

Talk

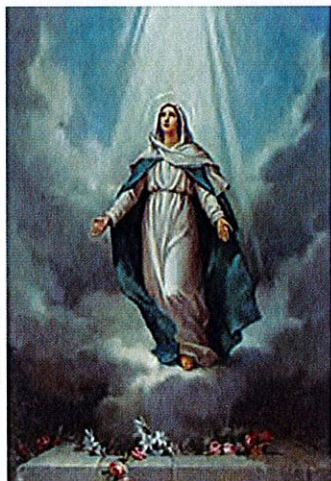
St Therese School Newsletter

19 August 2019

Dear Families of St Therese School,
Kia Ora, Kia Orana, Talofa, Malo e lelei, Namaste, Malo ni, Makadini, Annyoung, Bonjour.

On Thursday 8 August, we celebrated the Feast Day of St Mary MacKillop who, in 2013, became Australia's first Saint.

Mary MacKillop started the Sisters of St Joseph of the Sacred Heart, the order who founded our school. She was born in 1842 in Melbourne. As the eldest child, it was her duty to provide for her family, so she moved to a little country town in South Australia called Penola where she worked as a teacher. There she met Father Julian Woods and together they opened a free school for poor children who could not afford to pay the money needed to go to school. In 1866, they opened St Joseph's school. Mary invited children of all social groups to come along and learn. She taught them about the Catholic faith, which was a large part of her life. One of her favourite sayings was "Never see a need without doing something about it." Whenever Mary saw someone in need, she would reach out to them with great love and compassion, just as Jesus did. All children were welcome at the schools, even if they couldn't pay. Mary cared about the people who had no-one to look after them like the boys and girls who just roamed the streets, children in the country who had no school to go to, people who were old and sick and people who had nowhere to live. She was kind to all people. Throughout her life she had a deep trust that God would provide for her and for people with whom she lived and served. In 1995 Pope John Paul II said, "Mary MacKillop embodied all that is best in your nation and in its people: Genuine openness to others, Hospitality to strangers, Generosity to the needy, Justice to those unfairly treated, Perseverance in the face of adversity, Kindness and Support to the suffering. Think of Saint Mary MacKillop and learn from her to be a gift of love and compassion for one another, for all the world." The Sisters of the Order of St Joseph work where there is violence, fear and insecurity in our world. They identify and walk with those who are today's poor, promote the dignity of each person and value difference. The sisters are engaged in a wide variety of ministries, including education, aged care, chaplaincy, parish pastoral leadership, refugee support, ecology, spirituality and counselling, pastoral care and family support, prayer and hospitality.



The Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary was celebrated on Thursday 15 August, so a special Liturgy was held in the church. On this special feast day, as Catholics, we gathered together to remember and celebrate the special place that Mary, the mother of Jesus, has in the Catholic Church. For our children at St Therese School, Mary is an ideal role model because all through her life she demonstrated faith in her God and willingly accepted the role that He gave her. She has shown us the love that we need to have for each other and the patience and tolerance that goes with that love. Without these qualities in our world we cannot bring about the Reign of God that Jesus came to tell us about. As he was dying on the cross Jesus gave us His own mother, Mary, to be our mother too. In our celebration of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, we remember the importance of the role Mary accepted. The tradition of Church teaches that because of Mary's faithfulness and holiness, God rewarded her in a way that no other human being has ever been rewarded. Mary was taken up, body and soul, into heaven at the end of her life here on earth and was then crowned Queen of Heaven. Now that Mary has been assumed into heaven, she can watch over us with all her motherly love. We can trust our heavenly mother with all the little petitions we have, knowing that she will speak to Jesus about them on our behalf. The Assumption teaches that Mary was the first human being to participate in her son's Resurrection and that she waits in heaven for us to join her in the Resurrection and in life everlasting. She is the special patron of Aotearoa, New Zealand.

Susan McDonald
Principal

TERM DATES 2019

TERM 3	22 July	to	27 September
TERM 4	15 October	to	Friday 20 December

IMPORTANT DATES FOR TERM 3 2019

22 August – Finals of the School Speech Competition @ 11.30am
27 August – MRZ Primary Netball Tournament at MRI courts
30 August - Daffodil Day
19 September - School Cross Country
27 September – St Therese Mass & Talent Show

22 August – Cultural Performance @ 3pm in Parish Hall
29 August - Board Meeting @ 6pm
17 September – Teacher Only Day – school closed
26 September - Board meeting @ 6pm
27 September – School closes at 3pm

SPECIAL CHARACTER

A reminder about upcoming events. Mass for The Feast of St Therese on Friday 27 September. Please come along and support the children.



St Therese School

463 Mt Albert Road, Auckland 1061
Phone (09) 620 9441 • Fax (09) 629 3850
www.sainttherese.school.nz

