On Monday we celebrated the Feast of the Assumption with a special Mass celebrated by Fr Joshy and organised by Year 6 and their teachers, Rebecca Cooper and Dan O’Brien assisted by Helene Boller, Religious Education Coordinator. Congratulations to the Year 6 children who took on various roles to assist in the Mass from readers to the Offertory Procession and a special thank you to our parents and parishioners who came along on the day to help celebrate the Mass. The children participated very reverently and the singing was outstanding.

As you are well aware the Walkathon is being held on September 16 and is a hot topic of conversation with the children at the moment, as they are busy networking amongst families and friends to seek sponsorship and organising various innovative ways of raising money. The children are bringing in their money each day which is fabulous. To date we have raised well over $500 which means that we have reached our first incentive which is pyjama day. This Friday the children are invited to come to school wearing their pyjamas but parents please ensure they have their joggers on as slippers will not be suitable foot attire.

A special mention—several on our students have gone to extreme lengths to raise money for the walkathon. Samantha Scott gave an impromptu speech to Murrumburrah/Harden Rotary Club on Tuesday night about the walkathon and as a result she raised $142 for the school. She has been invited back by the club to talk on how the fundraiser went! Well done Samantha—giving an impromptu speech can be extremely nerve racking!

Amber and Talia McKay conducted a cake stall outside Harden Bearings on Saturday and raised $134.20, Bella and Chaz Cooper raised $600 by auctioning 4 gold class tickets to the College Football Gridiron match to be played at ANZ Stadium on Sunday August 27. Thank you to Sam Quinn for winning the highest bidder and Kurtis Schoppema is having a sausage roll drive to raise money. Please place your orders with Kelly Potts by next Thursday! Yum!

Parents—we still need volunteers at check points and to cook the barbeque back at school. If you are able to assist on the day, please contact Mr Dan O’Brien at Trinity. If you are unable to assist, you may like to come along and walk the course with your child/children and join in on the fun. Upon return to school there will be a barbeque lunch for everyone.
BOOK WEEK - CHARACTER PARADE: Next week is Children’s Book Week. This year’s theme is Story Country. On Friday 26th August, Trinity will be conducting a book week parade on the basketball courts at 12:30pm. It would be wonderful if our parents, grandparents and special friends could come along to view the parade and stay and have recess with your child afterwards.

On Tuesday, August 23, the inaugural Archdiocesan Public Speaking Final will be held. Students from the Northern, Southern and Western Regions will converge at McCauley Catholic Central School Tumut to compete for the Archdiocesan Championship. The quality will be very high and parents and friends are welcome to attend. The competition begins at 10am. Congratulations and all the very best of luck to Emily Lenehan who is the sole Trinity entrant!

NAPLAN 2016 results will be sent home today to Year 3 and Year 5 parents. All students who participated in the NAPLAN tests will get an individual report of their results. NAPLAN individual student reports provide information about what students know and have achieved in the areas of reading, writing, language conventions and numeracy. They also provide information on how students have performed in relation to other students in the same year group, and against the national average (over one million students participate in NAPLAN tests each year) and the national minimum standards. These results are a snap shot of what the children can do and reflect their individual performance on the day of the testing. Should you have any questions or concerns please do not hesitate to contact your child’s class teacher or myself at Trinity.

Tomorrow I am at the Western Regions Principal meeting at Adelong. These meetings are conducted each Term and it is a great way of remaining connected to the Canberra-Goulburn Archdiocese and the Western Regions schools.

Have a wonderful week everyone.

God Bless

Marylou Gorham
Blessed are the merciful…’

Opening the Door of Mercy

Reflections on The Works of Mercy

‘To Feed The Hungry’

The practice of the works of mercy is a sure sign of the real presence of the Spirit of the risen Jesus in a disciple’s life. Hence, the beautiful tradition of the seven acts of mercy, corporal and then spiritual. Think of the wonderful painting, *The Seven Acts of Mercy*, by Caravaggio (circa 1607). It is housed in the Church of Pio Monte della Misericordia in Naples. Originally, it was meant to be seven separate panels around the church. However, Caravaggio produced arguably his greatest masterpiece by combining all seven mercies in one composite. The angel at the centre of Caravaggio’s altarpiece transmits the grace that inspires humanity to be merciful.

One ‘angel’ of grace for our times was Dorothy Day. She embodied living out the corporal works of mercy, especially ‘feeding the hungry’. What was the core of her charity? In Day’s own words: “We feed the hungry, yes. We try to shelter the homeless and give them clothes, but there is strong faith at work; we pray. If an outsider who comes to visit us doesn’t pay attention to our praying and what that means, then he’ll miss the whole point.”

At the heart of what Dorothy Day did were the ‘works of mercy’. For her, these were not simply obligations Our Lord imposed on his followers. As she said on one occasion to famous Harvard psychiatrist Robert Coles: “We are here to celebrate him through these works of mercy.”

That is why Day would insist: “Those who cannot see the face of Christ in the poor are atheists indeed.” This means she believed that Christ has left himself with us both in the Eucharist and in those in need. “What you did to the least person, you did to me.” ‘Feeding the hungry’ did not mean emphasis on a crass materialism. Day’s early followers tell the story of a donor coming into the offices of the Catholic Worker and giving Day a diamond ring. Day thanked her for it and put it in her pocket. Later, a rather demented lady came in – one of the more irritating regulars at the house. Day took the diamond ring out of her pocket and gave it to the woman. Someone on the staff said to Day: “Wouldn’t it have been better if we took the ring to the diamond exchange, sold it, and paid that woman’s rent for a year?” Day replied that the woman had her dignity and could do what she liked with the ring. She could sell it for rent money or take a trip to the Bahamas. Or she could enjoy wearing a diamond ring on her hand like the woman who gave it away. “Do you suppose,” Day asked, “that God created diamonds only for the rich?”

Day fed the hungry because she lived the ‘little way’. The phrase was one she borrowed from St Therese of Lisieux, the Little Flower. Change starts not in the future but in the present; not in Canberra or at the stock exchange but where I stand. Change begins in the ordinary actions of life, how I live minute to minute, what I do with my life, what I notice, what I respond to, the care and attention with which I listen, the way in which I respond.
As Day once put it: “Paperwork, cleaning the house, dealing with the innumerable visitors who come all through the day, answering the phone, keeping patience and acting intelligently, which is to find some meaning in all that happens – these things, too, are the works of mercy, and often seem like a very little way.”

Dorothy Day reminds us that we are here to follow Christ. Christ has told us plainly about the Last Judgement. We will be judged on our readiness to let the mercy of God pass through us to others. Love is the measure.

“Yes, I believe it is a time for mercy. The Church is showing her maternal side, her motherly face, to a humanity that is wounded. She does not wait for the wounded to knock on her doors, she looks for them on the streets, she gathers them in, she embraces them, she makes them feel loved.” —POPE FRANCIS, ‘THE NAME OF GOD IS MERCY’

Next Sunday August 28, is our next Family Mass at St Anthony’s. Come along and bring your children and help celebrate this special Mass together. A note will be sent home next week inviting families to attend and assist at the Mass in the choir or as a reader.

Peace and Blessings on your week

Helene Boller
AT THE SPORTS DESK:

Congratulations to our students from Years 3 and 4 who participated in the Trent Barrett Shield against other schools in our region at Roberts Park last week. Although the day was on the cool side, the great spirit and sportsmanship displayed by our competitors warmed the hearts of all the spectators. Our Year 3/4 girls did particularly well and made it into the Grand final – well done!

We would like to thank Luke Branighan and his NRL team for making the event run so smoothly, and for his continued support for the students of Trinity. A special thank you to Miss Pieper who managed our teams, and to Patrick Davis who also assisted on the day.

A special good luck and best wishes to our students participating in the Archdiocesan Athletics Carnival today. We have an amazing number of children attending and we are very proud of you all to achieving so well in your events to get to this level. A special thank you to their parents for transporting the children to Canberra and supporting them on the day.

We have the following children competing in all the events listed below:

**100 metres:** 10 Year Girls - Georgia Squire-Wilson, 11 Year Boys - Hugh Squire-Wilson.


**Discus:** Junior Girls - Heidi O’Connor, 12 Year Girls - Katie-Rose O’Connor, 12 Year Boys - Harrison Hadley.
LIBRARY NEWS – BOOK WEEK - CHARACTER PARADE: Next week is Children’s Book Week. This year’s theme is Story Country. On Friday 26th August – as a way of celebrating Book Week, we are inviting students and teachers to come to school in costumes of a character or theme connected with a favourite story. A parade will be conducted under the shelter at 1.00 pm. Book Week is an exciting time to celebrate the wonderful world of story – it is also a great time to share/read stories together. During family time this week try to have ‘book chats’ and invite your children to share some insight into the books they are reading.

Some questions you could ask are:

Tell me about a character in your story.
What advice would you give to a character?
How do you think the story will end up?
What is the setting of the story?
What kind of book is it? (Narrative, information text etc)
What would you say to the author?
Why did you choose this book?

WALKATHON: This week we hit our first benchmark of $500. Thank you to all our students and families for their enthusiasm and determination with sponsor acquisition. We will celebrate this milestone with a Pyjama Day on Friday 19th August (this week) This is an out-of-uniform day, where our students can attend school sensibly attired in pyjama style clothing. Please ensure that children who choose to participate are warm and adequately protected from the weather, and wearing safe footwear. Please keep the momentum going with our Walkathon efforts as we strive to reach our target goal of $2,500!

May God’s blessings be with you

Dan O’Brien (Sports Coordinator & Librarian)
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location/Requirements</th>
<th>Start Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 24th August</td>
<td>K-2 Excursion</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 26th August</td>
<td>Book Week Parade</td>
<td>Basketball Court</td>
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<td>Friday 26th August</td>
<td>Year 1/2 Open House Assembly</td>
<td>Year 1/2 classroom</td>
<td>2:40pm</td>
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<td>Sunday 28th August</td>
<td>Family Mass</td>
<td>St Anthony’s</td>
<td>10:00am</td>
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<td>29th August – 2nd September</td>
<td>Sabbath Week National Literacy Numeracy Week</td>
<td>Open Classrooms showcasing Literacy and Numeracy Investigations</td>
<td>12:30-1:30pm</td>
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<td>Thursday 1st September</td>
<td>School Counsellor</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 8th September</td>
<td>School Mass</td>
<td>St Mary’s</td>
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<td>Friday 16th September</td>
<td>Walkathon</td>
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<td>9.30am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 16th September</td>
<td>Moira Nadjecki visiting Trinity</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 22nd September</td>
<td>Mercy Mass</td>
<td>St Mary’s</td>
<td>9:30am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 22nd September</td>
<td>Western Regions Choir Competition</td>
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Our Lady of Mercy Parish Harden

150 Club

please show your support by purchasing a ticket

$50-00 per ticket

(can’t afford the $50 then why not join a $25 Syndicate)

PRIZES
1st = $1600
2nd = $900
3rd = $500
4th = $150
5th = $100
then 5 draws of $50 ea
(so a great chance of a win-return)

Drawn – 16 October 2016
at our Parish Celebration Day
for tickets or enquiries please phone:
Maryanne Fitzgerald 63862200 (wk)
or
Evelyn Shea 63862550 (home)
Trinitarian
Term 3 Week 5

Sacred Heart Parish & School

BLACK & WHITE
Centenary Ball

Saturday 3 September 2016
7pm ~ Midnight
Silent Auction
Continuous Finger Food
Cootamundra Town Hall
Bar Facilities
Seating ~ tables of 10
Tickets $40pp
Available from Jak & Jill
Contact 6942 2612
for more information

LIVE MUSIC

The Young Ones Cootamundra