



GOSPEL CONNECTIONS

The Great Commission



So many times in a single day we are given the chance to share the love of God, but often we are so afraid of what others may think that we put it aside. We let our thoughts get in the way of actions that could possibly save a life for Christ. Sometimes we just have to break out of our shell

and let others know the greatness of God. Witnessing can be a smile that lets others know someone cares, or it may be actually sitting down and telling others about the gospel story.

When given the chance, let others know that someone cares. Share the love of Christ today with someone who really needs him.

A woman saw a little girl in the street playing with rubbish. The child was poorly dressed and ill-nourished. The woman became angry and said to God, 'Why do you let a thing like that happen in the world you created? Why don't you do something about it?' God replied, 'I did something about it – I sent you'.

This week's gospel passage has become known as Jesus' Great Commission – his final instructions to his followers. After the events of Jesus' death and resurrection, the disciples probably wished they had listened more closely and carefully to what Jesus had to say. Undoubtedly, they were listening carefully by this time: and so should we!

Jesus challenged his disciples with a commission, kind of like a job assignment. The disciples were to spread Jesus' message to the entire earth, making new disciples. And the best part was, the disciples didn't have to go alone. The Holy Spirit would be with them all the way.

Jesus' Great Commission is our calling too. The message of God's love and forgiveness is for people of all nations. But we don't have to travel far – our jobs starts right at our front door with our friends, families, and neighbours. The job requirements? Someone who's willing to speak up about God's incredible love.

You have the message. Think of how it's changed your life. Jesus has also promised to stick by your side through everything. So what are you waiting for?

FIRST RECONCILIATION/FIRST EUCHARIST
(HOLY COMMUNION)

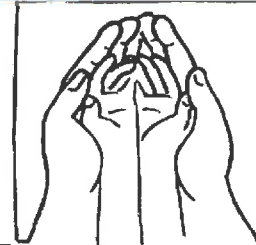
We will be commencing preparation for these two Sacraments in the week following Queens Birthday weekend. A note will go home early next week with the children who have indicated their desire to receive these wonderful next steps in their sacramental journey. The letter will contain further date, details and the expectations for the children and their families/whanau as they commit to undertaking this preparation.

We will be using a new programme this year which will involve both the child and their parent(s)/caregiver/whanau.

We are really thrilled with the number of children who are expressing the desire to participate in this programme, and to grow in their relationship with God. Preparation for Baptism is available on request. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to ask. No question is a dumb question!

Mā te Atua koe e tiaki

God be with you



Forgiveness

COMING UP EVENTS

TERM 2

June	Monday 5	QUEENS BIRTHDAY
	Tuesday 6	Scripture reading Competition
	Tuesday 13	St Joseph's Cross Country (Pp day Friday 16)
	Wednesday 14	7 Aside Tournament
	Wednesday 26	Inter-school Cross Country (Pp Friday 30)
July	Wednesday 5	First Reconciliation
	Friday 7	End of term 2

FAITH FACTS



This week is the second anniversary of Pope Francis Document Laudato Si. In the document "On Care for Our Common Home" Pope Francis addresses issues on environmentalism, poverty, science, technology and





other topics such as urban planning, agricultural economics, and biodiversity. He talks about our responsibility and need to care for our home including the environment and the people. This document has been applauded by both political and religious leaders. "As Pope Francis reaffirms, climate change is an all-encompassing threat. ... I applaud the Pope for his strong moral and ethical leadership. We need more of such inspired leadership. Will we see it at the climate summit in Paris?" (Kofi Annan, the former UN

secretary-general).

22 May-26 May Ascension Sunday



Father John O'Connor has an excellent post on his Food for Faith site on Jesus' Ascension. He says, "Most people think of the Ascension of Jesus as being a 'departure' moment. Jesus was here and now he is gone... It would be easy to wrongly think that his ministry showed us how to build the city of God on earth, and now

he has gone and the mission is left to us. This is the error... In fact Jesus has not left this mission to us alone. Our mission is always Jesus' mission. HE is the missionary. We are the loved servants.... We are never alone. Jesus is with us. Read more here <https://goo.gl/3iE30V>

CROSS COUNTRY

St Joseph's School is running the interschool cross country this year at the Dannevirke Show Grounds and we really need your help. We need marshals to be placed around the course and a quad bike with a driver. We also need electric fence stands and electric fence reels. If you are able to help with any of these jobs please contact the school office and leave your details with Sheryl.

BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS



Abby Lean
& Jack
O'Brien

CARITAS WATER CHALLENGE



FAVOURITE BOOK CHARACTER DAY



Room 1

LAST WORD

God has blessed you with the
ability to achieve your goals...
the courage to pursue your
dreams...
the faith to believe in His promises.

Nenah Kelemete
Principal

