Greetings,
Given the events in Paris, Beirut and other parts of the world in the past week, it is important that we sustain love, joy, hope, compassion and peace in our lives. Prayer is a great way to start!

A Message from the Pope
Pope Francis has urged Catholic families to uphold the tradition of a family meal and enjoy the “fundamental experience” of sharing food; leaving phones and other interactive devices aside and switching off the TV!

“The sharing of a meal – and therefore, other than of food, also of affections, of stories, of events – is a fundamental experience,” Pope Francis said. Sitting around the table helps measure the health of relationships, the Pontiff said: “If in a family there’s something that doesn’t work, or a hidden wound, at the table it’s understood immediately.”

It can hardly be called a family meal when relatives “barely ever eat together, or (a family) which doesn’t talk at the table but watches television, or a smartphone,” the Pope said.

The Pope also encouraged families to talk and listen to one another over dinner and avoid lavish spending on food.

Reflection on Sunday’s Gospel
Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe (John 18:33-37)
In the opening scene of the animated “Lion King” movie, a new day is dawning, and all creatures are moving toward the great assembly. Flocks of birds’ wing their way over the jungle world, elephants plod, zebras run, deer leap. Atop the highest precipice, the Lion King is revered by all the creatures waiting below for his announcement.

In his nearby den is the Lion King’s lioness with her newborn son. In many ways, “The Lion King” is the retelling of the story of our God and his Son and how we all come to give him glory. The Feast of Christ the King enables us once again to consider our role in the world and Christ’s kingship over us and all creation.

Fr John Frauenfelder’s Words of Wisdom
Sacrament of First Eucharist
This weekend we have several Masses where children from our school and parish will be making their First Holy Communion. Please keep these children in your prayers. We pray that as they are nourished by the Body and Blood of Christ and they may ever grow in God’s love and grace.

Choir / Altar Servers for First Eucharist
If any children are able to join us for the First Eucharist Mass at 11.00am at the Church on Sunday, as either an Altar Server or to join in singing as a choir, please be at the Church by no later than 10.45am.

Dear Jesus,
We invite you to rule our hearts as King of Kings and Lord of Lords. Amen.
First Eucharist Reunion Family Mass / First Sunday of Advent

On Sunday the 29th November 2015 at 9.00am the Parish will have a reunion Mass for all those children who have made their First Eucharist. A note will be sent home for all those children from Years 3 and above who are making their First Eucharist this weekend. Children and families from all grades at our school are invited to come and celebrate Mass!

What's on:
Week 7-8: Masses for the Sacrament of First Eucharist
   6pm, Saturday 21st November at Gosford and Somersby
   11am and 6pm, Sunday the 22nd November at Gosford
Week 8: 9.00am, Sunday 29th November 2015, First Eucharist Family Mass

May Christ’s peace be with you all!
Jacqueline Fletcher

FROM OUR ACTING PRINCIPAL

Time is ticking fast as we approach the end of year, with only three and a half weeks to go this term. Some may think we’re winding down but in reality we’re winding up in a big way. There are still so many events to organise and attend before we say goodbye to 2016. I know you’re all feeling it too, with your build up towards Christmas and New Year. So in our extra busy state, can I ask you to please take note of all the dates and times of upcoming events. I would hate for you or your child to miss out on anything.

We will have our final assembly on Friday 11th at 9am, followed by our Thank You morning tea for all our wonderful parent and grandparent volunteers. If you have contributed in any way large or small to our school community this year, please join us in the opportunity of saying a very big Thank You for all you do for St. Pat’s.

Today our wonderful Learning Support Teacher, Veronica Duckett, took our Year 6 Chess Champions across to the Adventist School for a Chess Competition. Mrs Duckett was very proud of how well they conducted themselves and the superb way they played Chess. Congratulations to: Jose Alonzo, Thomas Costa, Jerrica Tony, Aydin Ercan, Sterling Witt and Catriona McBride.
Year 5 Camp
I have had the privilege this week of attending the annual Year 5 Leadership Camp. This is the last time we will be attending Challenge Ranch at Somersby as the Diocese has decided to relinquish ownership of this property. At this stage we have booked Vision Valley at Dural. I have been very impressed with the high standard of maturity our year 5 children have shown whilst on their three day camp. Last night was the culmination of their leadership sessions where they nominated our potential school leaders. It is with great honour that I announce the following candidates for school captain positions in 2016

Boys: Christopher Kemp, Michael Holmes, Reece Tredwell, Jett Heaney,

Girls: Mahidi Ranasinghe, Gemma Lavings, Destiny Dennis & Mia Whigham.

Captain Speeches will be held on Monday 30th at 10.15am in the LARC on the primary side. Sport Captain Speeches will be held after recess the same day.

Even though the weather was very warm, the children had a great time doing all the activities and cooled off every day with a swim.

A very Big Thank You to all our teachers who gave their time in supervising the camp. Mrs Turnbull, Mrs Miller, Mrs Howard, Mr McCarthy, Mrs Ellwood, Mrs Duckett, Mrs Mulligan and our Aspect Teachers, Mrs Flynn and Mrs Bygott. It’s very difficult with family obligations but we do appreciate the wonderful effort you make in ensuring our children have a safe and happy time away from school. Special thanks to Mrs Turnbull for all the organising of the camp.
**Christmas**
Outfits for the Christmas concert will be on the whole, simple and something you have at home. We have some costumes at school that we can use but we may need to make a few simple items, so, if you are a little handy with the sewing machine or gluing gun and would like to help us, please phone Maria in the office and to offer your help. A full costume list will be in the coming week, so that you have time to find the ‘perfect’ item.

*Just a reminder:* Please ensure your child/ren do not bring glass drink bottles or containers to school as this poses a WHS risk for all the children if they were to drop and break.

**Canteen**
As you know, there are times we don’t have enough volunteers to man the canteen on both sides. If we are to continue with the canteen in 2016, we will need more volunteers urgently. At this stage, it seems that we may not be able to continue to provide this service to our students and families. In trying to find feasible solutions, one thought is allocating each family a day throughout the year. We are aware that many families work, but believe if we provide plenty of notice (like the year ahead), arrangements can be made for time off or another family member eg Aunty or grandparent to attend in their place. We know that your children would greatly appreciate seeing you at school, helping us provide what some believe an essential service to our community. Please volunteer form for this year with this newsletter.

**Coming up….**

**Term 4**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>27 November</td>
<td>Year 5 at St. Peter’s <strong>Assembly at 11.20am</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 December</td>
<td>Year 6 Graduation</td>
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<tr>
<td>11 December</td>
<td>Final Assembly—Awards at 9am followed by our Thank you morning tea for parent volunteers.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14 December</td>
<td>St. Patrick’s Carols Night at St Edward’s</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15 December</td>
<td>Year 6 Fun Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16 December</td>
<td>Last Day of school, Step Up 10am and Final Mass @ 11.30am</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Return to School Dates—2016**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mathematical Assessment Interviews</td>
<td>Thurs 28 &amp; Fri 29 January 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 1—6 start back to school</td>
<td>Monday 1 February 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kindergarten start school</td>
<td>Monday 1 February</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**FREE ICEBLOCK FROM THE CANTEEN FOR EVERYONE THIS WEEK AND THANKS TO OUR GREAT VOLUNTEERS FOR WORKING IN THE HEAT TODAY!!**
CHRISTMAS CONCERT DVD

If you do not wish your child to be seen in the DVD please contact the office

They DVD is only available our school community

A NOTE HAS BEEN SENT HOME FOR YOU TO ORDER A DVD OF THE SCHOOL CHRISTMAS CONCERT

PLEASE SEND BACK AS SOON AS POSSIBLE WITH THE $10

BOOK IN YOUR CHILDREN’S MAI
(Mathematical Assessment Interview)

AS SOON AS POSSIBLE ASTHE SITE CLOSES ON 4TH DECEMBER

SCHOOL PHOTOS PACKS have been sent home this week

AT THE POOL AND BEACH

Year 1 and 2 have just finished a two week intensive swimming program and have really developed their skills in the pool.

At the same time our primary students have all attended a surf awareness day at Terrigal Beach and have been commended on their exemplary behaviour by the Surf Life Savers.
From the P&F ...  
**Term 4 meeting**

Our final meeting for the year was held in week 5 (meeting minutes available on the school website). Thanks to the small but dedicated group of parents that attended. It was great to hear firsthand the plans for the infants playground. It was very inspiring and we look forward to seeing it take shape over the Christmas holidays. Our next meeting will be our AGM and Term 1 meeting. Save the date – **Thursday 10 March at 7.00pm in the LARC.** All welcome!

**Canteen**

Did you know that back in 2008 the school employed a canteen coordinator? Stocking and running two canteens, as well as paying a wage was a very costly business to the school and at the end of 2008 the P&F had to step in and pay a number of outstanding invoices. In 2009 a group of parents rallied together to ensure that our school still had a canteen and our children could still enjoy a weekly lunch order. Our canteen has been run by volunteers ever since. We have no paid workers, those that volunteer their time do it because we know how much our children love having canteen facilities. It also gives our children the opportunity to be independent – looking after their own money and purchasing something to eat. Its pleasing to note that we have also run at a profit ever since. Money made by the canteen is put back into the school.

Unfortunately over the years, our pool of volunteers has dwindled to a very small group of mums and a few dads. We have experienced more canteen closures this year than ever before. Next year, Adrienne (or Mrs P to the kids), who has worked every Friday in the primary canteen this year (barring one or two!) is not available to work canteen, so we are calling on mums, dads, grandparents, aunts or uncles to volunteer some time to come and make lunch orders or serve at recess. We appreciate that most people work or are busy with other commitments, but if everyone can consider just working one day a year – our roster problems will be a thing of the past.

**We need help!** Please consider giving up a Wednesday morning or a Friday next year to work canteen. Especially if you regularly use the canteen for a lunch order – you know how much it is appreciated by the kids and the parents. As the saying goes ... Many hands make light work.

**Check your calendar and book a spot for Term 1, 2016 now!**

**Call Adrienne on 0414 509 547.**

**Primary Slushie Machine**

With Adrienne no longer available to work in the canteen next year, we are in need of a volunteer to take over the cleaning and set up of the Slushie Machine. The slushie machine was reintroduced into the primary canteen this year and has proved a big hit (especially in the warmer weather). We are looking for someone who could clean out the machine on a weekly basis and have it ready to go on Wednesdays and Fridays. Maximum time commitment would be 1.5 hours a week and could be done at drop off or pick up or at a time that suits you during school hours. If you are interested in helping out with this canteen job, please contact Michelle on 0408 412 408 by Friday 4 December. Unfortunately if we do not get a volunteer we will have to remove slushies from the menu and return the machine, which will no doubt disappoint the kids.

**Thank you**

And finally, the P&F would like to thank Michelle Perry for her commitment and dedication to stepping up to the Acting Principal role in term 3 and 4. We truly believe Miss Perry has done an amazing job with the children, the staff and the parents - with a smile on her face - and we thank her for ensuring that our children’s education always comes first.
**BUS NEWS**

**OPAL CARDS WILL BE GENERATED FOR ALL STUDENTS WHO HAVE A PASS THIS YEAR AND WILL BE SENT TO THE OFFICE IN THE NEW YEAR FOR DISTRIBUTION**

The exception to this is for Year 2 students going to Year 3, a letter and information pamphlet from Transport NSW has been sent home.

If you wish to apply for an Opal pass for your child please go Online to apply at transportnsw.info/school-students

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**Knit n Natter**

**COMMENCING FEBRUARY 2016**

Can you knit or crochet?
Would you be willing to teach primary school children to knit or crochet?
Can you spare an hour a week to join our Knit n Natter Club?

We are seeking volunteers to help set up a Knitting Club for the primary school children of St Patrick’s Years 3 – 6 to be held in the LARC.

If you would like to volunteer or find out more information, please contact Michelle on 0408 112 708.
SCHOOL BANKING
PLEASE SEND YOUR BANK BOOK IN ON WEDNESDAY
School banking award winners
Maggie Pimms
Inacio Botelho
Jack Sands
Sangpil Yoon
Thank you for supporting the School Banking program at St Patricks!

USED CLOTHING POOL
Next open
Tuesday 8 December
8.30 – 9.30am

LOST
Abhishek Thomas in 3G lost his razor scooter from the bike rack outside the hall. He had it for after school dance class and forgot to take it home. It was gone the next day.

Michael Grose
Australia’s No.1 Parenting Educator
Coming to a school near you
23 February 2016
Visit www.brokenbayparentcouncil.com

Collaborative Partnerships
Diocesan Parent Council 2015
Seminars Resources
Parent Meetings Online Learning
See what your DPC did this year ...
... and who is presenting in Feb 2016
(HINT Australia’s No 1 Parent Educator!)
www.brokenbayparentcouncil.com
Your School - Your DPC

The Uniform Shop
Uniforms for 2016
All students requiring any new uniforms for 2016 are required to either visit the shop during opening hours or make an appointment for a uniform fitting during Term 4, 2015.

Families can purchase or try-on uniforms at the time of fitting. The uniform shop will be open in January 2016 for lay-by collection and size exchanges (if required).

Please make your Term 4 uniform fitting appointment as soon as possible.

2. Email The Uniform Shop stpatricksprimary@alinta.com.au (the shop manager will either call or return your email to arrange a suitable time)
Not long till the school year finishes. The kids enjoy seeing family members in the canteen. If you can help out, let us know.

We need Volunteers to ensure canteen will remain open during the year. Contact Adrienne on 0414 509547 or mrspraz@gmail.com if you would like to volunteer.

Adrienne on mrspraz@gmail.com
or 0414 509547

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>INFANTS</th>
<th>PRIMARY</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>WEDNESDAY 25th November</td>
<td>Christine Boyce</td>
<td>HELP NEEDED 0414509547</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Recess only 9.30am -11.30am)</td>
<td>Sarah See</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FRIDAY 27th November</td>
<td>Michelle Cormack</td>
<td>Adrienne Prazauskas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(ALL Day – 8.15am – 2.00pm)</td>
<td>Peter McClean</td>
<td>Katie Ercan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WEDNESDAY 2nd December</td>
<td>Nan Moffat</td>
<td>Angela Cohen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Recess only 9.30am -11.30am)</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>FRIDAY 4th December</td>
<td>HELP NEEDED 0414509547</td>
<td>Adrienne Prazauskas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(ALL Day – 8.15am – 2.00pm)</td>
<td></td>
<td>Deidra Robertson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WEDNESDAY 9th December</td>
<td>Annabel Cockerton</td>
<td>Angela Cohen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Recess only 9.30am -11.30am)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FRIDAY 27th December</td>
<td>Rose Werder</td>
<td>Michelle Cormack</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(ALL Day – 8.15am – 2.00pm)</td>
<td>HELP NEEDED 0414509547</td>
<td>HELP NEEDED 0414509547</td>
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If for any reason you are unable to do canteen on the day you have volunteered, please contact Adrienne on 0414 509547 asap so she can try and arrange a replacement.
Welcome to our last edition of Family Life Matters for 2015. It has indeed been a very significant year for marriage and family ministry with many important events and activities taking place both in Australia and overseas. 2016 also promises to be a very active time for our ministry particularly as we discern new ways forward in our pastoral support as a consequence of the Family Synod and the inspired leadership of Pope Francis and Bishop Peter. I send wishes of HOPE, PEACE, JOY and LOVE for a faith filled Advent and Christmas season and a Happy New Year to you and your families and thank you for all your support for parish marriage and family life ministry.

FAMILY SYNOD Update

The 2015 Family Synod concluded its work on 24 October with approval given to all 94 paragraphs of its final report (Relazione Finale), each of which was voted on by the 265 participants and reached the necessary two thirds majority.

The Report is divided into three parts reflecting the work of the Synod over three weeks, the first considering the challenges to marriage and family in contemporary society/cultures, the second reviewing the application of the Church’s teachings and insights, and the third considering ways the Church can walk with people (offering pastoral care) in various ‘complex situations’ (e.g. cohabitation, civil marriage, mixed and interreligious marriages, abandoned spouses, single parents, the divorced).

The Synod process under Pope Francis has been one involving consultation, dialogue, discernment, collaboration and collegiality. All Synod participants have been free to speak their mind with the aim of ultimately reaching a consensus, with the aid of the Holy Spirit.

The final Report has been submitted to Pope Francis with a request from the Synod that it be used to assist him in writing a document (anticipated to be an Apostolic Exhortation to be published during 2016) dealing with the pastoral care of the family in contemporary society/cultures.

(A more detailed update will appear in the next edition of the Broken Bay News.)

REFORM OF MARRIAGE

Annulment Procedures

In his pastoral letter of 15 September 2015 Bishop Peter advised changes to nullity of marriage (annulment) procedures which take effect from 8 December 2015. These reforms are as a consequence of Pope Francis’ desire for a more efficient, pastorally sensitive, quicker and cheaper annulment procedure.

They do not change Church teachings as to the indissolubility of marriage, rather they are intended to make the process more accessible and less emotionally draining.

A detailed explanatory brochure is expected to issue shortly.

THOUGHT FROM Pope Francis

“Let us be grateful witnesses of God’s mercy.”
JUBILEE YEAR of Mercy
Pope Francis has called a special Holy Year, a Jubilee Year of Mercy to begin the 8 December 2015, the feast of the Immaculate Conception and close on 20 November 2016 the feast of Christ the King and has “asked the Church in this Jubilee Year to rediscover the richness encompassed by the spiritual and corporal works of mercy.
The experience of mercy, indeed, becomes visible in the witness of concrete signs as Jesus himself taught us.” Pope Francis 1 September 2016

NURTURING FAITH IN Families Series:
Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy
This resource offers suggestions for practicing the corporal and spiritual works of mercy as lived and experienced in the context of family, neighbours, community and beyond, and showing that it is often in the ordinary, routine activities of family life that holiness can be found. It will be available on the ‘Family Life’ page at www.dbb.org.au/family. A copy will be sent to parishes and Parish Marriage and Family Network Contacts in coming weeks.

SHARING THE Christmas Message
In all the rush and bustle of Christmas we may sometimes lose sight of the ‘reason for the season’. Christmas is a family time and not just to holiday, party, eat, drink and do presents but to remember the great gift of God’s love for us. This leaflet identifies ways families can share the true meaning of Christmas. A copy of this resource (which has been sent to all parishes and schools) is attached and any assistance you can give in its distribution will be much appreciated.

THE INTERNATIONAL DAY of People with Disability
is celebrated annually on 3 December the theme this year is: “Inclusion matters: access and empowerment for people of all abilities”. Resources to enable parishes to celebrate this day can be ordered from the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference at disability@catholic.org.au

REACHING OUT TO visitors at Christmas – Ideas for Parishes
Over Christmas and the New Year a parish can expect to see considerable numbers of people/families who do not normally attend Mass. Many of them will be ‘aposed/resting’ Catholics or ‘seekers/returning’ Catholics who are perhaps visiting relatives over Christmas, while others will have little or no connection with the Church. How should we respond to these visitors? A copy of this resource (which has been sent to all parishes) is attached and provides an opportunity for us to work with parish leadership and welcoming ministry to especially reach out to visitors.

MARRIAGE ENRICHMENT Opportunities

World Wide Marriage Encounter
(www.wwme.org.au)
residential weekends at
Mt Carmel Retreat Centre,
Varroville, NSW:
20 – 22 November

SmartLoving Marriage
Seminars and Workshops
(http://smartloving.org/marriage/)
See website for details of coming events

Couples for Christ
(www.cfc-australia.org.au)
See website for details of coming events
Any information received from the providers will be forwarded to parishes closer to the dates/events.

2015 Diary Dates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A presentation by Alzheimer’s Australia (flyer attached)</td>
<td>18 November</td>
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<tr>
<td>International Day of People with a Disability</td>
<td>3 December</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beginning of the Holy Year of Mercy and Feast of the Immaculate Conception</td>
<td>8 December</td>
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</table>

A REMINDER about the HOPE Group
A group of parents of children with special needs of any age have come together in community to provide friendship and support to each other. The group’s theme is Hearts Open to People Everywhere (H.O.P.E.) Meetings are held on the third Tuesday of every month 10.30 a.m. to 12.00 noon in the sunroom at Holy Name Church, Bilyard Ave, Wahroonga. A social dinner also takes place on the first Wednesday of the month at the Wild Cactus Restaurant, Pennant Hills. Perhaps there are families within your parish who would benefit from this support – for further information contact should be made with Jo Karaolis jokaraolis1@bigpond.com

www.dbb.org.au/family
Janette Davidson, Diocesan Coordinator - Family Life Ministries
janette.davidson@dbb.org.au / 0409 074 908

Your support in working with your parish leadership to promote some of the above, as appropriate to your role/parish context, is greatly appreciated.
Sharing the Christmas Message

In all the rush and bustle of Christmas we may sometimes lose sight of the ‘reason for the season’. Christmas is a family time and not just to holiday, party, eat, drink and do presents but to remember the great gift of God’s love for us. Here are some ways families can share the true meaning of Christmas.

**People and Relationships**
The key to sharing the Christmas message is showing to others the unconditional love that Christ has for us. This means accepting family members as they are and without criticism or reproach. It means making peace and reconciling with someone we have become distanced from or out of good relationship with during the year. It means remembering with love and gratitude those who have gone before us and are with God. Our fundamental gift to others is enabling them to see the face of Christ in us.

**Parish and School Communities**
Join with other families in participating in Christmas celebrations and worshipping opportunities. Offer Christ’s message of peace, hope and love to all you meet and recognise that these communities are a ‘family of families’.

**Invitation**
Invite a neighbour or friend, whether a practising Catholic or not, to come with you to Mass on Christmas Day or to attend a parish carol service or similar celebration.

**Faith in Action: The Elderly**
Visit an elderly person who lives nearby. If they live on their own and do not have family, invite them to your Christmas family celebrations.

**Faith in Action: Those in Need**
Consider giving a few hours of your time to assist a local charity or service club during the Christmas season or to a parish which is providing Christmas lunch or similar activity for the needy.

**Children and Grandchildren**
Involve your children and grandchildren in Christmas story activities/readings and model Christ like hospitality and generosity within your family and community.
**Christmas Cards**

Try to use Christmas cards which have a nativity scene or other Christian imagery and message. Consider buying some of your Christmas cards and gifts from charitable organisations such as the St Vincent de Paul Society and St Columbans Mission. Perhaps make your own Christmas cards and make this a family activity where everyone makes a contribution.

**Charity Giving and Receiving**

Clear out your wardrobe of unwanted clothes and give them to Vinnies. Visit your local Vinnies, Oxfam or other charity shop to see if you can find suitable Christmas gifts and don’t forget to wish the workers and volunteers a happy Christmas.

Why not try and make Christmas last all year long through continuing some special activity such as an ongoing donation to a particular charity or regular involvement in a parish ministry or school activity.

**Special Gifts**

Try making special gifts for members of the family rather than buying all your gifts e.g. craft, paintings, bookmarks.

Give a family gift to a less fortunate family which may not receive many gifts at Christmas e.g. through parish hampers.

Spend family time baking biscuits/cakes, wrapping gifts, and displaying Christmas decorations. This will help each member of the family to recognise the treasure of each other.

**Online/Social Media**

We live in a time when sharing with others is easier than ever before. Use social media to share a Christmas message with family and friends wherever they might be.

**The Workplace**

Where this is appropriate to your work context, include a crib or other Christian symbols in Christmas decorations at work.

**Ecumenical Public Witness**

Often Christian Churches come together in a locality and organise a public carol singing or similar event. Involve your family in these events and share the Christmas spirit with your fellow Christians.

**The Joy of Christmas**

The joy of Christmas is in the giving more so than the receiving and in showing your love for all those who are special to you. Instead of feeling ‘frazzled’ about finding the ‘right’ gift focus on the gratitude and love you have for the person you are buying a gift for, after all, it’s the thought that counts!

There are many creative ways to make Christmas a truly Christ filled celebration where we show our love for our family and friends and our compassion for those less fortunate than ourselves. Sometimes all that is needed is a listening ear, a gentle touch, a word of encouragement. Remember that the greatest gift we can give is the gift of ourselves!

**A Christmas message from Pope Francis**

“I invoke the Christmas gift of joy and peace upon all: upon children and the elderly, upon young people and families, the poor and the marginalized ... May Jesus, who was born for us, console all those afflicted by illness and suffering; may he sustain those who devote themselves to serving our brothers and sisters who are most in need. Happy Christmas!” Midnight Mass Rome 25/12/13
CANTEEN VOLUNTEERS FORM

The Canteen operates two canteens – one on the Melbourne St Campus and one on the Victoria St Campus. Our Canteen is run by a few dedicated volunteers, and is open on Wednesday and Friday.

The canteen operates as a service to the school community and as such volunteers are required each year for the canteen roster.

We need parental help to run the canteen successfully - just once a term would ease the load of a few parents/grandparents,

Starting time is 9.00am and it is usually finished about 2.00pm. Should you have any queries about the roster please telephone or SMS Adrienne 0414 509 547

If you are able to assist, please complete the form below and return it to the school as soon as possible. Please indicate which day and canteen (or both canteens) you are available.

Parent’s Name (First and Surname): __________________________________________

Telephone No.: __________________________________________________________

Child’s Name ____________________________________________________________

Class: __________________________________________________________________

Please circle whichever is applicable:

I am available on: ☐ Wednesday ☐ Friday

to help in: Melbourne St Canteen ☐ Victoria St Canteen ☐ Both Canteens

☐ (Infants) ☐ (Primary) ☐