



# St. Damian's Newsletter

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## FROM THE PRINCIPAL

### Dear Parents and Families,

We are into our second week of remote learning for Term 3. The classroom teachers have been in communication with you regarding the changes we have made to the delivery of curriculum. Each classroom teacher has been meeting with their students more frequently, via whole class and small group hangouts. We believe it is important that we are meeting with every one of the students and that hangouts are more than just a touch base and explain activities. We are now in the second half of the year and with the uncertainty of how long we will be in isolation, it is very important that our students are being taught explicitly. To this end, the teachers have been conducting whole class hangouts as well as small group hangouts with students. These hangouts are mainly in the core areas of the curriculum – being English and Maths. We are trying to emulate a 'normal' classroom day with the focus of the whole class hangout being to teach and then send the students off to complete work. A small group is asked to remain on hangout to have a focused teaching session with the teacher. Teachers may also be doing assessments in this way to gauge how students are going in their learning. Remote learning is not the ideal, but we are trying to work with our students in the best possible way given the current circumstances. We will keep reviewing and refining our practice to ensure that we are doing the absolute best we can to support our students' learning. We may not always get it right, but we will try our very best to do so. If this new way of working is a challenge for parents because of sharing of devices, please contact the school and we will work and support you as much as we can. Having the teachers online teaching, should alleviate the pressure on parents to teach. Parents, as always, are partners in supporting the children and we certainly appreciate and welcome you supporting your children. Our focus, as a school, during this period of remote learning is for the teachers to actively teach – something we do well and are keen to continue.

### Staff News

We are very pleased to welcome Mrs Michele Klooger to our staff team as our new Mathematics Leader. Michele has already met and worked with the teachers in their planning sessions and is already a guiding influence in the development of the Math curriculum. Michele is highly skilled and knowledgeable in mathematics, holding a Masters degree in early years mathematics. She is also currently working at Monash University with students completing their undergraduate teaching degrees. She is also in the process of completing her thesis in mathematics. An amazingly dynamic person with a very warm and bubbly personality. We are very fortunate to have Michele join our staff and having her complement our school Leadership Team.

### Online Safety with Remote Learning

It is really important during this remote learning period that all students are able to use the internet safely so that they are not exposed to unwanted or inappropriate advertisements. Without filters, etc it may happen that inappropriate materials may pop up while students are using online platforms. Our school filters and safety nets do not cover devices when used in the home. Therefore, we respectfully ask that families ensure that all home filters are up to date and suitable to block these. To assist you in this matter you may find these links from the eSafety Commissioner useful:

<https://www.esafety.gov.au/parents/skills-advice/taming-technology#on-your-home-wi-fi-network>

Some user friendly info for families (translated in various languages).

<https://www.esafety.gov.au/parents/skills-advice/online-safety-basics>

Regular webinars are also run for parents. If we can find interested parents we could join a webinar as a school group. If anyone is interested, we are looking for around 50, we would be interested to hearing from you. Contact the school office and we can organise.

<https://www.esafety.gov.au/parents/webinars>

### School Building Program

As you are all aware, we are currently consulting with architects to design our new refurbishment project which includes a new Library, a new parent area, a new tuckshop, new toilets, an outdoor prep area, a new Arts centre and a new multi-purpose area which will also double as the OHSC space. There will be two new classrooms upstairs to replace the two downstairs classrooms. To meet disability standards, a lift is being installed to gain access to the second storey of our school. We are extremely excited about our building project, made possible through the Vic Government smarty grants, which we were fortunate to receive. We are now at the documentation stage and are awaiting a Town Planning permit through Whittlesea Council. Once all this is complete we will be ready to proceed to the tender process. Unfortunately we are a little behind due to town planning issues, which means we are now looking at November as the time for us to go to tender. At this stage the actual building works are set to begin in the new year. This is definitely something to look forward to next year

**Father Vincent's Gospel Reflection—Mt 14:13-21**

Dear Friends,

This first week in August is the *National Vocations Awareness Week*. It's a special time to pay our attention to God's call to holiness in marriage, priesthood, religious or single life. In all these different lifestyles all are called to love and serve and care for one another as Jesus taught and to proclaim God's saving love to others by faith in actions. We pray for all vocations: priestly, married, single and consecrated life. We especially pray for many young people that they may generously respond to God's call to the priesthood and religious life.

In his Message of the 57<sup>th</sup> World Day of Vocations for this year 2020, Pope Francis, by recalling the remarkable experience of Jesus' disciples during a stormy night on the Sea of Galilee (Mt 14:22-33) says, *'The image of the disciples crossing the lake can evoke our own life's journey. Indeed, the boat of our lives slowly advances, restlessly looking for a safe haven and prepared to face the perils and promises of the sea, yet at the same time trusting that the helmsman will ultimately keep us on the right course. At times, though, the boat can drift off course, misled by mirages, not the lighthouse that leads it home, and be tossed by the tempests of difficulty, doubt and fear. When the disciples see Jesus walking towards them on the sea, they first think that he is a ghost and are filled with fear. Jesus immediately reassures them with words that should constantly accompany our lives and our vocational journey: "Take heart, it is I; have no fear" (Mt 14:27).* This reminds us that on this life journey we are not alone. Jesus is always with us to guide us and tell us not to be afraid, not to give up but to keep going. With the ongoing spread of the Covid-19 virus infection these days, we would easily feel worried, tired and dark. Remember the words of Jesus, 'Do not be afraid, it is I'. After the stormy night there will be a calm and bright day.

The Gospel of this 18<sup>th</sup> Sunday tells us that Jesus' heart moved with compassion when he saw the sick and hungry people following him in the wilderness. So he wanted to heal and feed them all. By asking his disciples to get involved, *'Give them something to eat yourselves'*, (Mt 14:17) Jesus made them part of his action. It was they who gave out the meal to the crowd. He worked through their hands to make the miracle happen. Like his disciples Jesus also asks us to participate in his work. "Give them something to eat yourselves". Our prayers, our contribution of resources, our time of involvement, our words of encouragement whatever we have, though little and insignificant, will make difference if it is spared and shared in God's name. All these are practical ways to convince one another that there will be a new day to enjoy, a new opportunity to take and new challenge to overcome.

**Fr Vincent Le PP**

*Have a good week everyone and keep safe and well*

*Rosanna*

**Online Mass**

Each weekend, Father Vincent is celebrating Mass online. Weekly Mass can be accessed via the St Damian's Catholic Parish Bundoora website, Live Streaming link at <https://stdamiansbundoora.cam.org.au/index.php/live-streaming>. Mass can also be accessed directly via the St Damian's Parish Bundoora YouTube page or via the St Damian's Parish Bundoora Facebook page. All are welcome to join in the celebration.

**Tips for Family Prayer****Sacred Space: A Place for Prayer**

Create a small prayer space in a corner of your family room. Place on it a crucifix, Bible, candle, and an image of Mary. Change the colour of the altar cloth to match the liturgical season, for example, purple for Advent and Lent, white for Easter and Christmas, green for Ordinary Time and red for Pentecost.

**Plan** – the best time of day, best place, best way of involving everyone.

**Consistency** – stick with the pattern that works.

**Age Appropriate** – encourage responsibility in older children for younger ones; give younger children roles they can play.

**Symbols** – candle, family Bible, icon, crucifix, photo of someone being prayed for – whatever works best for your family.

**Regular Pattern** – For example, 'Thank You', 'Sorry', 'Please Help Me' prayers and Traditional prayers (explain their origins and meaning).

**Meal Time: A Time for Prayer**

Meal time is a major time for sharing, recalling family and faith memories and developing values. Making a priority of family meals is valuable, even if it can only be achieved part of the time.

Plan the time (avoid bringing devices to the table);

Plan the conversation (what will help involve everyone tonight?);

Encourage all to have their say, no matter how young or old; avoid sources of tension wherever possible (humour is a great 'circuit-breaker');

And always start with a prayer. This is a major liturgy of the Domestic Church.

**Mary-Ann Wright**

**Religious Education Leader**



<b>July</b>		
31st	Leon	5L
<b>August</b>		
1st	Spencer	PT
2nd	Demi	4WT
3rd	Ethan	1/2C
	Peter	1/2MZ



**Online Music Lessons- Term 3**  
Direct to your home via video link to our tutor



**Lessons still available for Term 3 !**

- Primary Music Institute now offer online instrumental music lessons – a fun, flexible option that students can access from home whilst they are learning remotely this term. All you need is an instrument, and an internet connection!
- Lessons are held once per week. Only \$18.50 per child per small group lesson (for 30 minutes)
- Private lessons (1-on-1) and pair lessons (max 2 students) are also available
- Instrumental music can improve your child's school results – including for reading, maths, coordination, IQ, abstract reasoning, performance confidence... and is great fun!
- Please **ENROL TODAY** via PMI's website

P: 1300 362 824 E: [admin@primarymusicinstitute.com.au](mailto:admin@primarymusicinstitute.com.au) [www.primarymusicinstitute.com.au](http://www.primarymusicinstitute.com.au)

**Stop the Spread of Coronavirus!**

**Practice good hygiene.**

**Keep your distance**  
with a space of at least 6 feet (2 meters).

**Stay home**  
if you or someone you have been around is sick.

**Follow the latest government guidelines.**



Term 3 Newsletter, 29<sup>th</sup> July 2020

Hello everyone,

The St Damian's PS TheirCare team wishes to warmly welcome you all for term 3. Times like these are tough but we are here to support and care. I hope everyone has remained healthy and safe during this COVID – 19 virus pandemic.

Please remember to continue follow the rules we have put in place to ensure health and safety for all in our community.

Over the last few weeks, the children have been having fun with our holiday Program and Pupil free day programs. We are currently opening our doors to children of those parents are essential workers. We have planned activities which are tailormade to suite your child's needs as less numbers meaning sometimes more fun !!

Service Coordinator/ Educator: Niwi

REMINDER FOR FAMILIES

Please remember to cancel bookings should you no longer require using the service, by your booking portal or text messaging on 0477 731 175

Please note that now we have a family arrival process due to COVID-19 virus, please ensure each child temperature need to get checked by an Educator at the door prior to signing in.



# BUY YOUR TICKETS AND SUPPORT ST DAMIAN'S

## THE COMBINED CATHOLIC PARISHES RAFFLE

**3 x NEW SUZUKI BALENO TO BE WON!!!!!!!!!!**

**4th and 5th Prizes \$1000 Coles Myer Gift Cards**

**6th to 14th Prizes \$500 Coles Myer Gift Cards**



### \$2.00 Per Ticket

To purchase tickets please fill out the form and return with money to parish office.

Tue - Thurs 10.00am to 3.00pm & Friday 10.00 am to 1pm

**or via post to : PO Box 63, Bundoora 3083**

Tickets can also be purchased by emailing the Parish Office at

**Bundoora@cam.org.au or Phone 9467-2797**

**Thank you for your support**

**\$1.50 of each ticket sold goes directly to St Damian's Parish**

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*Please detach and send the payment*  
**The Combined Catholic Parish Raffle**

First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address : \_\_\_\_\_

Postcode: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to purchase \_\_\_\_\_ tickets @ \$2.00 each

Direct Deposit: BSB: 083347 585071188 (please put name in narrative for deposit)

Amount Enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Thank you for supporting St Damian's Bundoora—9467 2797