Dear Families,

Today classes acknowledged Shrove Tuesday, or Pancake Day, as the day before the commencement of the Church’s seasons of Lent. Ash Wednesday marks the first day of the Church’s season of Lent.

The well-known author, C.S. Lewis, once wrote, “I believe in Christianity as I believe that the sun has risen; not only because I see it, but because by it I see everything else.” During this Lent season we could devote our attention to ponder the “I, why?” of our existence by using our Christian heritage to help us to see more clearly the purpose of our life.

In a culture focussed on self and materialism, can we do as Christ did and serve others with our time, energy, money?

Can we be agents for reconciliation between estranged family members?

Can we listen to and understand those who are different to us?

Can we, in our workaholic culture, take time out to pray for ourselves, for others in our life, for others who are not in our life but are in wars and droughts and oppression somewhere in our world?

Can we, take time out, use the forty days of Lent to make adjustments to our way of life, to be more obviously Christian in the way we give expression to our “I, why?”

Lent is a time where we have the opportunity to model to our children some of the above questions, pray and use the season to renew ourselves and our Faith in Christ.

**Our Children**

Want to know how to motivate your children? Well, here’s a story that’s sure to make you envious: “My father and my uncle were human cannonballs in a circus. As I was nearing the end of High School, my dad said to me that I had two choices ahead of me: work hard, do well at school and go on to university or become a human cannonball. About a month later my uncle was fired out of a cannon but, unfortunately, he missed the net and hit the ferris wheel. I decided I would work hard and go to university.”

Great story, but life’s not that simple and one of the realities for us, parents, is that our children need us to be real grown-up adults so that they can be real growing-up children. Growing up is somewhat of a do-it-yourself-project. We’ve all done it. We build our lives, a day at a time, often putting less than our best into the building. Then comes the realisation that we have to live in the life we have built. Our attitudes and choices that we made have built the life that we now live.

There is a Buddhist saying that has two parts to it: “If you want to know your past, look into your present conditions.” So, here we are, the product of our past actions and decisions. “If you want to know your future, look into your present actions.” This time, our future is in our hands, and in our hands, also, is the future of our children, for they are just starting to build the lives in which they will live and they need our hands to be guiding hands.

The Old Testament’s Book of Proverbs allows us to share advice that was given more then two and a half thousand years ago: “Train a child in the way he should go and when he is old he will not turn from it.” –Prov. 22:6
However, before we can do that we need to ensure that we have a positive attitude towards ourselves that’s supported by rewarding interests so that our children don’t have to compensate us for having a disappointing life. We need to clearly identify any unfulfilled wishes in our own lives, so that we don’t, unconsciously, expect our children to fulfil them for us and not lead their own lives.

Bestselling author, Stephanie Dowrick, has these wise offerings to share:

**“** Keep in mind that your children are separate children, still dependent and beloved. They are not you, you are not them.

- Remember that you are a parent not a coach. A coach praises unconditionally; a parent loves unconditionally.
- Be pleased for them when things go well; be confident in them when things don’t go so well.
- Value simple pleasures, easy sharing, quiet talks, lots of affection, play and laughter.
- Consider what you enjoy most about being a parent; do more of that.” –from Choosing Happiness.

As Christian parents, there is nothing as meaningful or motivating in life as being “used” by God to communicate His love, care and forgiveness to our children by our guiding hands. Of all the kindness we might confer on our children, perhaps the greatest is to lead them to realise their potential for goodness and then to live it.

“Lord, we ask You to strengthen us in our role as parents. Help us to be positive, encouraging, appreciative and supportive of each other as we guide our children’s lives to reflect Your goodness and love. Amen.”

### BBQ

A reminder that our family BBQ (sausages in bread) to welcome the new year is being held next Tuesday 16\textsuperscript{th} February. There will be two flat rates for the night: $5 for small families (3 people or less), $10 for larger families. Payment can be made on the night, but it would be preferable for families to send an envelope with their name and money and number of family members attending so that we can order enough food for the night. Please BYO drinks and picnic blankets or chairs. The BBQ will commence at 6.00pm.

### Food Allergies

Please remember when packing lunches that we have an increasing number of students with severe food allergies. We ask all parents and children to avoid all forms of nuts and nut products when selecting snacks and sandwich spreads. Whilst we are not banning the above mentioned products we are encouraging parents to restrain from packing these in children’s lunch boxes, particularly if your child is in a class with a child who has an anaphylactic reaction to nuts or nut products. I thank everyone for their cooperation in this very important area.

*Please also note that we do not encourage children to share lunches/snacks during recess or lunch times.

### Parent Teacher Meetings

Parent Teacher meetings will take place on Tuesday 23\textsuperscript{rd} February commencing at 2.00pm. These meetings are an opportunity for the parents to share with teachers any information that may be relevant to their child’s progress throughout the year. It can be strengths, weaknesses, likes/dislikes etc. It is an important time to chat to your child’s teacher about your child and what is special about them. If you are unable to attend please endeavour to arrange another time with your child’s teacher. *Thank you.*

Letters with booking details will be emailed home today and handed out to students this week.

### Get the App!

If you haven’t got the school app then we suggest you download it. We intend to make greater use of it this year so go to the app store to download it. As mentioned last week, it’s free!!
Upcoming Term 1 Dates

WEEK 3
Wednesday 10th February - Ash Wednesday
Prep day off

WEEK 4
Tuesday 16th February - Welcome BBQ
Wednesday 17th February - School Committee Meeting 7.00pm
Thursday 18th February - Reconciliation Parent Meeting 7.00pm
Friday 19th February - District Swimming

WEEK 5
Tuesday 23rd February - Parent Teacher Interviews commencing from 2.00pm
Wednesday 24th February - Preps at School, Athletics Carnival
Thursday 25th February - Prep day off

WEEK 6
Wednesday 2nd March - Division Swimming
Friday 4th March - Whole School Mass at Church 9.30am
School Canteen Day (order forms to follow shortly)

WEEK 7
Wednesday 9th—11th March - Grade 5 Camp (Rawson)

WEEK 8
Monday 14th March - LABOUR DAY PUBLIC HOLIDAY
Wednesday 16th March - School Committee Meeting 7.00pm
Thursday 17th March - St. Joseph’s Day (Whole School Liturgy)
Regional Swimming
Friday 18th March - SCHOOL CLOSURE

WEEK 9
Wednesday 23rd - Thursday 24th March - Grade 4 Camp (Forest Edge)
Thursday 24th March - Stations of the Cross, Easter Raffle

END OF TERM 2.20PM

PLEASE NOTE:
SCHOOL PHOTOS WERE LISTED IN LAST WEEK’S NEWSLETTER AS FRIDAY 19TH FEBRUARY THIS WAS INCORRECT.
SCHOOL PHOTOS ARE BEING HELD ON MONDAY 18TH APRIL.
To assist with communication between teachers and parents, please find teacher email addresses listed below. Please remember that teachers will respond to emails when they are able, during office hours, and this will not necessarily be as soon as you have emailed them. If you need to contact the school immediately, ringing reception is still the best option on 5623 2943. The principal email address is listed on the front page of the newsletter.

Office Admin - kbarrett@stjwarragul.catholic.edu.au, drobbins@stjwarragul.catholic.edu.au
Prep Paulger - tpaulger@stjwarragul.catholic.edu.au
Prep Wans - lwans@stjwarragul.catholic.edu.au
One/Two Barry - vbarry@stjwarragul.catholic.edu.au, kford@stjwarragul.catholic.edu.au, jhawes@stjwarragul.catholic.edu.au, cjeffers@stjwarragul.catholic.edu.au, kthompson@stjwarragul.catholic.edu.au
One/Two Ford - dakota@stjwarragul.catholic.edu.au, hrudenis, addison@stjwarragul.catholic.edu.au
One/Two Hawes - sbonder@stjwarragul.catholic.edu.au, jhawes@stjwarragul.catholic.edu.au, jhawes@stjwarragul.catholic.edu.au
One/Two Jeffers - mischa@stjwarragul.catholic.edu.au, xavier@stjwarragul.catholic.edu.au
One/Two Thompson - shaylah@stjwarragul.catholic.edu.au
Three/Four Dodman - nmdonald@stjwarragul.catholic.edu.au, smaunder@stjwarragul.catholic.edu.au, mmoritz@stjwarragul.catholic.edu.au, mshannon@stjwarragul.catholic.edu.au
Three/Four EA - rebekah@stjwarragul.catholic.edu.au, isak@stjwarragul.catholic.edu.au, rleary@stjwarragul.catholic.edu.au, mshannon@stjwarragul.catholic.edu.au
Three/Four Maunder - william@stjwarragul.catholic.edu.au, stella@stjwarragul.catholic.edu.au
Three/Four Shannon - mackenzie@stjwarragul.catholic.edu.au, tarynt@stjwarragul.catholic.edu.au
Three/Four Thompson - shayla@stjwarragul.catholic.edu.au, liam@stjwarragul.catholic.edu.au

Awards Term 1, Week - 2

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CLASS</th>
<th>PRINCIPAL AWARD</th>
<th>CLASS AWARD</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prep Paulger</td>
<td>Libby Faithful</td>
<td>Nic Wilms</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prep Wans</td>
<td>Tanisha Warn</td>
<td>Jackson Marx</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One/Two Barry</td>
<td>John Huggins</td>
<td>Thomas Kent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One/Two Ford</td>
<td>Dakota Eade</td>
<td>Harvie Dennis, Addison Heenan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One/Two Hawes</td>
<td>Sienna Hodder</td>
<td>Jaxon Cook</td>
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<tr>
<td>One/Two Jeffers</td>
<td>Mischa Ward</td>
<td>Xavier Ridsdale</td>
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<tr>
<td>One/Two Thompson</td>
<td>Shayla Hughes</td>
<td>Liam Considine</td>
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<tr>
<td>Three/Four Dodman</td>
<td>Noah McDonald</td>
<td>Sahara Hammond</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Three/Four EA</td>
<td>Rebekah Schreyer</td>
<td>Isaac Kittelty</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Three/Four Maunder</td>
<td>William Kent</td>
<td>Stella Dennis</td>
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<tr>
<td>Three/Four Shannon</td>
<td>Mackenzie Heenan</td>
<td>Tarynt Davidson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Five/Six Baker</td>
<td>Aaron Borg</td>
<td>Zali Metcalfe</td>
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<tr>
<td>Five/Six Clancy</td>
<td>Jorja Cardillo</td>
<td>Cooper Pertzel</td>
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<tr>
<td>Five/Six Farina</td>
<td>Luke Garner</td>
<td>Izzy Jones</td>
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<tr>
<td>Five/Six Silver</td>
<td>Rhianna Somerville</td>
<td>Paige Smith</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
**Religious Education & Parish News**

**Weekend Mass Times For The Parishes of Warragul & Drouin:**
- Warragul: Saturday 7pm & Sunday 9am
- Drouin: Sunday 10.30am
- Neerim Sth: Saturday 5.30pm

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WEEK</th>
<th>FRIDAY MASS/LITURGY</th>
<th>DISPLAY</th>
<th>MONDAY ASSEMBLY</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>12th February</td>
<td>Grade 3/4 Moritz/Leary</td>
<td>Grade 3/4 Dodman</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Grades 1/2 Barry, Jeffers, Hawes</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>19th February</td>
<td>Grade 3/4 Moritz/Leary</td>
<td>Grade 5/6 Silver</td>
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<td>Grade 1/2 Ford &amp; Thompson</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>26th February</td>
<td>Grade 1/2 Barry</td>
<td>Grade 1/2 Jeffers</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Grade 5/6 Mass</td>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>4th March</td>
<td>Grade 1/2 Barry</td>
<td>Grade 3/4 Shannon</td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>WHOLE SCHOOL MASS AT CHURCH</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>11th March</td>
<td>Grade 5/6 Clancy</td>
<td>Grade 1/2 Ford</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>NO MASS</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Thursday 17th March</td>
<td>Grade 5/6 Clancy</td>
<td>Grade 1/2 Thompson</td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>WHOLE SCHOOL LITURGY</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>ST. JOSEPH’S DAY</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Thursday 24th March</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>Grade 5/6 Farina</td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>Stations of the Cross</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>WHOLE SCHOOL</strong></td>
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**Cup Of Tea For Liz**
A cup of tea will be held after the 9am Mass St. Joseph’s Church Warragul this Sunday (14th Feb) to thank Liz Schellekens for her work in St. Joseph’s Parish as the Sacrament/Catechist coordinator. Could parishioners please bring a plate of morning tea to share. Inquiries: Joan Robertson: 56231642

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**Wellbeing - Michael Tomkins**

**Encouraging**
Are you an encourager? Are you a positive person to be around whereby you encourage others to do their best and be their best? Encouragement can take many forms and all of them can be meaningful to the person being encouraged. Giving people the faith to try an activity for the first time may require encouragement. By the same token it may well mean you encourage someone who has not done something as well as they had hoped.

In schools, teachers are forever encouraging students as well as giving them positive feedback. Sometimes, as most parents will experience over a student’s education, the teacher has quite a deal of influence on the child. Little words can have enormous impact at times. This means encouraging someone to complete a task, have a go at a task or even continue to do an even better job. A positive attitude from the student to the task goes a long way and encouragement from teachers/parents can help as well. Also encouraging by letting them learn from mistakes, and to problem solve at times will assist in their social and emotional development.
RECONCILIATION 2016
Thank you to all the parents and children who attended the information session and commitment masses last week. If you have yet to return your purple enrolment form or photo, please drop them off to Mr. Thompson, Ruth at the Parish Office or bring them to the next parent session on Thursday February 18th at 7pm in the Marian Room at St. Joseph’s Church. Please call Ruth at the Parish Office on 56231642 if you have further questions. Below are all the dates for the program.

Parent Meeting – Thursday 18th February, 7.00pm
(Drouin Wednesday 17th, 7.00pm St. Ita’s Church)
Parent/child Workshop 1 – Thursday 3rd March, 4pm or 7pm
(Drouin Wednesday 2nd March, 7pm, St Ita’s Hall)
Parent/child Workshop 2 – Thursday 10th March, 4pm or 7pm
(Drouin Wednesday 9th March, 7pm St Ita’s Hall)
SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION – Thursday 17th March, 7pm

Sacrament Contribution Increase
Please note that the cost for Sacraments has increased from $25 to $30 for 2016. This is the first increase for a number of years. Also, due to Diocesan policy, families from St. Joseph’s Primary School will now pay the full amount, i.e. $30 directly to the parish rather than have $10 subsidized through school fees. If you have any queries regarding this payment please contact Prue at the parish office on 5623 1642.

PROJECT COMPASSION
Project Compassion, Caritas Australia’s annual Lenten fundraiser, will be starting in the next few days. This appeal raises awareness and brings thousands of Australians together in solidarity with the world’s poor to help end poverty, promote justice and uphold dignity. Each year our school supports this important project by handing out boxes to all families to put in a prominent place at home. There will also be bigger boxes in each of the classrooms if your children would rather bring donations to school. These boxes will be coming home within the next week. Project Compassion is an extraordinary, ongoing demonstration of the faith, love and generosity of caring supporters, all in the name of justice and peace. It is the lifeblood of Caritas Australia; without it, they could not do the vital work they do. Thank you for your support.
**Parents & Friends Rosters & News**

### Bakers Delight at Coles Centrepoint

**Dough Raiser Program**

Simply mention St Joseph’s Primary school at the Bakers Delight near Coles, Williams Square in Warragul and they will give 5% of sales back to our school. Fresh bread tastes even better when you know it’s helping raise money for our school.

### Warragul Cinema Tickets

Warragul Cinema vouchers/tickets available for $13.00 from the school office.

### School Support Roster

Thank you to the families who have volunteered to be on the roster so far. Ideally we still need another 25 people to be part of this service you will only be required to provide a meal once a term. A roster will be sent out shortly. Please contact me if you are able to assist or leave your name at the office.

*Many Thanks, Naomi Simpson simpsons@bigpond.com*  
0438 558 152

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Names of Volunteers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8th February</td>
<td>Naomi Simpson, Danielle Auldist, Larissa Joyce</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15th February</td>
<td>Kathryn O’Leary, Helen Dalton, Leanne Dunsmuir</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22nd February</td>
<td>Katherine Vaughan, Melissa Patterson, Kellie Jones</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29th February</td>
<td>Michelle Ireland, Tania Thompson, Lauren Kew</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Cake Raffle Roster –Friday at Assembly 50 Cents

Once again we are wanting volunteers to form part of our Cake raffle roster for Friday afternoon assemblies. We all know how the children love this treat on a Friday afternoon. Please remember no nuts when baking and to provide a list of ingredients with the cake. The cake is required at School by 2.00pm on a Friday afternoon so raffle tickets can be sold prior to assembly. If you are interested in this please contact me.

*Thanking you, Meg Height 0438 514027 or admin@thesummit.net.au.*

### St Joes Playgroup

Every Monday morning at 9.30am or straight after morning assembly in the Art Room (old Staffroom)  
All Welcome  
For further information contact  
Contact Silvia 0418 764 954 or silviantony@vic.australis.com.au

### Icy Poles Term 1 Wednesdays

If we are to continue Icy poles on Wednesdays, then we desperately need the support of parents to run this during lunch time on Wednesdays. If you can help please contact the school office or Meg Height, P&F president 0438 514027.
**Sports News - Melia Silver**

**SSV Cricket State Team Trials**
The trials for the SSV state cricket team are now open for children playing cricket at an elite level. As a school we are able to nominate 3 girls and 3 boys to go to the trials. If you are interested in your child attending these trial please contact Melia Silver for more information. Parents will be responsible for taking children to trials.

27th January – 19th February : Nomination period open – Schools to nominate via online form

Trials at:
- Wonthaggi - Friday 4th March. 9.30 – 11.00am Nets at Wonthaggi Turf
- Leongatha - Friday 4th March. 1.00 – 2.30pm Nets at Leongatha PS/Town. CC
- Yarragon - Wednesday 9th March. 10.00 – 11.30am (Downton Park nets)
- Bairnsdale - Thursday 10th March. 10.00 – 11.30am Wy Yung Nets
- Sale - Thursday 10th March. 1.00 – 2.30pm Sale Oval

**District Swimming**
The District Swimming sports will be held next Friday the 19th February at the Drouin Outdoor pool. Mr Shannon and Mrs Silver will be supervising the children at this event. Any parents interested in attending the day are welcome to travel with us on the bus.

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**Library News - Barb Bird**

**Book Club**
Issue One Book Club flyers were sent home at the end of last week. Should you wish to make a purchase please forward orders to the school by this Friday, 12th February. Orders will then be processed. Hopefully you won’t be kept waiting too long for your orders to be filled. Online ordering through the loop system will remain open over the weekend. We thank you for taking the time to preview the books on offer.

**Library Bags**
Great to see so many library bags being used during the first week of term. There are still bags available to be purchased for a donation of $2.50.

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**What’s Happening In And Around Classrooms**

**Wanted/Needed**
Mrs. Leary (Art Teacher) is in need of Lifestyle magazines and cleaned empty yogurt or butter containers to use during Art Classes. If you are able to help out with any of these items could you please drop them into the Art Room. Thanking you.
Hookin2Hockey
A fun, safe and inclusive environment for children to learn the basic hockey skills in a modified game based environment for ages 5-12 Boys & Girls.

WHERE: Hockey Field, Bellbird Park, Drouin
WHEN:    Monday afternoons for 4 weeks commencing 29th Feb
TIME:  5.00pm—6.00pm
COST:    $60.00
For more information contact
Natalie 0499 601 411 or www.hookin2hockey.org.au
Presented by West Gippsland Hockey Association & Gippsland Bulls Hockey Club

Camps, Sports And Excursions Fund
Payment Arrangements For 2016
The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund (CSEF) applications forms can now be handed in to Kitty at the office. If you need an application please contact Kitty.
Families holding a valid means-tested concession card are eligible to apply. A special consideration category also exists.
A payment of $125 for eligible primary school students and $225 for eligible secondary school students will be paid directly to the school to be used towards camps, sports and excursion costs for the benefit of the student.

School Crossings Are Cool
1. Children should always make sure there is at least one flag placed in the crossing post to make it legal. Most commonly a crossing is a legal crossing when two flags are in place, however sometimes the post is missing then one flag is required.
2. Children and adults who are crossing at a children’s crossing must comply with the supervisor’s directions.
3. You must always stand behind the yellow line.
4. Never follow the children’s crossing supervisor out onto the crossing—WAIT! They must go out first, when they have blown their whistle (2 short blasts) it is safe to cross.
5. DO NOT ride bikes across the crossing, bounce a ball, fight, muck around or run - WALK QUICKLY AND SAFELY.
6. ALWAYS stay within the lines of crossing and walk in front of the supervisor (never behind them).
7. The children’s crossing supervisor will always wait until it is safe before they walk out and blow their whistle.
8. Cars are not allowed to park on or around the crossing. The crossing area is usually signed NO STOPPING. The clearance around the crossing is for the safety of pedestrians. (YOUR SCHOOL AND YOUR CHILD).
9. Always be alert and listen to what your children’s crossing supervisor says.
10. REMEMBER ALWAYS CROSS AT THE CHILDREN’S CROSSING WHEN IT IS IN OPERATION.
    “IT’S COOL TO USE A SCHOOL CROSSING
Is our faith a light on the path of life? How often do we turn to God in prayer? Do we prioritise coming together as a parish community to celebrate the Eucharist? If not, why not?

Spending time with God in prayer, reflecting on life, thanking God for all our blessings, asking for His assistance, and opening ourselves to His love is an essential part of our Christian life. Communal prayer, especially the weekend celebration of the Eucharist, is a wonderful gift to share with our family and friends in OUR PARISH COMMUNITY.

During this Stewardship Program, we are invited to re-commit to a life of prayer and the weekly celebration of the Eucharist—to make it a priority in our lives. In this way we will help ensure that OUR PARISH COMMUNITY continues to 

**PARISH INFORMATION MEETING**

**When:** Tuesday, 23 February 2016 at 7:30 PM  
**Where:** Marian Room, St Joseph’s Church

- Discuss our achievements  
- Hear about our plans  
- Discuss what it means to be part of  
- Our Parish Community

**Who:** EVERYONE IS INVITED!  
**RSVP:** at Mass this weekend or email to  
Michael.iaccarino@cam.org.au

Go to Mass, not just to pray, but to receive Communion, the bread that is the Body of Jesus Christ who loves us, forgives us, unites us to the Father. It is a beautiful thing to do!

And we go to Mass every Sunday because that is the day of the resurrection of the Lord. That is why Sunday is so important to us. And in the Eucharist we feel this belonging to the Church, to the People of God, to the Body of God, to Jesus Christ.

*We will never completely grasp the value and richness of it.*  
-Pope Francis - 5 February 2014