

5th June 2018 (Vol. 16)

**Whole School Mass**  
**This Sunday 8.30 am in Church**

**Friday 29th  
June School  
Closes at 1pm**  
NZEI Teacher Meeting

**Book Fair  
This week  
Great bargains!!  
Book Character  
Day on Friday**

**Lunch Orders on  
Wednesday  
Sausage Sizzle  
Fridays  
\$2 Pre Order**

Whakataukī

He aroha whakato, he aroha puta mai  
If kindness is sown then kindness you shall receive

### MISSION STATEMENT

We are a Catholic faith community committed to quality education

## Focus for Term 2 is Respect

### Luke 14:10

But when you are invited, go and sit in the lowest place, so that when your host comes he may say to you, 'Friend, move up higher.' Then you will be honoured in the presence of all who sit at table with you.

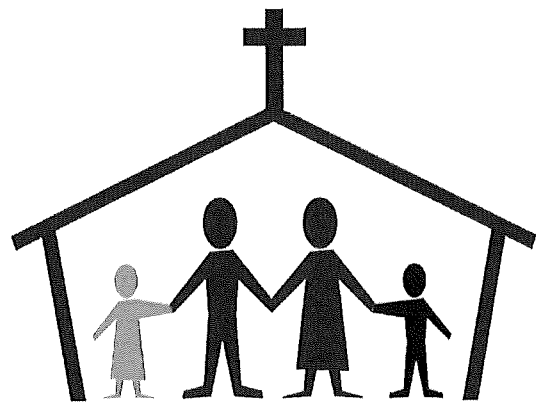
### **Tenth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B Green**

**'Anyone who obeys God is my brother or sister or mother.'**

**Genesis 3:9-15 Psalm 130 2 Corinthians 4: 16-5:1 Mark 3:20-21, 31-35**

In our Gospel reading on Sunday, Jesus says something amazing. As he sits teaching, surrounded by a large group of people from all different places, families and backgrounds, all eager to hear what he is teaching them about God, he tells them that he counts each one of them as a member of his family – God's family! And that makes all of us in the Church part of the same family. Our distinguishing family likeness is how well we obey God by living the Jesus way.

Whether we live on our own or with others, most of us have experience of living as members of a family. Take time to reflect on your own family experiences – Who you are close too? Who you do not see so often? What are the reasons? Take time to reflect also on the family likenesses you share – those you appreciate – those you might have difficulty accepting. Is there anything in your family story that is crying out to be appreciated more – or healed because it has caused pain or separation? What steps could you take this week to enter more fully into your own experience of family life? Is there some assistance that is needed? How is your experience of family life reflected back to you through the bigger story of family life as a member of God's inclusive, welcoming, healing embrace that longs to heal the rifts and overcome the divisions and separation in God's family members? It is an honour to be considered a close relative of Jesus. Do you think you behave as though this is true? Jesus said, "Anyone who obeys God is my brother or sister or mother." What family likeness do you show?



### Principal's Pen

Kia Ora,

Welcome to week six, we have our whole school mass this Sunday, this is our only opportunity to come together as a school, family and parish. This is the first time in a couple of years that we have brought our school mass back to a Sunday, please try and come we would love to see you.

This is a short but very busy week. We have the Book Fair and Parent, Child and Teacher conferences starting today at 3pm. We really need some help before and after school to help with the book fair, if you can spare 20 minutes before or after school then please let me know. There are some lovely books and merchandise for sale. We will be having our character day on Friday, the theme for this years book fair is cowboys.

The NZEI paid union meeting was advertised as the wrong date, they have informed us that this is being held on Friday 29th June—**NOT THURSDAY 28TH JUNE.** We sent out another notification on Friday. Please accept our apologies.

Have a great week.

**Kia te wairua tapu ki runga ki a koutou katoa. ~ May the Holy Spirit be upon you all.**  
**Geraldine Sumner ~ Principal.**

## St. Francis School Board of Trustees

Reporting to Parents on Student Progress and Achievement policy is up for review, we would like your feedback on this policy.

Go to [stfrancis-thames.schooldocs.co.nz](http://stfrancis-thames.schooldocs.co.nz)

Enter the community login details:

**Username:** stfrancis-thames **Password:** mackay

**School Lunch Orders**—Just a reminder that these yummy lunches will be available to order every Wednesday. Children's orders should be dropped off to the school office before 9am please. Putting the money in an envelope with the child's name and order on the outside would be helpful. The menu is available on our website under the Newsletter tab or at the school office. Thanks.

**Sausage Sizzle Friday - \$2.00 Each** Please remember to pre-order your sausage sizzle on Thursday. Thank you

**St Francis Sacramental Programme** ~ Calling all parents of baptised Catholic children who wish for their 7 years and older children to receive the Blessed Sacraments of Confirmation and First Holy Communion in 2018. We are now taking registration for our 2018 programme.

The programme will be organised :

Start with 8.30 Mass followed by morning tea and working from 10am—12pm

First session will be on 10th June covering Reconciliation

Next session 1st July covering 1st Eucharist

Final session 5th August covering confirmation

The Bishop will be in Thames on 12th August for the Celebration of the Sacraments.

Any one interested in Baptism, could they please contact Geraldine or Sister Paula.

**Assembly** ~ no assembly this week

**Whole School Mass** ~ This Sunday 8.30 am please come and celebrate our school and parish together ~ cup of tea after mass.

**Book Fair** ~ June 5—8th June in Library. 8.45—9.00 am and 2.55—3.15 pm daily. If you are able to help in the morning or afternoons please let the office know.

We have our Book Character Day on Friday the theme is Cowboys and Girls, but children can dress up in their favourite book character.



Helping Kiwi parents reduce the cost of education

## Parent Teacher

**Conferences** ~ Today

3pm—7pm

## Warehouse Stationery~

Just a reminder that if you are shopping at Warehouse Stationery, that St. Francis School is part of the school rebate scheme. Every time you make a purchase mention our school name and they donate 5% of the total purchase to our school.

Every year thousands of parents don't claim back their school donations - you can now easily claim these back online at [www.schoolrebates.co.nz](http://www.schoolrebates.co.nz)

**TIME IS TICKING TO MAKE A CLAIM**  
as the IRD close another tax year on the 31st of March every year

**MAKE EDUCATION CHEAPER**  
by getting cash back in your pocket - if you've never claimed you can claim back 2 years  
No dealing with IRD

**CLAIMING IS QUICK AND EASY**  
and with your schools support they will provide us copies of missing receipts

1. Enter your details at [Schoolrebates.co.nz](http://Schoolrebates.co.nz)
2. Request missing receipts from your school(s) via our website
3. We'll do the rest and let you know when to check your bank account

Already have receipts?  
You can upload these as part of your claim

@SchoolRebates  
Help other Kiwi families by sharing this with them

## Upcoming Events for Term 2

Please remember to watch the weekly newsletter as sometimes we do need to change dates.

Every Tuesday and Wednesday	Sharyn Clark will be in for Piano Lessons Call Sharyn for any possible vacancies 027 4485089
Every Tuesday	Clive hosting free brass instrument lessons from 2.30—3.45
Every Thursday	Rm 5 will be going to Technology Training at Thames High School
Every Wednesday	School Lunch orders (from Food for Thought)
Every Monday and Wednesday	Runners Club 8.45—9.00 am
5th June	Three Way Conferences (Parent Teacher Interviews) 3pm—7 pm
5th—8th	<b>Book Fair— helpers needed</b>
Friday 8th June	Book Character Dress up day—Theme Cowboys and Girls
<b>This Sunday 10th June</b>	<b>Whole School Mass 8.30 in Church</b>
<b>FRIDAY 29th June</b>	<b>School Closes at 1pm for NZEI Paid Union Meeting</b>



Dear Parents

You may be aware of the nationwide crisis in recruiting and retaining teachers.

While there are many more children coming into the school system, there are not enough new teachers being trained. Urgent and significant changes are needed to ensure that the teaching profession can attract the people it needs and to ensure class sizes do not start to increase.

On **Friday 29th June** the teachers from this school will be attending a NZEI Te Riu Roa paid union meeting regarding the *Kua Tae Te Wā* - It's Time campaign. The campaign aims to free teachers to teach and principals to lead, by getting the additional support and staff that schools need. The meetings will allow our teachers to discuss how the Ministry of Education has responded to changes that the union is seeking.

Our teaching staff are members of NZEI and legally entitled to attend this meeting. The teachers will be leaving school on **Friday 29th June** to attend their paid union meeting which starts at 1:30pm.

I strongly encourage parents to make arrangements to pick their child(ren) up from school by 1.00pm on **at Friday 29th June**.

I appreciate that this creates some inconvenience for families. However, I encourage you to support your teachers as they strive to achieve the changes which will safeguard quality education for all children and ensure we make teaching an attractive profession for graduates. Anyone who may need help with arrangements should contact the school office.