



25 March 2020

Prayer

A Prayer to St Joseph, the Great Protector

St Joseph,

You were receptive to God working in your life.

Help us by your prayers at this time of trial.

You kept Jesus and Mary under your watchful care:
may your prayers assist our local Church to respond to those in need.

You taught the Christ Child your trade and prayers:
help us to follow his example of love.

You were part of God's plan for all humanity:
assist us to be vigilant and responsible this day.

You spent your life in service:

may we be mindful of others, particularly the elderly and vulnerable, caring for them in these difficult days.

You trusted in the clear primacy of God over all history and every situation: help us to grow in faith and pray to the Father, Thy will be done.

Amen

Principal

With the COVID-19 (coronavirus) pandemic dominating news bulletins and social media, I would like to reassure the College community that CRCCS is well prepared. At the time of writing, we have not had any staff member or student test positive to the COVID-19 virus at Catholic Regional College Caroline Springs. However, if a student or member of their family is being tested, please inform the College.

Parents and carers would have received letters from me via SEQTA and email this week with regular updates. Families please note that the College is now closed from **Wednesday**

25 March until Tuesday 14 April and as previously advised, Term 1 concluded for students and their holidays began on Tuesday 24 March.

On Monday we held a Remote Learning Trial and feedback has been positive from both teachers and students. Most students logged in and completed the work set for each lesson. There were no reports of students having technical difficulties and many have enjoyed the change of mode of delivery, enthusiastically entering into the SEQTA forums set up by teachers.

Regarding Term 2 and the continuity of student learning, the trial has been satisfying in that we now know that the system that we have set up can cope with the demand and that productive and effective learning can still take place remotely for students in the short term. Staff and students are now well-prepared in the event of further school closures, should they occur.

Term 2 is due to commence for staff on Tuesday 14 April and for students on **Wednesday 15 April**. However, this may change and the College will keep you informed after taking advice from the various education, health and government bodies, including the Victorian Chief Health Officer. The Term 1 Interim Reports will be made available on Friday 27 March via SEQTA Engage. The report will provide a summary of progress made during the first eight weeks of Semester One. The Student-Parent-Teacher Interviews, scheduled for Tuesday April 21, will no longer take place. At this stage Tuesday April 21 will now be a regular school day for all students in Years 7-10, unless notified otherwise.

We are living in complex and somewhat disconcerting times but it is important to remain calm, keep informed, and pray for those who are most vulnerable to the virus. This is indeed a time for us all to demonstrate compassion, care and patience towards each other. In difficult times, let's try to be people of faith, optimism and hope.

And as we approach Easter—the central foundation of our Christian faith... the day that Christ rose from the dead... the day that we celebrate the LIVING Christ—shouldn't it be a day that we confirm Christ living in us? As Easter approaches it is

important to ask ourselves, "Are we keeping Christ alive in our lives?"

"My old self has been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. So, I live in this earthly body by trusting in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me. I am not one of those who treat Christ's death as meaningless..." ~ Galatians 2:20-21

This Easter, as we approach the altar and partake of the 'body and blood' of our Living Saviour, let us all remember to let Christ live in us. Let us not be one of those who treat Christ's death as meaningless. Let his death and his resurrection be significant events not only in our religious lives, but in our daily lives as well.

Thank you,

It has been an absolute pleasure to again serve the Catholic Regional College Caroline Springs community this Term. We must remember that despite some challenging times, we have also had some wonderful achievements this term and much to celebrate. I ask that students take the time to reflect and enjoy these achievements, whilst also setting specific and realistic goals for Term 2. In these times of uncertainty may all members of the College community remember to truly live and breathe our 'Live Fully Act Justly' motto.

As we conclude Term 1, we give thanks for the many enriching experiences of life and learning at our College and we pray for a safe and restful time for students, staff and families over the holiday period. May the spirit of hope that Easter brings, inspire renewed energy, new goals and a strengthened resolve to live the Christian life in the footsteps of Jesus.

Mr Jamie Madigan
Principal

Mission and Faith Leader

With the closure of our parish churches and schools and the inability to gather in prayer as a community it is now more important than ever to take time for prayer and contemplation. Pope Francis on Sunday called for all Christians to respond to the coronavirus pandemic "with the universality of prayer, of compassion, of tenderness", adding "Let us remain united. Let us make our closeness felt toward those persons who are the most lonely and tried".

I invite all families and their children to access the following resource ***Faith and Spirituality in the Home*** to assist in your personal and family prayer life.

As Christians let us give our distresses to the Lord and remember the power of His grace.

May the joy of the risen Christ bring light and hope to your family this Easter season.

An excerpt from 'The Coronavirus and supernatural outlook' – A Country Priest Blog (Fr John Corrigan)

What's the best spiritual response?

The best response to fear — any fear — is: Name it. Claim it. Tame it.

Take it to prayer. What are you, personally, afraid of? Is it getting sick? Dying? Maybe it's someone else. An elderly relative. Or perhaps someone younger, who has a compromised immune system.

Whenever you're distressed — whether its cause is coronavirus or something else — give it to the Lord. If possible, hasten to the Tabernacle at the first opportunity, and stay there until you're at peace. Peace is God's will for you! "Peace be with you," he tells us. "My peace I give you. A peace the world cannot give, that is my gift to you."

Nonetheless, God doesn't work magic. Jesus chooses to work with us, not on us. So first we have to name, claim and tame. Our Lord, who is generous, provides powerful means:

- *Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. Any time before the Tabernacle is time well spent. It's transformative.*
- *Meditation. Be it meditative reading of the Gospels, or praying the Rosary, or the way of the Cross, or the prayer of silence. Meditative prayer focuses our thoughts and calms our nerves.*
- *Frequent Confession. Frequent Communion. The sacraments. The greatest means of all. Christ himself.*

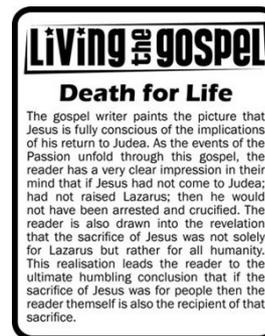
People out there are fearful. Some of them are your friends and neighbours. You help them a lot, when you seek the Lord's peace.

Fear and anxiety are the most contagious human affects. Science tells us that — and so does the scene of empty supermarket shelves. But you and I have the remedy. The grace of God. God Himself, in the sacraments.

The Lord calms us, and we calm others.

Gospel Focus

Fifth Sunday of Lent A – John 11:1-45



Gospel Focus

Friday 8:00am Mass suspended until further notice

In line with the new restrictions regarding the suspension of all religious liturgies Friday 8:00am Mass has been suspended until further notice. I thank you for your understanding and support.

Mr Paul Sammut
Mission and Faith Leader

Deputy Principal Learning and Teaching

Interim Reports 2020

Interim reports will be made available to parents/carers on Friday 27 March via SEQTA Engage. The report will provide a summary of progress made during the first eight weeks of Semester One.

The work habits for 2020 are outlined and described in greater detail for you below:

Demonstrates academic improvement

Applies effort

- Attempts all tasks
- Maintains attention in class
- Participates in class
- Cooperates and collaborates in class

Manages personal learning

- Brings correct materials to class
- Organisation
- Satisfactory completion of set homework, in a timely manner
- Seeks teacher support as required

Demonstrates appropriate behavior

- Punctuality
- Works respectfully with peers and teachers

If you have any questions regarding your child's report please contact their subject teacher to discuss further.

Student-Parent-Teacher Interviews

The Student-Parent-Teacher Interviews, scheduled for Tuesday April 21, will no longer take place. At this stage Tuesday April 21 will now be a regular school day for all students in Years 7-10, unless notified otherwise.

The Term 1 Interim Report will still indicate whether a Student-Parent-Teacher Interview was Welcomed or Requested, however, this is just for your information and will be used for future reference.

Deputy Principal Wellbeing

Helpful tips to support yourself and your family over the holidays

The current crisis is likely to cause feelings of stress and anxiety for many people, including our children and adolescents. It is helpful to remind ourselves that everyone responds to crises differently. For some people, they may experience higher levels of anxiety and stress, however others may be able to cope more effectively. It is important to remember that all feelings are ok and valid. In fact, experiencing discomfort, although unpleasant, can be a valuable opportunity for growth. In these situations, we can be reminded of the saying, 'this too shall pass'.

Here are some resources and suggestions for parents, students and families that may help to more effectively manage the discomfort that we are all feeling.

How parents can talk to their young person about COVID-19

https://schooltv.me/wellbeing_news/special-report-coronaviruses

Tips for coping with coronavirus anxiety

<https://www.psychology.org.au/getmedia/38073179-4701-48bd-afd9-988c560ee2f9/20APS-IS-COVID-19-P1.pdf>

<https://headspace.org.au/young-people/how-to-cope-with-stress-related-to-covid-19/>

Self Care - Tips during social distancing

<https://www.psychology.org.au/getmedia/d7cb8abd-3192-4b8f-a245-ace9b8ef44d5/20APS-IS-COVID-19-Isolation-P1.pdf>

<https://kidshelpline.com.au/teens/issues/looking-after-yourself>

COVID-19 specific support for young people

<https://kidshelpline.com.au/coronavirus>

Online and Telephone Support

Kids Help Line 1300 22 4636

<https://kidshelpline.com.au/get-help/webchat-counselling>

Beyond Blue 13 11 14

<https://www.beyondblue.org.au/get-support/national-help-lines-and-websites>

Lifeline 1800 55 1800

<https://www.lifeline.org.au/>

Headspace

<https://headspace.org.au/eheadspace/>

Ms Eloise Sternar, Mr Jamie Barnett, Ms Jessica Schembri
Counselling Team

2022 Enrolment for Year 7

Enrolment applications for 2022 Year 7 are now open. You can download the application form from our website. Applications close Friday 21 August 2020.

Parents who have children attending the College and have siblings in Year 5 will still need to complete an enrolment form.

Finance Department

School Fees

Payment plans for school fees are still available. Please download a direct debit form and return it to Reception at your earliest convenience.

Camps Sports Excursions Fund

CSEF Applications are now open and will close on 26 June 2020.

Who can Apply

To be eligible for the fund, a parent or legal guardian of a student attending a registered Government or non-government Victorian primary or secondary school must:

- on the first day of Term one, or on the first day of Term two
- 1. be an eligible beneficiary within the meaning of the State Concessions Act 2004, that is, be a holder of Veterans Affairs Gold Card or be an eligible Centrelink Health Care Card (HCC) or Pensioner Concession Card (PCC) holder, OR
- 2. be a temporary foster parent, and;
- 3. submit an application to the school by the due date.

* A special consideration eligibility category also exists. For more information, see the link below:

<http://www.education.vic.gov.au/about/programs/Pages/csef.aspx>

Year 9 & 10 Macbook Program

Year 9 & 10 Macbook program payment of \$490.00 is now overdue, If you have not paid for your child's 2020 Macbook please contact the College Finance department to arrange payment as soon as possible.

2021 Year 7 Macbook Program

Macbook program direct debits have commenced for Grade 6 students that have been accepted into Catholic Regional College Caroline Springs for 2021.

If you are having any problems with your direct debit or would still like to set up a payment plan please contact our Finance department.

The 2021 Macbook Program payment of \$1977 is due in full on **29 November 2020**.