



SACRED HEART PARISH PRIMARY SCHOOL

192 Lane Street Broken Hill NSW 2880
Telephone: 08 80885777 Fax: 08 80872282
e-mail: admin.brokenhill@wf.catholic.edu.au

THIS WEEK:

Sun 7/12:	2 nd Sunday of Advent
Mon 8/12:	9:10am End of Year School Mass(Yr. 5/6) No Staff Meeting
Tues 9/12:	10:00a.m. – 12:00p.m. PEDALS 3:40p.m. Parent/Teacher Interviews
Wed 10/12:	Christmas Party No Executive Meeting 7:30p.m. School Committee AGM
Thur 11/12:	11:30a.m. End of Year Assembly

NEXT WEEK:

Sun 14/12:	3 rd Sunday of Advent
Mon 15/12:	No School Mass
Wed 17/12:	3:30p.m. End of Term 4

2nd SUNDAY OF ADVENT



A voice cries in the wilderness, "Prepare a way for the Lord, make his paths straight." And so it was that John the Baptist appeared proclaiming a baptism of repentance. People made their way to him to be baptised in the Jordan River. John preached, "Someone is coming who is more powerful than I, and I am not fit to undo his sandals."

(ref. Mark 1:1-8)

Repent! Advent is a time of waiting. Like Mary awaiting the birth of her son, we too await the coming of Jesus into our lives in a fresh and new way. It's a time to prepare our hearts and minds to receive Jesus anew. Take some time this week to unclutter your heart and mind: reflect, pray, go to Reconciliation, and commit to change.

Lord God, you call us to repentance, to turn away from sin and give our hearts and minds to you.

Forgive us for our sins. Amen.

MESSAGE FROM FR. NICK

We listened on Sunday to the Beginning of the Gospel according to Mark. Who was Mark? He is not one of the Apostles of Jesus but he was a follower of Jesus Christ in Jerusalem. He helped St Paul and St Barnabas in their missionary work. He also helped St Peter and wrote down what St Peter was preaching in Rome, where he was acting as Peter's interpreter because the Romans did not speak Hebrew or Aramaic.

The scholars who have studied the four Gospels agree that Mark's gospel was the first to be written down even though there were some evolutionary changes before arriving at the text that we now have.

The Gospel of Mark begins with the statement that there is a Good News, which means something altogether new that changes not only the way that people think but also changes the way that people live and practice their faith.

The Good News is much bigger than what is written in each Gospel, because the preaching of the twelve apostles after Pentecost was given by the power of the Holy Spirit and by the witness of the early Christians who had changed the way they lived their lives as well as the way they prayed and celebrated the Eucharist.

St Mark's gospel begins to say that the Good News is about Jesus Christ who is Son of God. St Mark wrote his gospel for the converts to Christianity from the Hebrew Faith as well as the Gentile Christians in Rome. He says that what the prophet Isaiah prophesied has come about and is fulfilled with the coming of Jesus.

Jesus is the Messiah promised by the prophets of the Old Testament for the People of Israel and also for the peoples of the Gentile world. The prophecy talks of a messenger who will prepare the way for the Messiah. He will be living in the desert and announcing the Lord's coming and calling the people to conversion. This was done by John the Baptist. Many people come to him. The Gospel says that all Judaea and all Jerusalem came to him to be baptised by water in the River Jordan and confessing their sins. John the Baptist practiced penance and lived in the desert on locusts and wild honey. He was dressed in a camel-skin garment.

If people looked up to John as a prophet and confessed their sins to him, he said that in comparison to the one whose way he was preparing, he is nothing: "I am not fit to kneel down and undo the strap of his sandals."

He said, of the coming Christ, that he will be more powerful than himself and will baptise with fire. This fire is the Holy Spirit that does more than forgive sins, but burns out the old nature which makes us sin. To receive this fire of the Holy Spirit, which Jesus Christ will bring, requires complete abandonment and trust in Jesus. He will then live in us and give us his Spirit who will invade and transform our selfish fearful nature into an unselfish trusting nature that can love and give one's life fully for others, as Jesus himself does and will do in his death and resurrection. This is the Good

News that Mark has recorded so that when this Gospel is proclaimed in the Christian Assembly (Church), the Holy Spirit may work in us.

Fr. Nick O.P.

PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS

Please remember to continue to keep families of our school and parish community in your thoughts and prayers throughout the week, especially those who may have members of their family suffering from serious illness or sickness.

PRESENTATION EVENING

Our Presentation Evening was a wonderful opportunity to acknowledge and celebrate the efforts of all our students in a range of areas throughout 2014. The students' involvement, enthusiasm and enjoyment while presenting their items were very evident on the night.

A big thank you to Mrs. Denton who continues to surprise us all with the choreography of the dance performances and her assistance backstage. Also, many thanks to Mrs. Allison, Miss Zammit and Mrs. Denton for their guidance, enthusiasm and preparation of the Infant and Primary Choirs. We are very fortunate to have some very talented teachers working with our students in these areas. Thanks go to all members of staff for their preparations and supervision of the children and assistance with the preparation of the items performed on the night; to Miss Heyward who was our emcee for the evening and made sure everything ran very smoothly; to Fr. Nick, Fr. Simon and all other invited guests for being with us on this special occasion for our school and presenting awards; to Year 1/2 for the presentation of their verse speaking item; to Mr. Digby Schinckel for his assistance backstage; to Emma Hocking and Jordan Spratt our School Captains for their combined valedictory speech; to everyone who came along to support the children and teachers; and to parents who organised, provided and assisted with supper. The effort of all involved is greatly appreciated.

Thanks to everyone who supported our Christmas Hamper Raffle by buying tickets and donating goods for the hampers. The raffle was again, very successful. Thanks to our Parent Group for organising this fundraiser and setting up the Supper Room. The assistance and support of everyone is greatly appreciated. I'm sure that you would agree that it was a great night.

CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

Our school float 'Christmas on Noah's Ark' looked fantastic and the children thoroughly enjoyed their ride and walk along Oxide and Argent Streets. A big thank you to Barrier Crash Repairs for making and constructing the float this year and Home Hardware for their generous donation of materials. Also, many thanks to the parents and families for their time to assist and prepare the float as well. The preparation of

the float took many hours to organise and construct. Well done to all involved.

END OF YEAR MASS

Our End of Year Mass of Thanksgiving was held yesterday in the Cathedral. It was a very special occasion for all present. A special blessing was offered to our Year 6 class which was led by Fr. Nick asking God to bless them now and in the future as they leave Sacred Heart Parish Primary School. Representatives from each class took the opportunity to present our Year 6 students with farewell cards and offer best wishes for 2015 and beyond.

This was followed by our School Captains Emma Hocking and Jordan Spratt responding on behalf of the Year 6's. Many thanks to Fr. Simon for leading this special celebration for us.

After Mass the families of Year 6 and members of our school and parish community enjoyed a morning tea in the Hall where each child was presented with a 'Graduation Bear' or 'Soccer ball' kindly donated by our Parent Group.



MUSIC STARS LESSONS



Lessons for children who have been participating in the guitar and/or keyboard sessions have finished for the year. Music Stars will contact families to re-enrol for next year's program soon.

DISTRIBUTION OF SEMESTER 2 REPORTS

Parent/Teacher interviews for Semester 2 are being conducted today after school (**Tuesday, 9th December**).

CHRISTMAS PARTY

This year, students in Kindergarten to Year 6 will have their Christmas Party at school tomorrow (**Wednesday, 10th December**). Each child is asked to bring along a decorated Christmas box with some Christmas treats to eat and drink. The children can wear casual clothes on this day, however, please ensure that they are wearing appropriate closed shoes. After lunch the children will make their way to the Hall for a Disco.

SCHOOL COMMITTEE AGM

The role of the School Committee is to assist the Principal and Parish Administrator in the efficient running of the School. It is an advisory Committee. The School Committee meets in the Admin Meeting Room on the second Wednesday of each month except during school holidays. Each year there is a turnover of half the Committee members. The school is seeking **Expressions of Interest** to serve on the School Committee due to the completion of some members' Term of Office, which is generally for two years. Expression of Interest form can be made by contacting the office before **3:15p.m. on Wednesday, 10th December.**

The final School Committee meeting for this year will be the Annual General Meeting scheduled for tomorrow evening (**Wednesday, 10th December**) commencing at 7:30p.m.

ASSEMBLIES

Our final Assembly for the year will be held this **Thursday, 11th December** at 11:30a.m. in Marcellin Hall. Year 4/5 will be hosting this Assembly. **Please note the change in time.**

CANTEEN

The canteen will be closed next week.

TEXTBOOK ORDERS

Text books for 2014 have arrived and can be collected from the office. Any outstanding amount will need to be paid when collected.

SCHOOL FEES



Just a reminder that with the end of Term 4 fast approaching, all outstanding school fees owing to the end of Term 4 should be paid no later than **Wednesday, 17th December 2014.** As you can appreciate the school relies on the

school fees to pay for the general running costs of the school. Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

CLEARANCES

All Year 6 students and students from other year levels leaving Sacred Heart at the end of the year will need to complete a clearance form that can be obtained from the office. All clearances are due by **Friday, 12th December.**

CASUAL CLOTHES

Students may attend the last week of school in casual clothes. The final day of school for all students is **Wednesday, 17th December.** The children will be dismissed at 3:30p.m.

END OF TERM

The last day of Term 4 for students will be on **Wednesday, 17th December.**

The Office will remain open until **Friday, 19th December.**

LOST PROPERTY

There is a substantial amount of lost property located inside the Student Entry Foyer. Please call in and take a look if your child has lost any shoes, jumpers, lunch boxes, drink containers, hats etc. before the end of the term.

TERM DATES 2015

Term 1 dates for next year, 2015 are as follows:

TERM 1:

School commences: **Wednesday, 4th February**
(Year 1 to 6 students)

Monday, 9th February
(Kindergarten students)

Kindergarten students will be involved in the Best Start Kindergarten Assessment program from **Wednesday, 4th February to Friday, 6th February.** More information about this program will be sent home soon.

School concludes: **Thursday, 2nd April**

CLASSES FOR 2015

Following are the class structure for 2015. Class groupings for each class are still being decided and hopefully distributed towards the end of this week.

Kindergarten:	Miss Zammit	Room 11/12
Year 1:	Miss Buddle	Room 8
Year 2/3:	Miss Heyward	Room 7
Year 3/4:	Mrs. Tracey	Room 1
Year 5/6:	To be advised	Room 2
Year 5/6:	Mrs. Denton	Room 4
	Mr. Rynne (Fridays)	

Enjoy your week and I hope to see everyone at our final Assembly.

Trevor Rynne
PRINCIPAL

