

First Reading
 Genesis 22:1-2,9-13,15-18

God put Abraham to the test. ‘Abraham, Abraham’ he called. ‘Here I am’ he replied. ‘Take your son,’ God said ‘your only child Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah. There you shall offer him as a burnt offering, on a mountain I will point out to you.’

When they arrived at the place God had pointed out to him, Abraham built an altar there, and arranged the wood. Then he bound his son Isaac and put him on the altar on top of the wood. Abraham stretched out his hand and seized the knife to kill his son.

But the angel of the Lord called to him from heaven. ‘Abraham, Abraham’ he said. ‘I am here’ he replied. ‘Do not raise your hand against the boy’ the angel said. ‘Do not harm him, for now I know you fear God. You have not refused me your son, your only son.’ Then looking up, Abraham saw a ram caught by its horns in a bush. Abraham took the ram and offered it as a burnt-offering in place of his son.

The angel of the Lord called Abraham a second time from heaven. ‘I swear by my own self – it is the Lord who speaks – because you have done this, because you have not refused me your son, your only son, I will shower blessings on you, I will make your descendants as many as the stars of heaven and the grains of sand on the seashore. Your descendants shall gain possession of the gates of their enemies. All the nations of the earth shall bless themselves by your descendants, as a reward for your obedience.’

The word of the Lord

Psalm 115 (116): 10,15-19
R: I will walk in the presence of the Lord in the land of the living.

Second Reading
 Romans 8:31-34

With God on our side who can be against us? Since God did not spare his own Son, but gave him up to benefit us all, we may be certain, after such a gift, that he will not refuse anything he can give. Could anyone accuse those that God has chosen? When God acquits, could anyone condemn? Could Christ Jesus? No! He not only died for us – he rose from the dead, and there at God’s right hand he stands and pleads for us.

The word of the Lord

Gospel
 Mark 9:2-10

Jesus took with him Peter and James and John and led them up a high mountain where they could be alone by themselves. There in their presence he was transfigured: his clothes became dazzlingly white, whiter than any earthly bleacher could make them. Elijah appeared to them with Moses; and they were talking with Jesus. Then Peter spoke to Jesus: ‘Rabbi,’ he said ‘it is wonderful for us to be here; so let us make three tents, one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.’ He did not know what to say; they were so frightened. And a cloud came, covering them in shadow; and there came a voice from the cloud, ‘This is my Son, the Beloved. Listen to him.’ Then suddenly, when they looked round, they saw no one with them any more but only Jesus.

As they came down from the mountain he warned them to tell no one what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead. They observed the warning faithfully, though among themselves they discussed what ‘rising from the dead’ could mean.

The Gospel of the Lord

‘This is my son, the beloved, listen to him’



Readings for next week 3rd Sunday of Lent
1st Reading Exodus 20:1-17; Psalm 18(19): 8-11; 2nd Reading 1 Corinthians 1:22-25;
Gospel John 2:13-25

Te Kura Katorika o Hato Hohepa

Parish Priest
 Father Joe Stack
 Te Awamutu
 07 8716109

Resident Priest
 Fr. Joseph George
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 St. George's Parish
 Community Newsletter
 Term 1 week 4 22-26 February 2021

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 te kuiti

Together we will provide a quality all round education, developing valuable contributors to society who reflect the teachings of Jesus Christ

WELCOME TO OUR SCHOOL!

We welcome Braedyn van Groenedaal and Sarah Jinsen to our school this week. Braedyn is Matheus van Groenedaal in Kahikatea Hub’s younger brother and the youngest child of Shannon and Nicola van Groenedaal. Sarah Jinsen is the daughter of Jinson Devassy Pallan and Ciciny Jinson. Both students started their learning journey in Nikau with Mrs. Boroevich. We hope you will enjoy learning with us!!



St Joseph’s Catholic School PSG
 Hot Cross Bun Fundraiser

Your PSG is taking orders for delicious fresh Hot Cross Buns. Delivered just in time for Easter. Traditional or Chocolate. \$5.00 per pack of 6.

Orders can be collected from the school basement on Tuesday 30th March.

Please return your orders to the school office by **Friday 19th March**

Please include payment with your order or use internet banking:

Friends of St Joseph’s 03 0449 0123772 00

Note your bank reference here



WHAT ARE WE UP TO ?

MARCH 2021

- 01: SWIMMING: 1.30PM - 2.30PM
- 03: SWIMMING 9AM
- 05: WAITOMO SWIMMING SPORTS
- 08: BIKE WEEK
- 09: SWIMMING: 11AM - 12.30PM
- 10: SWIMMING: 9.30AM - 11AM
- 15: NUMICON INFORMATION EVENING FOR PARENTS
- 17: TRIATHLON
- 19: TRYATHLON POSTPONEMENT DATE

Whanaungatanga Connections

Together we are more

Ki Ora, St Joseph's Whaanau

On Monday our Hamilton Catholic Schools, farewelled a special teacher from St Patricks in Taupo - Angel Moeke. Angela was a significant part of our Catholic family and the collective love and support for her family and her school witnessed the strength of connection we have through our hope and belief in God.

"Hope that turns to God is never hope only for me, it is also a hope for others, it does not isolate us but makes us supportive in goodness and stimulates us to reciprocally educate each other in truth and in love" (Catholic Education of School Age Children)

Lent is a time of truth when we are able to take a look at ourselves and our priorities to check they are in line with **God's priorities for us**. May we all use this Lenten opportunity to realign ourselves and get back on the right track using the 'tools' of prayer/fasting/giving to others.



We don't know what God has planned for our young students into the future. We can only support them and move with the missions and challenges that life presents them.

This is why together with the staff I get energised watching our senior leaders (Year 8's) use the opportunities, such as the swimming sports yesterday, to show themselves and others that they can care, organise, plan, energise, laugh, play, share and love life!

Thank you to all the Year 8's for showing us the great young people we know you are!

Thank you to the staff who managed the day. It is so special to see the NE responding to Mrs Boroovich as she asks them to show you the parents - their 'starfish'. I saw many smiling 'starfish'!

Thank you to Kenzi Larsen for starting our races and coming down to the pools regularly to share her teaching swimming expertise.

Thank you to the parents who supported the barbeque either by cooking or buying the sausages! Great Teamwork.



It was encouraging to hear a number of comments about how having the general information and the specific races for the swimming sports - up on the website - was so helpful. Thank you for making the comments, otherwise we don't know if it is worthwhile or not. Please keep them coming!

The Waitomo Swimming Sports is on Friday March 5th and the representative team from St Joseph's will out next week. This is a great community day. A couple of helpers are required from each school, so please consider offering some part of the day to help out the Te Kuiti Swimming Club run this day for all our Waitomo schools.

I leave you with a quote from a book the staff are reading, called 'EMPOWER'.

Our World wants go-getters, It wants decision makers. It wants designers, creators and dreamers. Our Job is not to prepare students for something, Our job is to help students prepare themselves for anything.

Enjoy your weekend
Mass is 9.15 am Sunday

Ma te atua e manaaki
Suzanne

STUDENT WRITING



"Ash Wednesday is when you get a cross on your head made from ashes. It is also a time when Lent starts up. For Lent all the Christians give up something for forty days, that is called fasting. Lent is also before Easter."

By Levi Morehu - Rimu Hub

"Prayer is important because praying is a way to get closer to God. People are expected to fast in lent because Jesus went into the desert and fasted for 40 days avoiding temptation. People of my age share the Lenten practice of almsgiving by respecting our family, teachers and friends. Lent enables us Christians to recommit our lives to God through prayer, fasting and almsgiving. " **By Hannah Leineweber - Kahikatea Hub**

Prayer is very important in Lent because praying is a way to get closer to God. People of my age share in the Lenten practice of almsgiving by volunteering their time if they're not doing anything. Fasting is when you give up something that you love, and people are expected to fast during Lent because Jesus fasted when he walked through the desert. " **By Flormina Fuentes - Kahikatea Hub**

PARISH AND DIOCESAN NEWS

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

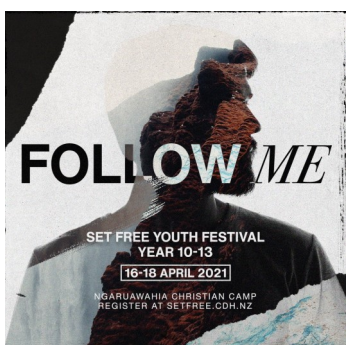
Every Friday of Lent at St George's Church at 6.15pm. Deacon Brian Whitlow will be taking. Why not make it part of your Lenten journey to attend at least once along with other parishioners.

ANNUAL WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

This year The World Day of Prayer is at St George's Catholic Church Te Kuiti on Friday 5th of March at 10.30am followed by morning tea.

Set Free Youth Festival

16-18 April 2021 - Christian Youth Camp, Ngaruawahia. Registration is open for our 11th Annual Set Free Youth Festival for college students year 10-13. This year's theme "Follow Me," which focuses on Jesus' invitation to each of us to be His disciples. Our very own Danielle Mourits will be keynoting the weekend, joined by Bishop Steve and presenters from all over Aotearoa. We will also have a worship band, Mass, Eucharistic Adoration, Reconciliation, and camp activities. Early Bird discounts apply now until 1 March. Visit www.setfree.cdh.nz to register.



FROM OUR PARENT SUPPORT GROUP

Happy New Year from the Parent Support Group (PSG)

For those who are new parents/ whanau/ caregivers to our school, the PSG provides invaluable support in organising fundraising events to provide extra resources that are not otherwise funded. In recent years money raised has gone towards making improvements to our school playground, purchasing a new sound system, furnishing the school flexible learning environment rebuild, water fountains, buses to and from the pools for swimming lessons during the summer months, Astroturf, big screens and devices for classrooms as well as the running cost of Seesaw.

The PSG desperately need more helpers, if we do not get new members we won't be able to do fundraising events throughout the year, in effect your kids may miss out on valuable resources that the school cannot fund We welcome any parents/ whanau/ caregivers who wish to come along to our meetings and/or join the group. Please Contact Pip Kirkland , Bidy Stubbs (0277661122) Kelly Williams, or Shaina Downey(0274257254) if you would like to join our team Currently we have a Messenger Chat set up and do organising this way, with occasional meetings as required

*** MANY HANDS MAKE LIGHT WORK ***

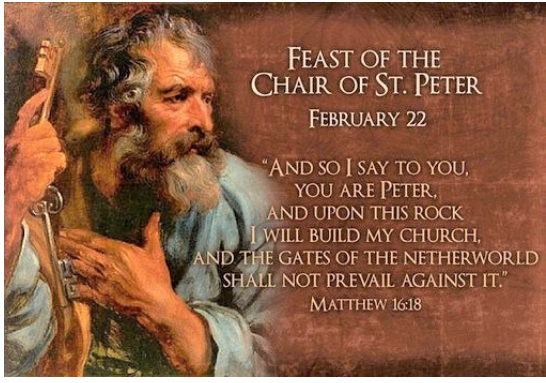
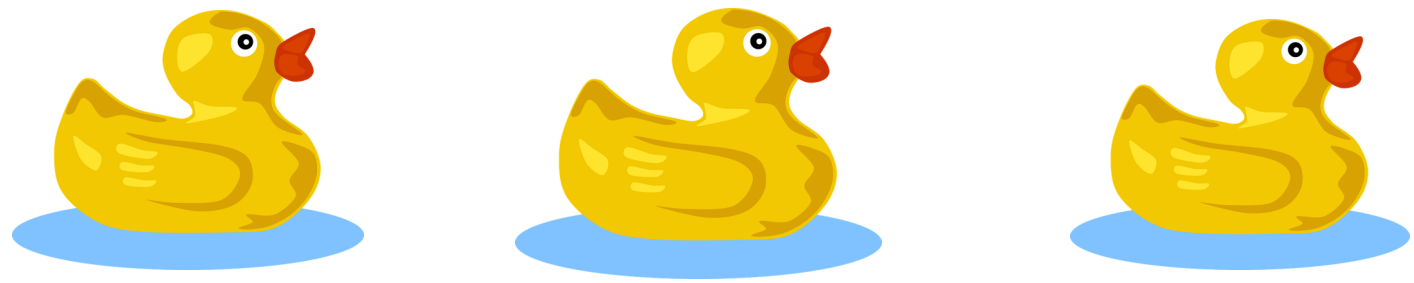
Upcoming fundraising events for 2021

The PSG will provide updates on upcoming events and how you can help out in this newsletter. Alternatively, you can make contact with one of our members or phone the office. Due to limited parent support we have only one fundraising event scheduled so far for 2021. We would love to run the **Family Night Market** again this year which in the past has brought in \$7000. Please get in touch if you are able to contribute some time to organising further events.

The Duck Race at The Muster 10th April 12.30pm A
booklet of duck race tickets per family will be sent home Week 6. Each book has 10 tickets to sell at \$3 each. Please return all sold ticket butts and money to Elmarie in the office by Wednesday the 24th of March. Due to a number of books being lost in the past, we have decided that if you lose your book, you will still be expected to return the \$30 to the office.

If you are keen and your selling is going great please grab another book to sell from Elmarie at the Office.

On the day we will need volunteers... * to help ducks out of long grass along their journey using rakes from the river banks * to catch ducks at the TKP bridge using nets * Maybe a couple of kayakers in the river to help lost ducks



ASH WEDNESDAY AT ST JOSEPH'S
Due to Covid 19 restrictions, Ash Wednesday was a little different this year. The students had their own Liturgy. Here are some of the photos

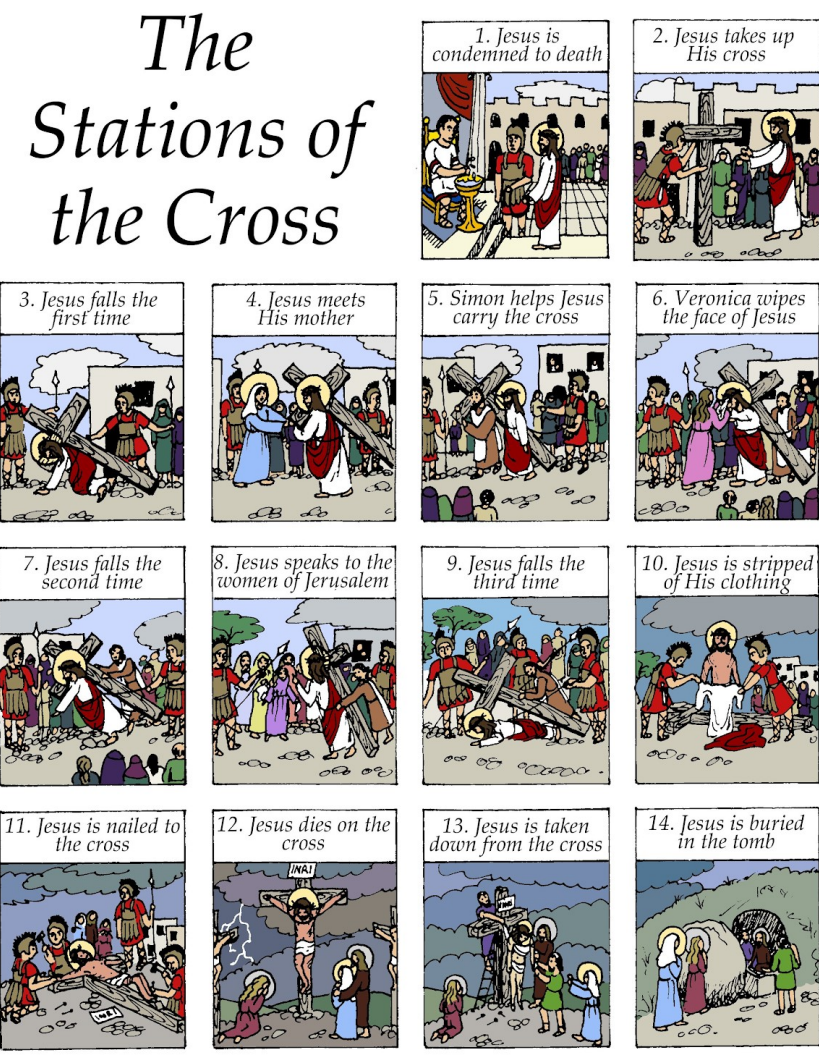


2nd Sunday of Lent 28th February
On the mountain, Jesus appears to Peter, James and John in all his glory, as the son of God. It is while he is praying to his heavenly Father that Jesus is transfigured. Each time we pray and seek to be in communion with the Father we too can be transfigured or transformed by God's presence. Transformation can take place as our faith, hope and love are restored or renewed. Jesus' transfiguration strengthened him to face the cross. We too need the experiences of heaven and earth to face the challenges of the cross in our own lives.

Lord, help us to taste and see heaven on earth. Lord, transform us!

Feast of the Chair of St Peter 22 February
This feast brings to mind the mission of both teacher and pastor conferred by Christ on Peter, and continued in an unbroken line down to the present Pope, Pope Francis. We celebrate the unity of the Church, founded upon the Apostle, and renew our assent to the Magisterium of the Roman Pontiff.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS
A well known and well loved Christian devotion especially during Lent. Deacon Brian Whitlow will be taking Stations of the Cross at St Georges Church every Friday of Lent at 6.15pm. Why not make it part of your Lenten Journey to attend at least once with others in the parish.



SPORTS NEWS

BIKE WEEK - WEEK 6

We would like all children to bring a bike to school during week 6. If your child does not have a bike, ask your neighbours, cousins, friends and / or family to see if you can borrow one for the week. Bikes will come to school Monday morning and stay at school for the week.



WINTER SPORT 2021

Please start talking to your children about what winter sports they want to play this year. Thank you to our sport’s coordinators who are busy attending AGMs.

- Sports Coordinators for 2021:
- Netball - Lizzie Rendall
 - Hockey - Shaina Downey
 - Football -Belinda Cammock and Pip Kirkland
 - Miniball - Nikki Taylor
 - Touch Rugby - Belinda Cammock
 - Rugby - Sarah Riley



WINTER SPORT UNIFORMS



Please take note of our winter sports uniform. Students playing soccer and hockey wear our black and white school sport uniform shirt and PLAIN black shorts with the sports socks available for sale from our office at \$12.00 a pair. Netball uniforms and Rugby shirts will be handed out as soon as those teams have been finalised.



TE KUITI DIY TRYATHLON

Thank you to Shaina Downey and her team of local parents for organising a DIY Tryathlon in place of the Weetbix Tryathlon that was cancelled.



SWIMMING SPORTS PHOTOS

