From the Acting Principal

Dear Parents and Friends of St Anthony’s,

**Gospel Reading of Sunday – 5th May, 2013**

_John 14:23-28_

[Jesus said,] “Whoever loves me will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our dwelling with him. Whoever does not love me does not keep my words; yet the word you hear is not mine but that of the Father who sent me.”

“I have told you this while I am with you. The Advocate, The Holy Spirit whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything and remind you of all that I told you. Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give it to you. Do not let your hearts be troubled or afraid. You heard me tell you, ‘I am going away and I will come back to you.’ If you loved me, you would rejoice that I am going to the Father; for the Father is greater than I.”

**Reflection**

The Holy Spirit is the life force of the Christian community, encouraging and empowering the disciples to solidify as a Church and to carry out their mission of proclaiming the Gospel. This Gospel passage refers to the Spirit as Advocate, as Christ assures the disciples of the enduring presence of the Spirit, especially guiding them in understanding and exploring the mysteries of the faith. To think of the Spirit as Advocate evokes the image of a supportive voice.

**Let us pray together:-**

_Almighty God,_

grant that we may remain open to the Spirit as our advocate, and let the spirit stir our hearts to joyful passion for proclaiming your Gospel of salvation.

We ask you this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever...

_Amen_

**Welcome to Week 1.**

Welcome back to school. Term 2 is a nine week term and there are many things planned for the staff, students and parents of our school community.

During the holidays I received news that Miss Christine Watson had passed away. Over the past two weeks I have worked with Fr Paul in advising the staff, parents and students of St Anthony’s School and Parish community. Miss Watson will be sadly missed, as she was a valued member of our school and parish. There are many parents of our school community who were taught by Miss Watson and they always ask when they are enrolling their kindergarten child if she is still teaching at St Anthony’s. Miss Watson’s teaching career at St Anthony’s spanned over 31 years.

As a school and parish community we wish to honour Miss Watson as a teacher, colleague and friend. Fr Paul has nominated Saturday, 1st June, 2013 Vigil Mass at 6pm to be a Memorial Mass for Miss Christine Watson. There will be hospitality after the Mass in the Parish Hall. I know there will be many people who will wish to attend the Mass to honour Christine’s life and her outstanding contributions to our school, parish and personal lives.

I am excited to be back at St Anthony’s. I missed the children, staff and families. The opportunity to lead another school was an outstanding professional experience. I have always believed that change is renewing and invigorating. I learnt new things and was able to share some of the great achievements that we have made at St Anthony’s.

I wish to say that the opportunity to care take of another school would not have been possible without the support of Mrs Patricia Charlton and staff of St Anthony’s. It was a great opportunity for Patricia to lead the school and demonstrate her outstanding capabilities in leading the learning and administration of the school. During my leave Patricia facilitated the professional learning day for more than 40 Principals across the diocese being lead by Lyn Sharratt, co-author of the book, Putting Faces on the Data.

Mrs Patricia Charlton brings to her role, as Assistant Principal, many talents and skills and through her opportunity as Acting Principal was able to demonstrate capabilities and leadership skills required to lead a school in the 21st Century where students’ learning is a high priority and professional learning for teachers is equally important.

**Well done, Mrs Charlton. 🌟**
The St Anthony’s staff is a great team of people, working collaboratively every day in supporting the leadership of this school. I wish to express my appreciation of everything they do and let them know that I truly appreciated their support of Mrs Charlton, Mr Barden and Mrs Awkar in their new roles during my absence.

Kind Regards

Cheryl Brown
Principal

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

May, the Month of Mary
May is the month when Catholics traditionally focus on Mary, the Mother of Jesus. The practice dates back at least 700 years and is still observed around the world today. May is seen as the beginning of new life and the start of summer in Europe Asia and North America, which makes this a logical time for the celebrations of Mary, who brought life into the world.

This month of devotions in the church calendar is characterised by special hymns and the use of flowers, which bring nature into the church. There are several Marian feast days in May, including Our Lady of Fatima, Our Lady of the Most Blessed Sacrament and Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

The celebration of May as a holy month for Mary has been ratified by several popes through the ages. Pope Benedict XV ordered a prayer for peace in 1915 during World War I and Pope Pius XII called for May devotions in 1939, at the start of World War II.

In the Western Church, the rosary is the preeminent form of prayer to the Blessed Virgin Mary. Once a daily feature of Catholic life, it is now seeing a revival after decades of disuse. May is a very good month to begin prayer the rosary daily. Perhaps during the month of May you may take some time to pray The Rosary with your children at home.

Kindergarten and Years 5 will join parishioners to celebrate Mass on the Feast of Australia’s Patron Saint, Our Lady Help of Christians, on Friday 24th May. Years 1, 3 and 6 will join parishioners to celebrate the Feast of the Visitations of Mary a week later on Friday 31st May.

Celebration of the Word in Thanksgiving for Mothers
We invite all parents, family members and friends to join us at school, for this celebration. An important ritual within this celebration will be the blessing of all mothers who are present. This has been part of our tradition for several years now and will take place on Friday 10th May at 9:15am.

From the Assistant Principal
What’s Happening at St Anthony’s
Welcome to Term 2, which will be a short term (9 weeks) but a very busy one. I refer you to the calendar for some of the upcoming events this term.

Staff Development Day
Revised Australian Curriculum
On Monday the teaching staff of St Anthony’s were engaged in professional development on the new NSW syllabuses for English K – 6 and Mathematics K – 6.

Our focus for the day was to become familiar with the new syllabus and compare them with our current syllabuses in order to identify the changes (what is different, what is similar, what is unchanged) in the content covered in each grade, the syllabus features and requirements and assessment practices. We also reflected on and discussed our current practice (what works well, what needs attention); the impact the curriculum changes will have on teaching practice, resourcing, assessment and programming. It was a very productive day for the teaching staff. It sharpened our focus and reinforced our conviction to continue to meet the challenges presented by changes to curriculum “to chart new waters – to inquire, to respond (the knowledge building part of the cycle resulting in new routines of more effective practice) and to share as we learn our way forward in the cycle of continuous improvement of teaching. ‘It’s about good teaching – inquire, respond, share.’” (This is the Parramatta Diocese’s mantra for 2013.)

Implementation of the new syllabuses will begin from 2014. Teaching staff are required to familiarise themselves with the new syllabuses and support material throughout 2013.

Keep up with all the latest news and information

www.stanthonysgirraween.catholic.edu.au  www.facebook.com/StAnthonysG  twitter.com/StAnthonysG
The implementation Schedule for the new syllabuses are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Subjects</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>English, Mathematics, Science and Technology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>Mathematics, Science and Technology, History</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>History</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Throughout the year I will continue to publish information on the new syllabuses and how we at St Anthony’s are managing the change process…so watch this space.

NAPLAN
On Tuesday 14th, Wednesday 15th and Thursday 16th May, students will take the 2013 NAPLAN tests.

NAPLAN assesses skills in literacy and numeracy that are developed over time, through the school curriculum. NAPLAN is not a pass or fail type test, but rather shows how students are progressing in numeracy and literacy skills against national standards for all children. It also provides valuable information that allows schools and governments to better target effort and support to help all students achieve their potential and acquire the basic skills to help them build successful and happy lives. The best way parents can support their children during the NAPLAN testing period is to let them know that NAPLAN is just one part of their school program, and to urge them to simply do the best they can on the day. An individual student NAPLAN report will be issued by the school later this year. Parents can use this information to monitor how their child is progressing and to identify any areas of concern. Parents may also wish to use their child’s results to discuss progress with teachers. More information on NAPLAN is available at [www.nap.edu.au](http://www.nap.edu.au).

School Policies
The staff is currently engaged in the process of reviewing all of our school policies. This process was led by Mr Barden last term and will continue throughout this term. Once the policies have been ratified they will be posted on the school website for our school community. I would encourage all our parents / carers to familiarise themselves with the documents.

St Anthony’s Walk-A-Thon
Its time to ‘dust off’ your walking shoes and get ready for this great event. Yes that’s right ‘St Anthony’s Walk-A-Thon is just around the corner so it’s time to get ready – start those stretches and step out… reach out and help others.

St Anthony’s Walk-A-Thon is held every second year to raise funds to support the pastoral care needs of the St Anthony’s Community. Through this social justice fundraising event we are able to provide support to parents, students and staff of a pastoral nature.

Miss Stone and Mrs Peatman are organising this event. A letter will be sent home next week giving you more details of the event, which will be held on Thursday the 6th of June.

Kind Regards
Patricia Charlton
Assistant Principal

COMMUNITY NEWS

CRAFT FAIR & ANTIQUE VALUATIONS FOR ST VINCENT de PAUL WINTER APPEAL
Our Lady Queen of Peace (OLQP) parish in Greystanes is again holding its highly popular Craft Fair and Antique Valuation event on Saturday 4th May to raise funds for St Vincent de Paul Winter Appeal.

This is the 5th Craft Fair organised by volunteers of OLQP and features up to 40 stalls from all over Sydney, selling home-made decor, kitchen goods, violets, plants, jewellery, candles, baby clothes, framed pictures and more. Children can make their own stuffed bears.

A unique drawcard of this Craft Fair is the professional Antique Valuations. Available from 9am, everyone is encouraged to bring along special treasures or family heirlooms and paintings to see how much they are really worth. Instead of bringing large paintings with you, the valuation can be done from a photo of the painting and artist signature. Each valuation is $5.00.

Just over a week before Mother’s Day, the Craft Fair will have a special focus on Mum with plenty of great gift ideas to spoil her.

Profits from the Fair will be donated to St Vincent de Paul Winter Appeal which assists people right across the community.

This is a great social day out for the whole family with traditional Devonshire teas and a fantastic sausage sizzle from 8am.

What: Mothers’ Day Craft Fair & Antique Valuation
Where: OLQP Camilleri Hall, 198 Old Prospect Road, Greystanes, 2145
When: Saturday 4th May, 8am – 2pm

For further information please contact: events@olqp.org.au
www.facebook.com/OLQPevents

Keep up with all the latest news and information
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**STEEPING BEYOND: SUPPORT FOR THOSE SEPARATED OR DIVORCED**

If you have been separated or divorced and would benefit from regular shared discussion evenings with others who are in a similar situation to you, come along to STEPPING BEYOND on the last Tuesday of each month at CCSS Centre, 51-59 Allawah St, Blacktown, at 7.30pm! Next one is on Tues. 30th April. You are very likely to be supported and helped through the sharing of experiences on matters such as “How well are you stepping beyond? What do you want to step beyond? What are you currently stepping beyond? What is stopping you from stepping beyond? What have you learned as you keep stepping beyond?” Venue: CCSS centre 51-59 Allawah St, Blacktown. Time: 7.30 – 9.30. Cost: $5.00. Registration: soloparentministry@ccss.org.au or Ph. 99330205

**ANNULMENT INFORMATION NIGHT**

Each year the Catholic Tribunal Staff and CatholicCare Solo Parent Ministry present an Information Session to help people understand how the process of Annulments in the Catholic Church is conducted. Questions are answered on details such as the length of time it takes, the cost, the role of witnesses, the number of interviews required, the grounds for an Annulment, how to start the process, etc. The evening is open to anyone at all who is interested in gaining more information about the Annulment process in the Catholic Church. Venue: Parish Hall, Aurelia St, Toongabbie. Date: Tues 14th May. Time: 7.30 – 9.30. Cost: $5.00. Registration: soloparentministry@ccss.org.au or Ph. 99330205

**TAKE HOME A BIG BROTHER OR BIG SISTER**

Give your children the wonderful opportunity to have an international big brother or big sister by hosting one of our exceptional international students arriving in Australia in July 2013 for their 3, 5 or 10 month programs. Our international students from France, Germany, Italy, Sweden, Norway, Denmark, Finland, and Spain will live as a local, attend a local secondary school, arrive with their own spending money and comprehensive insurance cover – all arranged by Southern Cross Cultural Exchange. Visit us at www.scce.com.au, email scceast@scce.com.au or call us toll free on 1800 500 501, request our international student profiles, and capture the spirit of family and friendship!

**PARRAMATTA MARIST**

Parramatta Marist enrolments for Year 7, 2014 are closing this Friday, 3 May 2013. If you need any further details please contact:

Jennifer Clark
Principal’s Secretary
Parramatta Marist High School
2 Darcy Road, Westmead, 2145
Tel: 9635 7066 | Fax: 9633 4983
www.parramarist.nsw.edu.au

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**Catherine McAuley Westmead Open Day**

**Saturday 11 May 2013**

**9am-12.30pm**

Come and see our school!

Our Open Day will have school tours, lots of fun activities and student demonstrations. A simulated archaeological dig will be run by the History Department, a lino printing workshop by the Visual Arts Department, lots of hands on science experiments organised by the Science Department, a Japanese cultural demonstration by our Year 10 Japanese students, dancing displays by our Dance students and lots of delicious treats made by our Hospitality students in our new commercial kitchen.

Principal presentations at 10am and 11am

Our Open Day is also an opportunity to view our new building and how it is enhancing learning opportunities at Catherine McAuley.

Car parking available on site via Gate 3, Darcy Road.

Additional car parking available at the paid UWS carpark, entrance via Hawkesbury Road.

Contact our School Reception on 9849 9100 for further information. We are located opposite Westmead Private Hospital at 2 Darcy Road, Westmead.

Have you seen our school website? Go to www.mcauley.nsw.edu.au

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**AFTERNOON / MORNING KISS & DROP**

The safety of every member of our school community is a high priority. It has been concerning, therefore, to see the safety of children put at risk at the afternoon car pick up in recent days. It is essential that all parents and carers follow our pick up procedure to ensure the safety of every child.

1. Teachers will call students to the footpath according to the time; other students and parents must wait their turn. Parents may assist their children with seatbelts, etc.
2. Parents are to remain in their car and move forward as cars at the front of the queue depart
3. At the direction of teachers, students will enter their car from the footpath side only
4. Only the first three cars in the queue will be loaded at any time; other students and parents must wait their turn. Parents may assist their children with seatbelts, etc.
5. The first three cars must then depart the pick up area in order. Please remember to check your mirrors and blind spots for passing traffic before pulling out.

We appreciate your cooperation and patience in these matters. Following these procedures is the most effective way of ensuring that everybody gets home safely and efficiently. Double parking and pulling out into traffic without giving way is illegal at all times and leads to potentially dangerous situations both before and after school.

Another major concern is parents taking their children through the queue of cars to cross Girraween Road. **This is extremely dangerous. Please set a good example for your children by walking up the road to a safer crossing point.** I ask all parents to ensure that these procedures are observed at all times.

Keep up with all the latest news and information

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SCHOOL COMMUNITY GROUP
ENTERTAINMENT BOOK
The SCG are selling 2013/2014 Entertainment Books as a fundraiser this year. You can order your books online www.entertainmentbook.com.au/orderbooks/214s888 or by completing and returning the form that will be sent home next week. If you would like to have a flick through the book you can on this link http://www.entertainmentbook.com.au/flickbook/sydney-west. When you order your book you can have it delivered direct to you for a $9 delivery charge or can collect from school. Once your book has come into school it will be sent home via your child unless you state otherwise. The books will be available after 8 April. For more information please contact Louise Frendo, 0414 347 277 or stanthonysscg@gmail.com.

CANTEEN ROSTER
6th – 10th May
| Monday     | Alison Woolgar |
| Tuesday    | Rachel Christie |
| Wednesday  | Sofie Tjahakusuma |
| Thursday   | Sue Adams |

CALENDAR

| Fri  | 3 May | Bully Bullring Anti-bullying Show – 2 sessions - 9am to 10am Years 3 & 6 and 10am to 11am Kinder – Year 2 |
| Tue  | 7 May | Diocesan Cross Country |
| Fri  | 10 May | Mothers’ Day Stall & Breakfast |
| Mon  | 13 May | SCG Meeting & Guest Speaker |
| Tues | 14 May | NAPLAN |
| Wed  | 15 May | NAPLAN |
| Thurs| 16 May | NAPLAN |
| Fri  | 17 May | Makeup Day – NAPLAN |
| Tues | 21 May | Uni NSW Competitions - Computers |
| Fri  | 24 May | Athletics Carnival – Gooden Reserve |
| Fri  | 24 May | School Disco |
| Mon  | 27 May | Spring Fair Meeting |
| Tues | 28 May | Stage 3 Soccer Gala Day |
| Fri  | 31 May | Rugby League – Parramatta All Schools Knock Out |
| Sat  | 1 June | Memorial Mass for Miss Watson – 6pm at the Church |
| Wed  | 5 June | Uni NSW Competitions – Science |
| Thurs| 6 June | Walkathon |
| Tues | 11 June | School Photos |
| Fri  | 14 June | School Reports coming home |
| Mon  | 17 June | Uni NSW Competitions – Writing |

UNIFORM SHOP TIMES
The Uniform Shop will be open next Monday 6th May from 8:30am – 9:15am.

CAUGHT DOING IT RIGHT
During the last weeks of Term 1, Soraya Rajadurai and Renata Busic, both from 4G, spent their lunch time picking up rubbish from the playground and tidying the playground without being asked. Congratulations girls.

KINDER ENROLMENTS – 2014
The Enrolment period for 2014 has commenced and will run until Friday 31st May. Parents wishing to enrol their child should collect an application package from the school office. For enquiries please contact Mrs Laurie on 9631 5283, email: Girraween@parra.catholic.edu.au.

School Banking
Don’t forget that banking is happening on Tuesdays at 8:30am in front of the HUB
So bring in your Bank Books on Tuesday morning.

Keep up with all the latest news and information
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