



GOSPEL CONNECTIONS

Christ's Really Here – Are You?



Don't we have pictures or letters we keep close for lonely nights or painful days? We find them when we

need a reminder that people really do care. I don't know about you, but the people I love seem really present when I see them in a picture or read letters they wrote to me.

If that makes sense to you, then you are on your way to understanding Christ's real presence in the Eucharist. Early Christians scared some people because they talked about eating someone's body and blood. Obviously, that's not what Christians do. But Christ is fully present in the forms of bread and wine, even though you cannot physically observe it.

Remembering a close friend who isn't physically present can remind you that you are loved and cared for. Your friend's presence can still be very real at those times. How much more can Jesus Christ – who is truly present in the Eucharist – offer us comfort, strength, and challenge when we eat and drink at the Eucharistic table.

Here's something else to think about. This week don't ask whether Christ is really present during the Mass. Ask yourself whether you are really present. Let's say you call a friend on the phone for help. He or she can be really present as a good listener and adviser. But if you aren't really present – if you don't pay attention or open your mind – then you're likely to miss the support your friend is offering. The same is true during the Eucharist. Focus in the coming weeks on being really present during Mass. Greet the people sitting next to you. Listen and respond to the prayers and readings. Sing the songs. As you receive the body and blood, pray for strength and guidance in problems you face. I guarantee you'll meet a great friend there just waiting for you.

When have you found strength, hope, comfort, or peace during a Mass?

MUFTI-MANIA

MuftiMania



FRIDAY 7 JULY 2017

Gold Coin Donation

As part of our Special Character and Charism we annually support Caritas in this event.

Nawi Catholic Primary School in Fiji needs our help to get power and access to new books. Lets all give what ever we can to support this project

SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION

Preparation has begun for firstly First Reconciliation and then continuing on to First Eucharist (First Holy Communion) Congratulations to Keeley and Imani Lesley, Charlotte Fairweather, Kewa Kelemete, Kordae

Timu, Jack and Ruby O'Brien, Gemma and John Barrow, Marlee Cantwell, Taylor Jefferies, Sophie, Cameron and Jac Anderson and Jayden Joseph on their commitment to continuing their Sacramental journey.

We ask you to keep these children in your prayers over the coming months.

First Reconciliation will be celebrated on Wednesday 5 July at 6 p.m

First Holy Communion Sunday 17 September during the 9 a.m. Mass



COMING UP EVENTS

TERM 2		
June	Wednesday 28	Inter-school Cross Country (Pp Friday 30)
	Thursday 29	Sacramental programme
July	Wednesday 5	First Reconciliation
	Friday 7	Mufti-mania End of term 2
TERM 3		
July	Monday 24	Term begins
	Thursday 27	Board of Trustees meeting
September	Sunday 17	First Holy Communion





SCHOOL UNIFORM

We have been contacted by Schooltex for feedback on how purchasing our school uniform through The Warehouse is going. Could you please email me with any concerns and I will forward to Schooltex. I have already had feedback that stock levels are not what they should be so I will be commenting on this. Thank you. Sheryl admin@stjosephsdvke.school.nz

CROSS COUNTRY

Thank you so much for your support and for all the helping hands on Tuesday. It was a challenging day, but we got there in the end. Congratulations to all the children who went out and gave it all. We are very proud of your perseverance.

SUPPORT STAFF DAY

Support Staff Day
was Wednesday, 14
June.



This year NZEI is recognising and celebrating the true value of support staff, which is gaining momentum through our claims for pay equity.

They know it's hard for support staff to

stay upbeat when negotiations over their collective agreement have been so disappointing and slow.

However, the good news is the Government has committed to progressing pay equity in general, and has prioritised teacher aides in particular. We're going to hold them to that!

There is hope. Aged care workers won 20 to 40 percent pay rises as part of their successful battle for pay equity. They showed what's possible, when people come together in a union to fight for what is fair and just.

Thank you for all that you do Sheryl Berry, Jo Phillips and Katrina Smith.

**BETTER FUNDING
FOR SUPPORT STAFF
BETTER LEARNING
FOR KIDS**

BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS



**HAPPY
BIRTHDAY**

**WILLIAM
MURPHY
&
OLIVER HAUTAPU**

LAST WORD



Like the roots
of a tree, plant
your trust deep
in the Lord...

Like the
branches of the
tree, reach out
for new

discoveries of His love...

Like the fruit of the tree, continue
to allow God to make your life a
blessing.

Nenah Kelemete
Principal

