



St Mary's
Catholic School
Tauranga

newsletter

ISSUE 8: 20 May 2020

It's good to be back!



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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

Sixth Sunday of Easter, Cycle A

Sunday, May 17, 2020

Gospel Reading

John 14:15-21

Jesus promises his disciples that he will send them another advocate, the Spirit of truth.

Background on the Gospel Reading

Sunday's Gospel is a continuation of last week's Gospel: Jesus is speaking to his disciples at the Last Supper. In today's reading Jesus offers encouragement to his disciples, who will soon see him crucified. He reassures them that even though he will leave them, he will not abandon them. Instead he will send them the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, through whom the disciples will continue to live in union with Jesus.

Jesus uses the term Advocate to describe the Holy Spirit, whom the disciples will receive. Another word used to describe the Holy Spirit is Paraclete, a legal term meaning "one who offers defense for another." Note that Jesus says that he will send "another Advocate." Jesus himself is the first advocate, interceding for his disciples with the Father.

In today's reading Jesus contrasts his impending departure with the permanence of the gift of the Holy Spirit. Jesus will leave to return to the Father, but the Holy Spirit will remain with the disciples.

Through the gift of the Holy Spirit, the disciples will come to know and appreciate the unity of the Son and the Father. They will also understand that they too participate in the communion between the Father and the Son: "On that day you will realize that I am in my Father and you are in me and I in you" (John 14:20).

Today's reading is one example of the contrast that John's Gospel presents between the community of disciples, to whom God will reveal himself, and the unbelieving world, which will remain in darkness. The unbelieving world cannot accept the "Spirit of truth," whom the disciples will receive. Only through the Spirit will God's revelation and love be known.



be.
Christ-like

be.
reflective

be.
creative

Dear Parents/Caregivers,

Welcome back and thank you for the work you have done at home! St Marys has come alive with our children present.

The last few weeks have been a remarkable time in history. In twenty years we will all look back and remember this time and share stories that will seem incredible. If someone had told us, on New Years Eve, that the whole world would go into lockdown, in just a few short months, it would have seemed like the work of fiction.

On behalf of our St Mary's Staff we wanted to thank you for everything that you have done. We know that it has not been easy and we thank you for your generosity to engage in the learning tasks over the last 5 weeks.

We have enjoyed having your children back over the past 2 days and I want to thank-you again for the support around our guidelines for this week.

The main message is that we adults are not on the grounds for longer than 15 minutes at a time. We also ask that if you do need to go into your child's classroom that you register your name on the contact tracing register. Can I please remind you of the need to pick up children on time at the end of the day and not to congregate for too long outside of school. Thank-you for your support on this. It is good to be back.

CORMAC WALTER

Congratulations to Lisa, Ben and Caleb Walter on the birth of their son and brother, Cormac Walter born on the 8th of May. Mum and baby are doing well, but please remember to keep them in your prayers.

TEACHER ONLY DAY

The Teacher only day planned for **Friday 29th May** has been **cancelled** due to the current restrictions in place. School as normal on this day.

COVID

If through this current climate of COVID 19, your family situations financially may have altered. If you need support with the Diocesan fees please make contact with me and I can support you by filling out the forms so families can ease the financial burden.

This also applies to School, if for any reason you require any support please do not hesitate to contact us.

HERO

We are delighted to be able to launch our new reporting system, Hero. The staff and students will be posting rich content to our Hero software and we are excited to share this with you to include you in your child's learning journey.

Our aim has been to implement a robust system that allows teachers, parents, and students to access learning in an online environment that is secure, easy, and effective.

Hero allows teachers to share learning anytime, anywhere and this can be viewed on any device. We are excited about the potential that the software offers. The report is designed to build year on year so that over time you will have access to written posts, assessments, images, video and helpful resources all in one place.

James Murray
Principal



How to log in to HERO and view your child's learning.

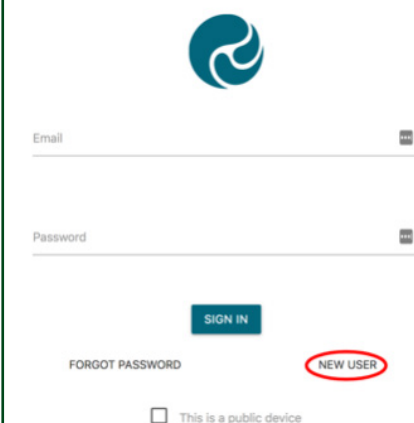
Go to the Hero for Parents website page. <https://www.linc-ed.com/parents/>

To set your password and log into Hero for the first time:

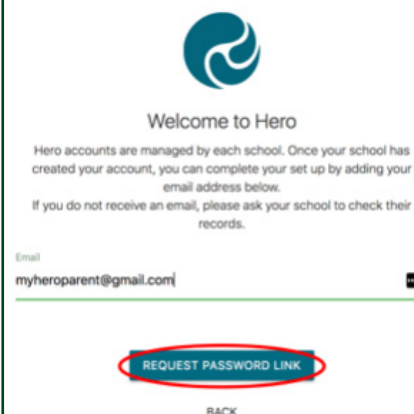
1. Download the Hero by LINC-ED app from the app store
Note: use the keywords Hero LINC-ED when searching for the app



2. Click NEW USER



3. Enter the email address you have provided the school and click REQUEST PASSWORD LINK



Special Character

What a joy returning to school properly, reconnecting with our students and sharing the joy of Easter. It has been a wonderful few days catching up with students and seeing how their lockdown time was, reminding them to focus on the positive experiences they have had. I am sure a few parents are also pleased that the students are back! Thank you for your ongoing support and prayers.

Liturgies and Masses

I would like to thank the families for their support with our online liturgies. We will continue for the time being to have weekly liturgies in classrooms. Class Masses have been postponed until further notice. We will however have Liturgy of the Word each week with a few students leading prayers, these liturgies will then be viewed in classrooms. At this stage we cannot have parishioners and families in supporting us at school and will continue to post on the facebook page for people to view.

Feast of the Ascension

The Feast of the Ascension is the fortieth day after Easter Sunday, which commemorates the Ascension of Christ into heaven.

Ascension of Jesus Prayer

*Oh, what an amazing blessing
it must have been
for the disciples and Mary Magdalene
to walk with Jesus once again.
Rejoice in his Resurrection.
But, oh, what sadness must have followed
when Jesus' work on earth was done.
Despite the glory of his Ascension into heaven,
was Mary again to lose her son?
With open hearts, full of faith,
they were nurtured by his promise.
The words of Jesus about the Holy Spirit
kept them strong and brought them calmness.*

NZPRAY2DAY Prayer App

You often hear "there's an app for that!" Now New Zealand Catholics have an app for prayers with the launch of the NZpray2day app for their Android mobile phones.

The Church's National Centre for Religious Studies (NCRS) – part of Te Kupenga-Catholic Leadership Institute announced the launch of NZpray2day on Google Play for Android devices. NCRS director Colin MacLeod says NZpray2day is designed to support young and old in Catholic schools and parishes to enter simply into the richness of the ancient Christian cycle of seasons, saints and readings.



Kete Korero / May-July 2020 - Special Online Edition

Korero is our Catholic Diocese of Hamilton Magazine. The latest edition is available online. Visit www.ketekorero.cdh.nz to read.

Teresa Rush

DRS



Whanau Oates read the Super Felix book and did some art about coming back to school after lockdown.

We can all help to keep ourselves and others safe.



We are so excited to be back at school and we know that we can all be Superheroes!

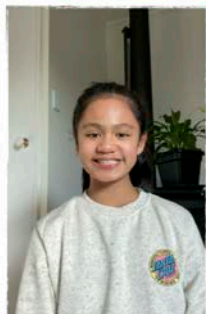


Happy to be with friends again in Maramatanga

Age
10

MULTICULTURAL TAURANGA

DRAWING COMPETITION
"MIGRANT COMMUNITIES NEAR YOU"



OVERALL WINNER AND FACEBOOK FAVOURITE JAHREN RALIA

STUDENTS AGE: 10
ST MARY'S CATHOLIC SCHOOL - 19 ENTRIES
TEACHER: ANNETTE LABAN

This is a beautiful drawing that reminds us of all the colourful cultures to be found in Tauranga. The flags in the shape of Mt. Maunganui, the silhouette of a traditional hongi greeting, and the multi-coloured Kiwi behind these seem to suggest that while we come from many different places, we are all New Zealanders and we are all welcome here. The drawing is mature, visually striking, well balanced and well-drawn. Well done!

ALESSANDRA TILBY, CREATIVE OFFICER FOR MULTICULTURAL TAURANGA.

Happy to be back!



RICOH

imagine. change.

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