PEOPLE ARE GIFTS

People are gifts sent by the Father – already wrapped! Some are wrapped very beautifully; they are very attractive when I first see them. Some come in very ordinary wrapping paper. Others have been mishandled in the mail. Once in a while there is a “Special Delivery”. Some people are gifts which come very loosely wrapped; others very tightly.

But the wrapping is not the gift! It is so very easy to make this mistake....it's amusing when babies do it. Sometimes the gift is very easy to open up. Sometimes I need others to help. Is it because they are afraid? Does it hurt? Maybe they have been opened up before and thrown away.

Could it be that the gift is not for me?

I am a person. Therefore, I am a gift too! A gift to myself first of all. The Father gave me to me. Have I really looked inside the wrappings? Afraid to? Perhaps I have never accepted the gift that I am...Could it be that there is something else inside the wrapping other that what I think there is? Maybe I have never seen the wonderful gift that I am.

Could the gifts that those who love me, give me:

Father’s gifts be anything but beautiful?
TERM THREE - WEEK SIX
Honour Awards: Commitment

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<tr>
<td>KA</td>
<td>Kiara Haddad</td>
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<tr>
<td>KM</td>
<td>Scarlett Khoury</td>
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<tr>
<td>1C</td>
<td>Harrison Chidiac</td>
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<td>1S</td>
<td>Elna Koikkara</td>
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<td>2M</td>
<td>Arwen-Cady Firmeza</td>
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<td>2Y</td>
<td>Pauline Said</td>
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<td>3L</td>
<td>Rhys Walker</td>
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<td>Norman Elzahoul</td>
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<td>4B</td>
<td>Abigail SARANGAYA</td>
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<td>4G</td>
<td>John Weng</td>
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<td>5C</td>
<td>James Maroun</td>
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<td>5T</td>
<td>Alyanah-Jasna Firmeza</td>
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<td>6P</td>
<td>Antonia Moussa</td>
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<tr>
<td>6W</td>
<td>Rachel Sassine</td>
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Value Week 7: Courtesy

DIOCESAN ATHLETICS CARNIVAL
Tomorrow six of our students will be representing our school at the Diocesan Athletics Carnival. We wish them continued success in the following events.

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Evana Abade</td>
<td>100m 12 Years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ashleigh Grubba</td>
<td>100m, 200m, Long Jump 10 Years</td>
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<tr>
<td>Crystal Makdissi</td>
<td>200m 10 Years</td>
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<tr>
<td>Luke Maroun</td>
<td>800m, 100m 8 Years</td>
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<tr>
<td>Patrick Newman</td>
<td>100m 11 Years</td>
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<tr>
<td>Alexandra Younes</td>
<td>800m 12 Years</td>
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OPEN CLASSROOMS
On **Monday 26 August** you are invited to join us from 9.15 - 10.15am so that your children can showcase their classrooms and book work. This is a time for you to spend with your children where they will take you through a Student Led Conference. You will not be able to discuss your children with the teachers as they will be supervising the class.

Please join us after our Monday morning assembly. Your children do get very excited when they have the opportunity to ‘show off’ their wonderful work.

CONGRATULATIONS
To the Markovic family (Ivanka 1S) on the birth of their new son and brother Maxi.

FATHERS DAY MASS
Friday 30th August 2013
9.30 a.m.
St Patrick’s Cathedral

Come along and share with us in giving thanks for our fathers.

FATHERS DAY RAFFLE
Raffle tickets have been sent home with children for this year’s Fathers Day Raffle. Tickets are 20c each. 1st Prize is a framed and signed photograph of the Western Sydney Wanderers. This would be a very special prize to win for a very special Dad.

Extra books of tickets are available from the front office.

BOOK WEEK
“Read across the universe”
Book Week has been an exciting time at St Patrick’s. Our K – 3 students were wonderfully entertained by a live performance of “Tiddalick the Frog”, a well-known indigenous story, by the Longyard Sideshow Co

Next Thursday Years 4 – 6 will have their turn with a visit from Boori Monty Prior – indigenous writer and story teller extraordinaire!

Next Monday parents are invited to the library to purchase and donate a new library book to add to our collection. You will get a special book plate in the front of the book and your child will be the first to borrow it.

Many thanks for your kind generosity and support. Debra O'Dwyer Teacher Librarian
VOICE of YOUTH FINALISTS
Congratulations to our three representatives, Antonia, Luke and Lisa who performed with poise and composure at the cluster final on Monday. We thank Mrs Barclay who went along as our judge at the very last minute.

SUMMER UNIFORM ORDERS
We are now taking orders for summer uniforms for Kindergarten 2014. Orders will be taken from Monday 19th August until Friday 6th September between the times of 8.30am – 3.00pm. Please assist the office staff by only coming between these hours.
Payment is due at the time of ordering.

YOUTH GROUP
Unfortunately due to diocesan commitments Father Andrew has had to cancel Youth Group on the following dates:
Thursday 29th August & 12th September
Please ensure you arrange alternative pickup for your children on these days.

A reminder that Youth Group finishes at 4.30pm and all children should be collected by this time.

2013 SCHOOL FEES
Thank you to the families who have already paid Term Three fees. The due date for payment was Friday 16th August, 2013. These fees are now overdue.

If you are experiencing difficulty in making fee payments, please contact Mrs Nutter.

MORNING GATE CLOSURE
A reminder that the gate in Villiers Street will be locked after the morning bell rings at 8.50am. All children should already be at school by this time. If arriving after this time please use the Ross Street entrance. Once both gates are locked children are required to be signed in by a parent.

COMING EVENTS/EXCURSIONS
23rd August – Diocesan Athletics Carnival
Year 5 excursion to Bathurst
From 27th – Year 6 Religious Literacy Test
28th August – Year 5 Parent/Child Program 7.00
29th August – Monty Pryor (Primary classes)
30th August – Fathers’ Day Mass 9.30/Stall 11.30

SHOULD YOUR CHILD BE AT SCHOOL?
Over the last few weeks there has been a lot of illness in the school among staff and students. Unfortunately some students are coming to school when they are clearly unwell. We appreciate that it can be difficult for working parents to take time off to look after sick children, however, every day we have a constant stream of students sent to the sick bay who need to go home.

If your child is unwell in the morning, we ask you to please try and arrange care for them, as one sick child can infect many others. This includes staff. It is becoming increasingly difficult to replace sick staff members and also means that there may be times when classes will need to be split across the school.

LOST PROPERTY
We have a continually growing assortment of tracksuit jackets, hats, school jackets and other items left by children around the school. Unfortunately these items do not have names anywhere so we are unable to return them to the owners.

Please label all your child’s school clothing and remind them to look after their possessions.

If your child brings home another child’s uniform, please return it to the school as soon as possible.

ENewsletter AVAILABLE
Read our newsletter online at: http://www.stpatsparra.catholic.edu.au
If you require a hard copy please let us know.
Thank you to all the families who are reading the Newsletter online. You may also subscribe to our online newsletter by signing up. See home page right hand side of screen for more information.

Our Newsletter is in a new area – click on News & Events- Latest News and scroll down the page.

Compulsory School Attendance - Information for Parents is available on this site.
MASS TIMETABLE FOR ST PATRICK'S CATHEDRAL, PARRAMATTA


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<thead>
<tr>
<th>MASSES</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Saturday Vigil</td>
<td>6.00 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>8.00 a.m., 9.30 a.m., 11.00 a.m. &amp; 6.00 p.m.</td>
<td>Children’s Liturgy 9.30 a.m.</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>WEEKDAY MASS</th>
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<tr>
<td>Monday to Friday</td>
<td>6.45am, 12.30 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>8.00am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Public Holidays</td>
<td>8.00am</td>
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<th>RECONCILIATION</th>
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<tr>
<td>Monday to Friday</td>
<td>11.45am to 12.30pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>8.30 to 9.00am &amp; 9.15 to 6.00pm</td>
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COMING EVENTS 2013
TERM THREE - DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

TERM THREE

Week Six
- Friday 23rd August
- Diocesan Athletics Carnival
- Year 5 Bathurst Excursion
- Assembly 9.00 a.m. Year 4

Week Seven
- Wednesday 28th August
- TriSkills
- Year 5 Personal Development Night
- TriSkills - Monty Pryor Author Yr 4-6
- Fathers’ Day Mass and Stall
- Year 6 Canberra Excursion

Week Eight
- Wednesday 4th September
- TriSkills
- TriSkills
- Assembly 9.00 a.m. Year 5

Week Nine
- Wednesday 11th September
- TriSkills
- TriSkills
- Assembly 9.00 a.m. Year 3

Week Ten
- Wednesday 18th September
- TriSkills
- TriSkills
- Last day of Term

Trust in God
Mrs Gloria Bryant
and Staff

Our VISION is to –
be a child centred faith community within an innovative, interactive learning environment.

Our MISSION is to –
Live out the Gospel Values in a visibly Catholic tradition
Nurture students for Christian Leadership
Create a range of learning experiences which allow children to progress at their own level
Assist our students to develop into independent thinkers with a deep sense of responsibility and justice
Lead each individual towards reaching his/her potential
Generate a sense of community and compassion in which all experience belonging.

Opportunity for all
ADVERTISEMENTS

Catherine McAuley Westmead
School Open Morning
9.15 – 11am Thursday 29th August 2013
Enrolments for Year 7 2015
Please contact School Reception on 9849 9100 if you would like to attend. Our school tours will leave at 9.15am and car parking will be available in the visitor’s car parking area via Gate 3 from 9am onwards. Ask for details when making your booking.

Discover OLMC Parramatta
Our Lady of Mercy College Parramatta would like to invite you to discover the College’s rich tradition and cutting edge education and enjoy a ‘comfortable cup of tea’ with the College Executive at the Open Morning Tour on Monday, August 26, 2013.
The College is now enrolling for 2014 and 2015.
Visit www.olmc.nsw.edu.au or phone 8838 1263 to reserve your place or obtain further information.

Spring Food Fair
St Patrick’s Cathedral
Saturday 7 September
10.00am - 3.00pm
Experience different cultures at our International Food Fair. Some taste tempters include Indian, Chinese, Lebanese, Filipino and Italian food, Good Ol’ Aussie BBQ, Cakes, Devonshire Tea, Coffee and Gelato to name a few. Try your luck on the Chocolate Wheel or browse for treasures at the Car Boot Sale. Entertainment for the young and not so young throughout the day include: jumping castles, face painting, show bags and an opportunity to listen to the talented Cathedral Organists at 3pm for an Organ Recital.

Car Boot Sale
If you are interested in booking a ‘car space’ to sell your wares, please call Mili/Pat on 8839 8400 or email secretary@stpatscathedral.com.au Car spaces are $50 each and you keep all the takings. Spaces are limited!
Sacred Heart

LADIES NIGHT

Friday 13th September 2013

6pm-10pm

We invite you to come along to an “adults only” evening of pampering and fun!!!!

There will be stalls ranging from Jewellery, Clothes, Cupcakes, Linen, Make Up, Tupperware Massage, Nails and heaps more!!!!

There will be games, prizes and a fashion parade by Guys & Dolls Boutique.

Tickets are $10.00 per person, which includes a glass of champagne on arrival, nibbles, tea & coffee throughout the evening & a lucky door prize.

Tickets are available from the office of Sacred Heart School, Ralph Street Westmead or at the door on the night.

For more information contact Sacred Heart School Office on 9635 1758
SPOT ON FAMILY FUN!
24–28 SEPTEMBER
FREE ACTIVITIES including a Disco Dance Party, Play Centre, Face Painting and Balloon Characters.

MONKEY BAA THEATRE COMPANY
EMILY EYEFINGER
26 – 28 SEPTEMBER
Tickets: $15.00*
For ages 4 – 10 years

THE LIST OPERATORS
EARWORMS
24 – 26 SEPTEMBER
Tickets: $15.00*
For ages 5 – 12 years

RIVERSIDE THEATRES
JUSTINE CLARKE
28 SEPTEMBER
Tickets: $19.00*
Groups 6+: $16.50*
For ages 2 – 5 years

SYDNEY PUPPET THEATRE
NELLA'S WINGS
24 – 25 SEPTEMBER
Tickets: $15.00*
For ages 4 – 8 years

SEE MORE SHOWS FOR LESS
2 FOR $25*
Purchase tickets for 2 different shows and see both for only $25*. Excludes Justine Clarke. While tickets last.

*Transaction fees may apply

CNR CHURCH & MARKET STS PARRAMATTA
8839 3399 | RIVERSIDEPARRAMATTA.COM.AU
Catholic Education Office

Have your say on Active Travel to school for Primary School Aged Children

The NSW Office of Preventive Health (NSW OPH) is working together with external consultants, GHD, to develop a state-wide active travel to school program with the aim of increasing the number of primary school children who regularly walk and/or cycle to school. The purpose of this survey is to find out from primary school staff, parents and students what influences their decision about travel to or from school. It will also explore activities or incentives that primary school staff, parents and students are aware of that encourage walking or cycling to school.

There are three separate surveys.

For primary school staff, go to:
https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/activetravelstaff
For parents, go to:
https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/activetravelparent
For students, go to:
https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/activetravelsstudent
Participation in this 10 to 15 minute survey is voluntary and no personal details are required. It is to be completed by Friday 30th August, 2013. Principals are encouraged to direct the relevant links to staff, students and members of their parent body.

If you have any questions, please call Belinda Thompson, GHD Stakeholder Engagement Manager, on 1800 810 680.

Emmaus Services Golf Day
CatholicCare Social Services - Emmaus service (providing 24/7 accommodation services for people with a disability) is having its second Emmaus Golf Day on Friday 18 October at Springwood Golf Club. The cost is $60 per person (when registration is received before 1 September). There is the option to attend as an individual or enter a team of 4, or simply attend for the lunch $20/head.

Attached please find further information. Emmaus - Golfing Day-Email-2013-email.pdf

Order of Malta Lecture Series
The Order of Malta is holding a series of lectures to help Catholics better understand their faith and defend their beliefs. The first lecture is being held on Tuesday, 27 August at the University of Notre Dame, Broadway Campus. The speaker will be Dr Tracey Rowland, Dean of the John Paul II Institute for Marriage and Family.

Members of your school community may be interested in attending. Attached are further details.

Bishops Office

Positions vacant
1. House Keeping Assistant (Laundry Attendant): part time – 12hrs/wk, Mondays and Fridays from 9am-3pm. Expected start date Monday 9 September 2013.
2. Parish Cook: part time – 20hrs/wk, Monday to Friday from 10.30am-2.30pm. Expected start date Monday 9 September 2013.
If you would like further information email: admin@stpatscathedral.com.au
Only shortlisted applicants will be contacted after receipt of their applications.

St Patrick’s Cathedral Food Fair: 7 September
The Cathedral’s annual Food Fair will be held on Saturday 7 September from 10am to 3pm. Choose from a wide variety of international food, including Lebanese, Chinese, Filipino, Italian, and South American. There will be cakes of all kinds and sizes, freshly brewed coffee from the Cafe and a good ol’ Aussie BBQ with sizzling sausages and kebabs. Grab a meal and enjoy a variety of cultural entertainments. A recital by the Cathedral’s talented organist will bring the day to a close at 3pm. Bring your family and friends and have a great day out supporting St Patrick’s Cathedral, 1 Marist Place, Parramatta.

Hunter Valley Winery Day Tour: 14 September
Bookings close on 26 August for this coach-driven tour of Hunter Valley wineries to raise funds for Project Ten: 2003-2013, a program of major works in St Patrick’s Cathedral precinct. The itinerary includes visits to some of the family-owned wineries operating in the region. Departs from Penrith at 6.45am, returning at 7pm. It is great value at $65 for adults and $55 concession. Bookings: Helen Howard tel (02) 8838 3403, hhoward@parra.catholic.org.au

Faith in Marriage: 15 September
Registrations closing soon for this conference about marriage for couples hosted by CatholicCare Social Services Parramatta in conjunction with Australian Catholic University. Incorporating the annual Celebrating the Journey Mass in St Patrick’s Cathedral with Bishop Anthony Fisher OP. The gifts and graces of marriage give us great hope and strength for ourselves and our society. Guest speakers share their insights, observations and experiences for building and enriching marriages. Time: 8.45am-5pm. Venue: Our Lady of Mercy College, Ross St, Parramatta. Cost: $50 per couple or $25 for individuals (includes hot finger food lunch, morning and afternoon tea). Registrations: tel (02) 9933 0222, marriage@ccss.org.au

Marist Youth Care Star Foster Care Program
Have you thought of becoming a Foster Carer for children aged 8 or older in your own home? Star Foster
Care receives referrals daily for children and young people who need a family to care for them. Star Foster Care needs dedicated people who want to become Foster Carers. You can help by becoming emergency/short term, permanent long term or respite foster carers. Allowances paid, 24-hour support provided. For more information contact Tammy tel (02) 9672 9214, tammyh@maristyc.com.au

Grace & Silence Retreat Day for Young Women: 31 August
Young women aged 17-30 who are discerning their vocation to marriage, single or consecrated life are invited to the Schoenstatt Shrine in Mulgoa for a Grace & Silence Retreat Day. Grace & Silence commences with a short impulse followed by Eucharistic adoration; silent prayer and reflection and concludes with a group rosary and afternoon tea. Cost: $20 includes lunch. Time: 9.30am-4.30pm. Venue: 230 Fairlight Rd, Mulgoa. Further information and registration contact Sr M Julie tel 0408 738 334 or juliebrcar@gmail.com

Georges River Cruise: 3 September
Join the social group from Our Lady Queen of Peace Parish, Greystanes, on a day cruise to Milperra and the riverside suburbs of Sandy Point and Picnic Point. Depart from Sans Souci Wharf for a three hours on the picturesque waters of the Georges River, before entering Botany Bay at Taren Point. Cruise passes Oatley, Como, Sans Souci, Brighton and Sylvania Waters. Cost: $70 incl. morning tea & lunch. Bus departs 8.45am at 20 Virgil St and 8.50am opposite OLQP Church, 198 Old Prospect Rd, Greystanes. Deposit of $20 required when booking with Marie (02) 9896 7046, 0414 782 358 or Frances (02) 9636 5548, 0421 027 119, francesgrima@optusnet.com.au

A marriage enrichment experience – take time out of your busy schedules to invest in your most precious asset, your marriage! Venue: Mt Carmel Retreat Centre, Varroville. Inquiries & bookings: Ardell & Bill Sharpe tel (02) 4283 3435 or wsharpe@bigpond.net.au www.wwme.org.au

Ordination to the Priesthood of John Paul Escarlan: 13 September
Bishop Anthony Fisher OP will ordain John Paul Escarlan a priest for the Diocese of Parramatta at 7.30pm in St Patrick’s Cathedral. Everyone is welcome – plenty of parking. For catering purposes, please RSVP by 7 September: tel (02) 9654 2260, johnpaul.escarlan@yahoo.com.au

Fr John Paul Escarlan’s First Mass: 14 September
Fr John Paul Escarlan will celebrate his First Mass for the Gift of the Priesthood at 11am at St Madeleine Sophie Barat Parish, 28 Annangrove Road, Kenthurst. Everyone is welcome. For catering purposes, please RSVP by 7 September: tel (02) 9654 2260, johnpaul.escarlan@yahoo.com.au

Australian Catholic Historical Society Colloquium: 15 September
Topic: ‘You just did your best, that’s all, and hoped for the best’. The Sisters of Mercy and Catholic education in far Western NSW. Speaker: Dr Megan Brock RSJ, Sisters of St Joseph, Lochinvar, consultant psychologist. Time: 2.30pm – all welcome. Crypt Hall of St Patrick’s at Church Hill, Grosvenor St, The Rocks. Inquiries: Dr John Carmody, President ACHS, (02) 9417 2082, john.carmody@sydney.edu.au
Tiddalik the Frog

Eddie Batt (1C)

TIDDALIK THE FROG PERFORMANCE

What did you like about the performance?

I liked when Tiddalik drank all of the

...er from the world and when Tiddalik

...h spat all of the water so the...

...er animals can drink water too.

Christian Walker (1C)

TIDDALIK THE FROG PERFORMANCE

What did you like about the performance?

I liked... the performance because...

...t was funny and magical.