Dear Parents and Friends of St Anthony’s

A Reading from the Gospel of John 17:20-26

Lifting up his eyes to heaven, Jesus prayed saying: “I pray not only for these, but also for those who will believe in me through their word, so that they may all be one, as you. Father, are in me and I in you, that they also may be in us, that the world may believe that you sent me. And I have given them the glory you gave me, so that they may be one, as we are one, I in them and you in me, that they may be brought to perfection as one, that the world may know that you sent me, and that you loved them even as you loved me. Father, they are your gift to me. I wish that where I am they also may be with me, that they may see my glory that you gave me, because you loved me before the foundation of the world. Righteous Father, the world also does not know you, but I know you, and they know that you sent me. I made known to them your name and I will make it known, that the love with which you loved me may be in them and I in them.”

Reflection

The world does not know the great gift of life in God. Frequently, we too do not understand our Father’s love for us in his Son. But, today we continue to listen to the words of Jesus’ prayer for us. How beautiful to hear Jesus say that we are a gift to him! Jesus not only prays for us, but also for all our friends, our family, our acquaintances, and all those who will come to encounter God through us.

Let us pray together…

Righteous Father, may the offering of our lives be a gift to you, and by your goodness be proclaimed throughout all the earth. Make us faithful witnesses of your glory as you send us out to testify to your love so all peoples may believe in the truth of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen

Welcome to Week 5.
I wish to express how exciting it was on the 11th May when we celebrated Mothers’ Day for all our mothers and grandmothers. The School Community Group provided a scrumptious Mothers’ Day breakfast. The fathers were very supportive by doing all the cooking. The Mothers’ Day liturgy was well attended and all mums and grandmothers received a carnation and card as a memento.

The Mothers’ Day raffle was very successful as well. The students really enjoyed having their names called out to pick a gift from the awesome collection of gifts. I was very happy with winning a prize in the raffle. The Mothers’ Day stall was well presented in the multi-purpose room. The mums of the SCG presented the gifts with lots of love and care. The children were very interested in spending their money to buy a wonderful gift for their mums.

I encourage all our students to attend the ‘Bling Disco’ this coming Friday. There are two sessions: 5pm – 6pm for Kindergarten, Years 1 and 2. The second session is at 6:30pm – 8pm for Years 3 – 6. This event is supported by the St Anthony’s School Community Group. I am so proud of the SCG parents, they have your child’s wellbeing at the heart of everything they endeavour to do at our School. By providing social events like the Disco they are building community and providing opportunities for other parents to be part of the School Community Group by assisting to make the event successful and well attended.

KISS AND DROP - URGENT INFORMATION

In the Week 3 newsletter I discussed the use of the Kiss and Drop process each morning and afternoon. I was surprised to have received only two (2) responses from my request to ask parents if they were interested in getting together to find a solution to some of the problems being experienced at the Kiss and Drop. This matter was also discussed at the School Community Group meeting last week. At the meeting it was decided that the SCG would support my pleas for taking responsibility at the Kiss and Drop, therefore, you will have received a Flyer today from the School Community Group parent body.

It is most important that you read the flyer and return the tear off slip to the school office. This will acknowledge that you have read the document and are informed of the criteria and expectations when using the Kiss and Drop service.

The desire is for all St Anthony’s students to be safe when travelling to and from school and when alighting from their vehicle. We are appealing to parent’s sense of responsibility and good citizenship. So as a member of the St Anthony’s School Community you accept the rules and protocols that promote our school to be a safe environment where the child’s safety and wellbeing is of the upmost importance above all else.
SCHOOL SPORTS SOCKS
In the Week 3 Newsletter I wrote about the students wearing the ‘No show’ socks. I have given the students a 3 week change over time so I would appreciate it if all students were wearing the correct sport socks by 3rd June, 2012. After this date students will receive a letter for their parent regarding wearing the incorrect uniform item. Please support your child and buy the correct socks as soon as possible so they won’t worry about this matter.

EXTRA CURRICULA ACTIVITIES
The extra curricula activities the students have been engaged in this term are very creative. The feedback from students is that they enjoy the new learning and look forward to their activity each week. Our school has just recently purchased twelve (12) guitars for the music room. Mrs Sylvia Mitchell will be offering an extra curricula activity shortly to cater for some of our primary students that wish to be musicians. More information will be forthcoming. The aim is to have a band in the future for our school, so we are going to gradually build towards that goal. I wish to thank Mrs Mitchell for her insight and enthusiasm in offering the coming activity.

We are in May now and as the weather is getting colder in the mornings I ask that all students come to school with their jackets so they can be warm during the day if the weather is bleak and cold.

Next week the Years 5 & 6 students and teachers will be attending their respective excursion. I wish them a safe and educational journey. Mr Robert Barden will be attending the Canberra Excursion and Mrs Joanne Digwood will be attending the Bathurst Excursion. Please ensure that your child does not bring any electronic tools or mobile phones. The teachers will have mobile phones and will be in contact with the school. We will keep the parents updated by the St Anthony’s Twitter, Facebook and School Website of what’s happening in Canberra and Bathurst.

I wish to welcome Mr Brendan Correy to St Anthony’s, he is a prac teacher from Charles Stuart University working in Year 4 and Mrs Jacqui Johnson, who is a prac teacher from The Wesley Institute working in Year 2. I am sure they will enjoy their time in our school because we are a great school.

BRETT MURRAY
As Australia’s Leading Authority on Anti-Bullying with over a decade of experience presenting in schools and school communities, Brett Murray has presented to over 1,000,000 students, teachers and parents and most recently in the Parramatta Diocese. Brett has had the incredible honour of being nominated 4 times for Australian of the Year, had his own TV series called CampDARE on National TV, and is an International Youth Author.

What Brett brings.
Kids are suffering from the impacts of bullying now more than ever. Every time Brett presents a seminar, the question is always asked, is bullying on the rise. Unfortunately the answer is yes. Again, the good news is, we can do something about it. The seminars Brett has been delivering over the past decade are designed to educate, empower and encourage students, teachers and parents on the issues of what bullying is, and goes deeper into ‘Why’ people Bully. The ‘Why’ behind the ‘What’.

I have had some very positive feedback from parents who attended the seminars last week and I would like to invite Brett Murray to our school as a guest speaker, however, I would need to know that the event would be well attended. Could you please fill in the tear-off slip below if you would be interested in attending a seminar presented by Brett Murray on “The Power of Parenting and Learn How to Bully-Proof your Kids”.

God bless and keep safe.

Cheryl Brown
Principal

KINDER ENROLMENTS – 2013
Enrolments for Kindergarten 2013 close next Wednesday, 30th May, 2012. If you haven’t collected your Enrolment package, please ensure you do so promptly as we may not be able to offer you a place here at St Anthony’s if the Enrolment forms are not returned as we have had quite a number of applicants this year. For enquiries please contact Mrs Laurie on 9631 5283, email: Girraween@parra.catholic.edu.au.

REMINDER
If you have changed your phone number recently, could you please let the school office know as you never know when we might need to get in touch with you about your child.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION
This Sunday, the Church celebrates the feast of Pentecost. This feast celebrates the coming of the Holy Spirit to the apostles, thus fulfilling Christ’s promise that he would be with them – and us – forever. From Pentecost 2012 to Pentecost 2013, the Bishops of Australia have invited us all to participate in a Year of Grace. In proposing the Year of Grace, the bishops recognise the journey we have travelled as the Church in Australia in recent times – with its joys and struggles – and encourage us to start afresh from Christ.
What, then, is the Year of Grace? To help explain, I would like to share an excerpt of Bishop Anthony’s Year of Grace letter to all of us in the Diocese of Parramatta:

This [Year of Grace] will give us an opportunity to build on three key ecclesiical events of our lifetime.

First, the Second Vatican Council, the opening of which took place 50 years ago this October: Blessed John Paul II described it as the greatest grace received by the Church in the past century.

Secondly and more locally, there was World Youth Day in Sydney in 2008, which was an explosion of youthful faith and joy on the streets of Sydney, in many of the homes, schools and parishes of our own Diocese, and in company with Pope Benedict XVI for the week of events. This presaged a bright future for the Church in Australia with so many faithful young people to carry us forward.

Thirdly, there was the canonisation in 2010 of the first recognised Australian saint, St Mary of the Cross MacKillop. She played an important role in our Diocese and is now our official patron.

The question arises: how are we to build upon these three great graces in order to build the future of the Church in Australia in these complex and challenging times?

A Year of Grace encourages us to deepen our unity through prayer, listening to Sacred Scripture and focussing on encountering and responding to Jesus Christ in our daily lives. During this Year of Grace we want to foster a relationship with Jesus Christ and not just know about Jesus.

As we enter into the Year of Grace, opportunities will be provided for us to participate as part of our parish and diocesan community. Engagement in the Year of Grace will also help contribute to the achievement of our school goals in formation in 2012 and beyond.

Confirmation

The parish of Toongabbie will celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation with Diocesan Vicar General (and Bishop-elect of Toowoomba) Monsignor Bob McGuckin and a number of our students this coming Tuesday at 7:30pm in the Church. Please keep them in your prayers. All members of our school community are welcome to come and support the children.

The Feast of the Visitation of Mary

Kindergarten, Year 1 and Year 2 will join parishioners next Thursday, 31 May at 9:30am at the church to celebrate Mass for the Feast of the Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Parents and friends are also warmly invited to attend and participate.

Kind Regards

Robert Barden
Religious Education Coordinator

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**CURRICULUM NEWS**

**What’s Happening at St Anthony’s**

**NAPLAN**

The NAPLAN testing was successfully implemented last week.

The teachers and students should be congratulated for the manner in which they prepared for and participated in this assessment. All of our Year 3 and Year 5 students tried their best in all tests. Well done! As yet there is no date for distribution of reports to parents / carers. We will publish the date as soon as we are notified.

**Walk Safely to School Campaign**

Last Friday was Walk Safely to School Day. This yearly event is held to promote healthy living and also to teach children about road safety. This year we had 27 parents and children who registered to participate in the event. Congratulations to all who participated – a commendable effort. Hopefully next year we will be able to increase our number of participants.

**Bullying Program – Brainstorm Productions**

Brainstorm Production Company has been engaged to implement two ‘Bullying’ workshops at St Anthony’s.

The Primary workshop will take place on Wednesday 27th June and the Infants workshop will be held in Term 3, 8th August. More information will be sent home closer to the events.

Kind Regards

Patricia Charlton
Assistant Principal

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**COMMUNITY NEWS**

**Parramatta Marist High School**

Year 7-12 Catholic Systemic Boys’ School


Enrolment forms are available from our website or contacting the school. We offer top quality education with very affordable fees

2 Darcy Road Westmead NSW 2145
P: 9635 7056 website: www.parramarist.nsw.edu.au

Applications received after the closing date will be placed on a waiting list.

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**ANNULMENT INFORMATION NIGHT**

Many Catholics ask such questions as: What is the basis for an annulment of a marriage? How does an annulment differ from a divorce? How much does it cost? How long does it take? What does it involve? Each year the Solo Parent Ministry and the Catholic Marriage Tribunal present an Information Night regarding the process of Annulments within the Catholic Church. These and other questions will be answered on this night. Come along to the Diocesan Assembly Centre, 1-5 Marion St. Blacktown, on Wednesday 30th May at 7:30pm. Bookings made with Sr Eileen Quade 99330205, eileen.quade@ccss.org.au

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St Anthony’s School
Newsletter
CANTEEN NEWS

Canteen Roster – May 28 – June 1

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Staff</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>Judi Adams,</td>
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<td>Tuesday</td>
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<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>Louise Frendo</td>
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<td>Thursday</td>
<td>Lynda Singh</td>
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<td>Friday</td>
<td>Liz Phillips, Debra Lawler</td>
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STUDENT OF THE WEEK

KG     Patrisha Margallo-Dela Cruz
KW     Veronica Veidre
1G     Ayden Jorge           1W Chiara Simonetta
2G     Tarni Sutton          2W Nicolo Cruz
3G                              3W Paige Cunneen
4G     Jordan Brownlow        4W Keane McKenna
5G                              5W Maddy Nolan
6G     Christian Longo        6W Benny Zammit

PARISH NEWS

Make a note on your Calendar
Keep the evening of the 2 June free
Come and join in the fun at our Parish
Bingo Night Fundraiser
Book of 20 games $10 each
Other games and prizes to keep you amused
Tea and Coffee with slices available for a gold coin donation
Soft drinks will also be available
Where: Our Church Hall St Enda’s
When: 2 June Time: commencing at 7:30pm
Raffle and lucky door prize on the night.

LOST PROPERTY

We ask that everyone please check your children’s clothes to ensure that they do not have any clothing that belongs to another child. Could you please also label your children’s uniform as there are a number of jackets and jumpers in the lost property box that do not have names on them.

CALENDAR UPDATE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Event/Date/Details</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fri</td>
<td>22 June Year 3 excursion to Warragamba Dam</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon</td>
<td>25 June Spring Fair Meeting 7:30pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon</td>
<td>25 June Cerdon students visit school for week – Volunteers in Action</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tues</td>
<td>26 June School Photos</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed</td>
<td>27 June Brainstorm – 9:15am</td>
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<td>Fri</td>
<td>29 June Last day of Term 2</td>
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<td>Fri</td>
<td>29 June Mrs Leach begins Maternity Leave</td>
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<td>Mon</td>
<td>2 July Staff Professional Learning Day – in holidays</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon</td>
<td>16 July First day of Term 3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thurs</td>
<td>26 July Grandparents’ Day – more details to be advised</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon</td>
<td>30 July Life Education Week – Van on site</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tues</td>
<td>7 Aug Captivate Showcase</td>
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Lost Property

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Coming Home today with this Newsletter
1. Kiss and Drop Flyer
2. Spring Fair Flyer
3. Year 2 only – Meal Deal Flyer
4. Kindergarten & Year 2 only – Reminder of the Parents’ Night Out

Brett Murray Seminar

I, ________________________________ would be interested in attending a Seminar presented by Brett Murray.

Child’s Name: ______________________ Class: ______