As we enter the second week of Advent, we remember that this is a time for prayer and preparation as we await the birth of Christ our Redeemer. Advent relieves us of our commitment in this fast-paced world. It slows us down. It makes us think. It makes us look beyond today to the “great tomorrow” of life. May this Advent season bring reflection and hope as we await the birth of Christ. One way in which we at Trinity can prepare for Advent is to give something to those less fortunate than we are. As you enter the school in the front office area, you will discover the “Giving Tree”. This is an opportunity to give to the poor in our community who are unable to have a Christmas as we do. Let us all give generously and bring to school an item for our Christmas hamper.

The year is rapidly drawing to a close. I look forward to the Year 6 Graduation on Friday night to pay tribute to our beautiful Year 6 students and their parents and to also say a sad farewell to them all as they adventure off to new beginnings at High school and to our Year 6 parents who are ending their long association with Trinity. The evening will commence with Mass at St Anthony’s Church Harden at 6:30pm. The Year 5 students need to attend the Mass to be part of the choir, the light of leadership ceremony and to farewell their Year 6 friends. A huge thank you to Julie Doolan and Penny Lucas for volunteering to organise the Mass and Supper and Jackson’s Bakery who have provided the Graduation cake as well as their beautiful outdoor area for the supper.

Yesterday the reports went home with each child. This is a wonderful opportunity to share the many achievements of your children and celebrate their successes. If you wish to discuss your child’s report please make an appointment with the class teacher.

Recently we conducted interviews at Trinity for the REC Executive release for K/1 and extra classroom support in the K-2 space. I am pleased to announce that Miss Matilda McConochie was successful in obtaining this position. Matilda has worked at Trinity in 2014 and is currently working at Bondi Public School and teaching Kinder since 2015 Sydney. We welcome Matilda to Trinity and we look forward to working with her in 2017.

Plans are well in place for 2017. The building renovation is almost finished. Yesterday the cementing of all the external areas was completed and plans are well in place for a hand over on January 10. The teachers and children are very excited and can’t wait to move into their new learning spaces. We are particularly excited about how we are staffing the two areas.

In case you were unable to attend the recent Information night the staffing plan is as follows:

**Working in the K-2 space: Monday and Tuesday from 9-3:15pm Helene Boller, Matilda McConochie and Kaitlin Pieper.**

Helen Boller will be released by Matilda for REC duties from 12pm on Monday and Tuesday which will enable Helene to teach Literacy and Numeracy in the morning block with Matilda and Kaitlin.

On **Wednesday and Thursday:** Helene Boller, Kaitlin Pieper and Penny Lucas will teach from 9 to 12pm during Literacy and Numeracy assisted by Megan Shea from 9:15 to 12:30pm. I will be in K-2 for an hour Monday to Friday teaching Numeracy with the class teacher and on Friday Helene and Kaitlin will teach all day with assistance from me during the Literacy and Numeracy block.

**Working in the Years 3-6 space:** Monday: Rebecca Cooper, Dan O’Brien and Ann Burns, on Tuesday Penny Lucas will join them as Classroom Support teacher, on Wednesday Rebecca, Dan & Ann will be given additional support by Anne Glover, on Thursday and Friday Julie Doolan will teach with Dan, Rebecca and Ann. Rebecca will be released by Julie for Assistant Principal duties from 12pm on Thursday and Friday which
will enable Rebecca to teach Literacy and Numeracy in the morning block. So as is evident we have 4 and sometimes teachers working in the learning spaces each day. Such an amazing amount of support which will result in focused teaching and improved learning outcomes for all students. This week I will be complete the staff profile of 2017 staff to give you some background about their experience and interests.

Kaitlin Pieper has been teaching at Trinity for 2 years. Kaitlin has a passion for teaching and is passionate about learning. She loves to create a friendly and welcoming learning environment. Kaitlin has the qualifications of Bachelor of Education and Graduate Certificate in Theology from the University of Newcastle. Kaitlin will be teaching Year 1/2 in 2017.

Penny Lucas has 17 years of teaching experience. She has been teaching at Trinity since 2011 where she has worked as Executive Release, Library teacher and Religious Education Coordinator. Prior to this Penny worked at Holy Family Gowrie from 2005 to 2010, St Philomena’s Moree 2003-2004 and Moree Public School 2001-2002 as Learning Support teacher. Penny has a passion for Drama, Literacy and working with Gifted and Talented students. Penny has the qualifications of Bachelor of Education UC and Graduate Diploma of RE ACU. We welcome Penny back to Trinity in 2017 from Maternity leave in the position of Classroom Support Teacher and Literacy focus teacher.

Anne Glover has been teaching for 25 years at Trinity Primary and Trinity Secondary School and Murrumburrah Public for a year. She will be working in the Library in 2017 as well as extra classroom support. Anne has the qualifications of Bachelor of Education and Diploma of Teaching UC. She has a passion for Science and Visual Arts.

Julie Doolan has been teaching at Trinity since 1989 and she is looking forward to returning to Trinity in 2017 in a part time and relief capacity. Julie holds the qualifications of Bachelor of Education from Edith Cowan University and Diploma of Teaching from ACU. Julie has a particular passion for Religious Education, Mathematics, PD/H/PE and organising events.

Matilda McConochie has worked at Trinity in 2014 and is currently working at Bondi Public School and teaching Kinder since 2015. We welcome Matilda to Trinity and we look forward to working with her in 2017. She has a passion for teaching, especially Infants.

Leanne Davis has worked at Trinity in the front office since 2002. Leanne is looking forward to continuing in this position for 2017.

Carmel Babos has worked at Trinity since 2009 as a classroom teacher and then as School Chaplain since 2011. Prior to that Carmel worked as a teacher at Mount Carmel at Yass for 8 years, St Joseph’s Orange for 11 years, St Raphael’s Cowra for several years, at Dungog Primary School for 2 years and at Northmead High in Sydney for a year. Carmel is passionate about seeing students achieving with their learning.

Ann Burns and Megan Shea are Classroom Support Assistants and will continue to work at Trinity in 2017. Ann has qualifications as a Learning Support Assistant and Megan is currently studying a Certificate 3 course at TAFE and plans to convert it to a Certificate 4 along with Ann in 2018. Wow—what an experienced, dedicated and well qualified staff we have!
Did you see the wonderful gingerbread houses on Face Book? A special thank you to Rebecca Cooper and Kirsty Summerfield who organised the gingerbread house decorating. Unfortunately, I was at the Principal retreat and unable to attend but the Cooper family made mine which will be raffled on the last day for Caritas. Tickets will be sold from Monday December 12.

The children enjoyed their fun day at the pool yesterday which was a result of all the great lengths the students went to raise funds for the Walkathon. Well done Trinity students and staff with a total of $6500 being raised. You rock!

God Bless

Marilyn Gorham
Is Jesus “the One” for You?

This Sunday is the third Sunday in Advent. It was traditionally known as Gaudete or Rejoice Sunday. The rose candle is lit this as we focus on Joy.

Is Jesus really “the One”? The answer for a person I knew was ‘no’.

This guy really wanted fame and status. He wanted a big bank account and all the stuff that comes with it. He wanted popularity. He was, after all, a bartender at a popular bar.

Clearly Jesus wasn’t the One for him. Following Jesus doesn’t guarantee all those things.

John the Baptist had his doubts too, according to this week’s Gospel. But John was looking for different things. He hungered for a world where people opened their eyes to injustice, where people disabled by disease or poverty could live with dignity, where each person lived to spread God’s message of peace. Look around, Jesus told John’s followers, and give John hope by telling him about the world I’m creating and teaching others to create.

How about you this Advent? Is Jesus the One for you? It will depend on what you are looking for in life. He is the One for a lot of people: Jack, who proclaims the Good News to the poor by teaching in one of the remotest parts of Western Australia; the volunteers who support the homeless; the children who struggle daily to maintain dignity in abusive homes; those who fight for the rights of refugees.

If you hunger for the same world John the Baptist hoped to create, and if you hunger to live a meaningful life, then Jesus is the One for you.

Do others hungers tempt you away from Jesus? As humans we can forget how much Jesus offers and chase the money, beauty, status, and popularity. I know. The bartender at the beginning of the reflection? That was me! I wasted a lot of time before deciding Jesus is the One for me. But he took me back and showed me how to make life meaningful.

If you’ve been chasing after the wrong things, use this Advent to recommit yourself to Jesus and his mission. If you still have your doubts, that’s okay. Just ask Jesus to clear them up. John the Baptist did.

Special ‘thank you’ to the wonderful group of students who shared their beautiful singing at Mass last Sunday – Poppy, Bea, Ruby, Tykeita, Teneil, Letitia, Zoe, Emily, Georgie, Emerson, Jemima, Chaz and Bella who also operated the PowerPoint. Thank you also for the gifts of food and Christmas goods. It is not too late to send in donations. Vinnies Christmas Appeal – items can be sent in any time until Thursday.

Community Christmas Carols Saturday 17 December at St Anthony’s commencing at 7.00pm (sausage sizzle 6.00pm) – Trinity have been asked to present an item. Volunteers needed.

Kindergarten present ‘The Birth of Jesus’ next Thursday at 2pm please join us. Special thanks to Charlie Lucas who has created a beautiful rustic manger for us.

Helene
Murrunyip ‘OOSH’ Vacation Program
2016/2017

- Hours of operation: 8am – 5:30pm Daily, excluding public holidays.
- Murrunyip will be closed Monday 26th Dec 2016 – Monday 2nd January 2017.
  - Daily fee $45 per child (BEFORE CCB / CCR DISCOUNTS)
  - Items your child will need to attend: Packed healthy lunch box (Containing: morning tea, lunch, afternoon tea & snacks), water bottle, hat & sunscreen if allergies apply.
  - Excursion days to the pool, pick up will be from the pool, children will have their belongings with them.
  - Excursion days incur extra costs, if unsure please ask.
- Please make sure your enrolment details are up to date, with contact details, allergies etc.

- ***BOOKINGS PLEASE CALL KIRSTY 0418 581 357