People Our Place

be. informed

[oxforddictionaries.com / informed.](http://oxforddictionaries.com/informed)

adj: having or showing knowledge of a subject or situation.

Message from the Principal

Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord

Sunday, April 12, 2020

Gospel Reading

John 20:1-9

Mary of Magdala finds that the stone has been removed from Jesus' tomb.

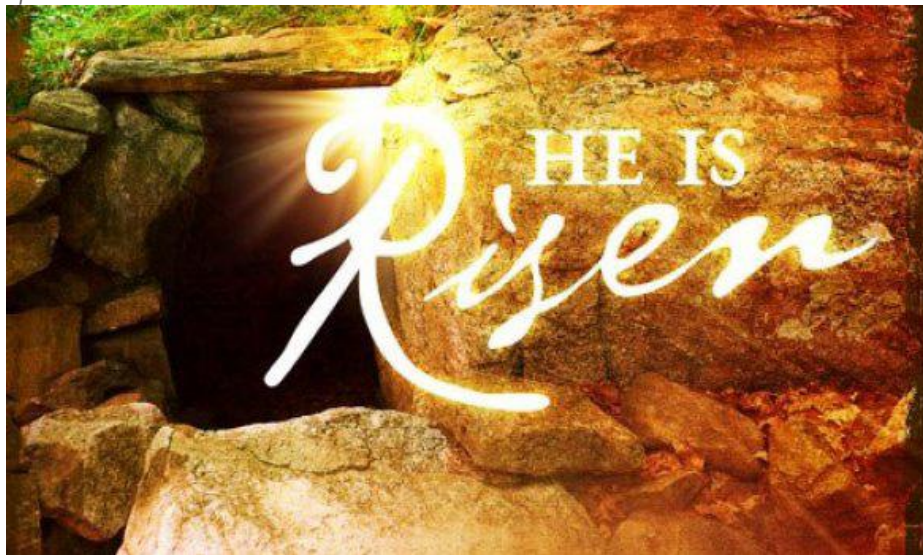
Background on the Gospel Reading

Today we begin the Easter Season, our 50-day meditation on the mystery of Christ's Resurrection. Our Gospel today tells us about the disciples' discovery of the empty tomb. It concludes by telling us that they did not yet understand that Jesus had risen from the dead. Thus, the details provided are not necessarily meant to offer proof of the Resurrection. The details invite us to reflect upon a most amazing gift, that is faith in Jesus and his Resurrection.

Each of the four Gospels tells us that Jesus' empty tomb was first discovered by women. This is notable because in first-century Jewish society women could not serve as legal witnesses. In the case of John's Gospel, the only woman attending the tomb is Mary of Magdala. Unlike the Synoptic accounts, John's Gospel does not describe an appearance of angels at the tomb. Instead, Mary is simply said to have observed that the stone that had sealed the tomb had been moved, and she runs to alert Simon Peter and the beloved disciple. Her statement to them is telling. She assumes that Jesus' body has been removed, perhaps stolen. She does not consider that Jesus has been raised from the dead.

Simon Peter and the beloved disciple race to the tomb, presumably to verify Mary's report. The beloved disciple arrives first but does not enter the tomb until after Simon Peter. This detail paints a vivid picture, as does the detail provided about the burial cloths. Some scholars believe that the presence of the burial cloths in the tomb offers evidence to the listener that Jesus' body had not been stolen (it is understood that grave robbers would have taken the burial cloths together with the body).

The Gospel passage concludes, however, that even having seen the empty tomb and the burial cloths, the disciples do not yet understand about the Resurrection. In the passage that follows, Mary of Magdala meets Jesus but mistakes him for the gardener. In the weeks ahead, the Gospel readings from our liturgy will show us how the disciples came to believe in Jesus' Resurrection through his appearances to them. Our Easter faith is based on their witness to both the empty tomb and their continuing relationship with Jesus—in his appearances and in his gift of the Holy Spirit.



be.
Christ-like

be.
reflective

be.
creative

Dear Parents/Caregivers,

Term 2 has officially started. Well, I'm sure this is not what we all expected for the start of Term 2. It still feels very surreal and exceptionally unique to be operating in this kind of space. Again I want to thank our St Mary's community for their ongoing support and patience during this time.

I am very much looking forward to checking in with teachers and children as they begin their Term 2 learning. We welcome Mrs Megan Kelliher into the Aroha team as Mrs Walters prepares for the birth of their child.

The memories you are creating at home with your children are exceptionally special and we thank-you for what you are continuing to do in your bubbles. Please know that the staff here at St Mary's have worked exceptionally creatively to produce some wonderful learning opportunities for you and your child to choose.

Stay connected and safe with those around you and continue to work in partnership with your Whānau Teachers.

Many of you will have seen differing reports in the media about when and how schools will reopen once we move down from Alert Level 4. There is a lot of misinformation out there so I thought it best that you hear it from the horse's mouth (with the Ministry of Education being the horse!).

The five main points are:

1. No decision has been made yet about when schools will reopen. This decision will be made based on data about the spread of COVID-19 and how we are going in stamping it out. It is unlikely that a decision will be made before 20 April.
2. The very earliest schools would open would be 29 April. And this would likely only be for SOME students, not all.
3. The Ministry (and us) are preparing for several possible scenarios - opening only for staff, opening for essential workers' children, opening in shifts so that children can stay 2m apart, opening for just senior students, a combination of distance and on-site learning, staggered opening, not opening for a number of weeks, etc. We want to be prepared for whatever the decision is once the data becomes clear.
4. There will be ample notice before schools open. They will not be closed one day and open the next. We will be given ample time to ensure that the school has a deep-clean, that our planning for the term is completed and that we put in place any H&S regulations.
5. The Ministry has been VERY clear that we will NOT be moving out of Alert Level 4 early.

Chris Hipkins is, this week, working on guidelines for what Alert Level 3 could look like for schools. We look forward to his guidance on this matter.

If you have any questions, please do let me know. We look forward to reconnecting with you on our first day of Term 2, by distance, on Wednesday.

James Murray
Principal



Starting on Wednesday 15 April from 9am-3pm on Freeview 7. TV2+1 and Sky 502, this channel will help households with limited broadband connectivity or less access to devices, complementing the fantastic work teachers around the country are already doing for their pupils.

This is an essential service and we'll follow strict health and safety protocols to look after our teachers and crew throughout production.

You can stream OnDemand too!
<https://www.tvnz.co.nz/shows/home-learning-tv>

Timetable for the new Home Learning TV Channel

- 9.00am - 9.10am Parenting - Nathan Wallis
- 9.10am - 9.25am Early Learning
- 9.25am - 9.40am Junior Health (Age 5 -))
- 9.40am - 9.55am Junior Literacy (Age 5 -))
- 9.55am - 10.05am Maia the Brave
- 10.05am - 10.30am Beginning Te Reo
- 10.30am - 10.50am Beginning Te Reo
- 10.30am - 10.50am Junior Science and Maths (Age 5 -))
- 10.50am - 11.00am Kai 5
- 11.00am - 11.15am Middle Literacy and Language (Age 9 - 11)
- 11.15am - 11.40am Middle Maths (Age 9 - 11)
- 11.40am - 12.05pm Junior Project
- 12.05pm - 12.30pm Fanimals
- 12.30pm - 12.40pm Parenting with Nathan Wallis
- 12.40pm - 1.00pm Aotearoa History
- 1.00pm - 1.30pm Senior Literacy (Age 12 - 15)
- 1.30pm - 1.55pm Born to Move - (Teens)
- 1.55pm - 2.25pm Advanced Te Reo
- 2.25pm - 2.50pm Senior Project
- 2.50pm - 3.00pm Daily Diary

CHALLENGE: To create an aircraft that will protect an egg from being damaged when dropped from a height. Well done Rhi!



Mitchell and Ava designed their own PE activity / game or obstacle course using equipment they have at home.



Special Character

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Praise to Jesus Christ!

He has risen from the dead.

He will live forever!

Alleluia

I hope that you all had a very Blessed Easter, you were all in my prayers. It was a new experience not to be able to celebrate with my faith family Easter at Church. We enjoyed being at home in our bubble at Easter - dressing up nicely for Mass, having tomb easter eggs and a lovely family dinner. As parents we tried to focus on bringing the joy of Easter into the family in this strange time. Thinking of those things that we are truly grateful for - where we can see the positives in the world today. We have gotten to know our neighbours some more, connected with the Church in a new way, and appreciated how we are in a fortunate place compared to others around the world and locally. I have felt relieved watching videos from Nigel Latta and others talking about how to cope with anxiety as a family and how families need to keep calm and go with what is right for them. It is important to acknowledge what causes us anxiety in this time and work out ways to cope together so that

we can care for our mental health. Remember that prayer is highly important at this time and sharing your pain with our Lord. I encourage you to say a personal or family rosary where you can offer your concerns to God. Take care and focus on the light of Christ through love, hope and joy.

St Mary's Holy Week Easter Video 2020

Thank you for all the photos and short videos of your family celebrating our faith last week. Please if you have any to add email them to trush@stmarystga.school.nz

Easter Season:

The celebration of the resurrection of Jesus is the climax of the Church's life marking Christ's victory over sin and death. The season of Easter extends for 50 days after Easter Sunday, closing with Pentecost Sunday. The Gospels of the season are missionary themed, and it is a time for Christians to celebrate their faith and tell someone else about it!

Think about how we can be missionaries in our own families, sharing our own faith journey, our hopes and being thankful and grateful for all we do have.

Teresa Rush

DRS

Emma Washer

We pray for the anniversary of our dear Emma Washer.



Dear Lord,

I commend you, dear Emma to almighty God, and entrust you to your Creator.

May you rest in the arms of the Lord who formed you from the dust of the earth.

May holy Mary, the angels, and all the saints welcome you now that you have gone forth from this life.

May Christ who was crucified for you, bring you freedom and peace.

May Christ who died for you admit you into his garden of paradise.

May Christ, the true Shepherd, embrace you as one of his flock.

May he forgive all your sins and set you among those he has chosen.

May you see your Redeemer face to face and enjoy the vision of God, forever. Amen.



Angel enjoys learning her sounds and writing new words.



Teyla from Māramatanga using dominoes to solve her Number Agents problem

The following COVID-19 information is provided on the Ministry for Pacific Peoples website to support our Pasifika families in our community. The information is updated regularly and is in English and different Pacific Island Languages.

<https://www.mpp.govt.nz/pacific-people-in-nz/covid-19/>

Another interesting site is "Prepare Pacific" provided by the Ministry of Health to help combat the fight against the spread of coronavirus in our Pacific communities. The site also supports general well being and encourages people to exercise and look after themselves whilst at home. They also have a facebook page associated with this site <https://www.facebook.com/preparepacific/>.

For more Covid-19 info go to;
www.Covid19.govt.nz



Jacinda put a call out for all children to help her create an Easter Egg Hunt just in case Easter Bunny can't make it to every household this year due to lockdown! The Parry whanau answered the call & decorated their eggs for display in the front window...Also checkout Superhero Sunday. Looks like alot of fun!



Charli baking and exploring

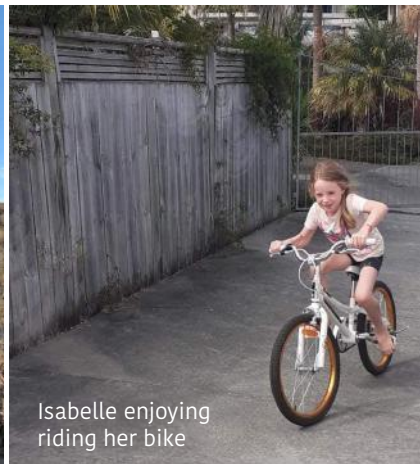




Levi and Lila enjoyed making teddy bears



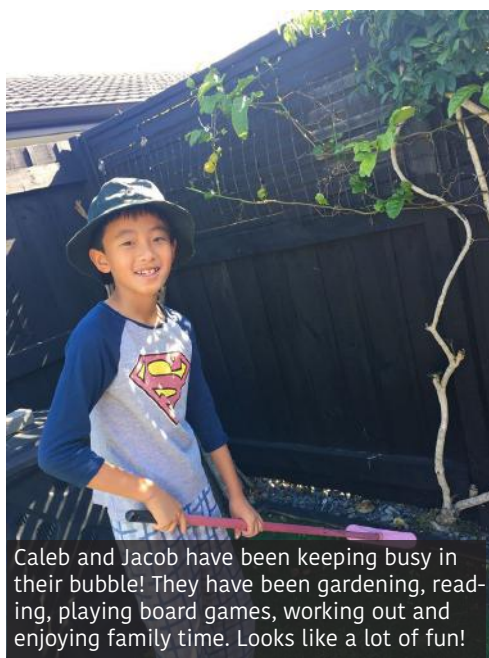
Sophie made a cross on Easter Friday



Isabelle enjoying riding her bike



Rory keeping an eye on their resident caterpillar that became a cocoon and emerged as a beautiful butterfly!



Caleb and Jacob have been keeping busy in their bubble! They have been gardening, reading, playing board games, working out and enjoying family time. Looks like a lot of fun!



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be.
thankful

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Sales Associate - Sotheby's Realty

M. +64 27 280 2121
E. jeremy.pryor@nzsr.com

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