Dear Parents, Carers and Students,

For priests, ministers, in fact for all Catholics, this coming week is the busiest of the church year. On four consecutive days the church will be filled for important services of worship starting with the Mass of the Lord’s Supper on Thursday and ending on Easter Sunday.

It may seem strange then that this period of four days is referred to as the paschal or Easter Triduum, meaning three days. Here the church follows the Jewish method of counting a day from sunset to sunset: so Holy Thursday evening to Good Friday evening is the first day and so on. What may seem like four days is actually three. With people leading such busy lives and looking forward to an Easter break it is important for Catholics to attend the three liturgies of the Easter Triduum because otherwise it is like missing one act of a three-act play.

The children have been experiencing Holy Week in the classroom these past weeks during their Religion lessons which will culminate in an Easter Play, presented by the children in the OLR Hall tomorrow. We would love you all to join us and experience the Easter story. We ask that families be seated by 10.15am in the hall. The plays will continue on Tuesday 29th March at 9.00 am with the Year 5 students concluding our Easter plays with the Resurrection story.

CHRISM MASS

Last week our school captains, Lana and Harmon attended this year’s Diocesan Assembly Chrism Mass. The highest order as the Apostolic Nuncio to Australia, Archbishop Tito (Philippines), joined with Bishop Greg O’Kelly as the main celebrants along with the priests and deacons from the Port Pirie Diocese. During the Mass, the priests, deacons and representatives of the entire diocesan community gathered around the Bishop, who blesses the Holy Oils for use in the coming year. These are: the Oil of the Sick; the Oil of Catechumens and the Sacred Chrism Oil. It was a wonderful celebration to conclude the Port Pirie Diocesan Assembly.

Easter Message to our Community

“By your kingly power, O risen Lord, all that Adam lost is now restored…” This is a line from the famous Easter hymn composed by the Australians Richard Connolly and Professor James McAuley in the seventies. There is such strength and joy in it as a hymn – “Sing Christ Risen!” It has the sort of joy and strength I would like every Christian in the diocese to have this Easter. And Christ is quoted elsewhere, “See, I do all things new”. You and I, our Church, all those we love, need the Easter grace of knowing that all is and will be transformed in the power of the Resurrection. No matter present disillusion, or flatness, or sense of failure, we as Church can stand up and with full voice proclaim as His followers, ‘Sing Christ Risen!’ We can be made new.

Bishop Greg O’Kelly SJ

On behalf of the staff of Our Lady of the River School I wish you and your family a very happy and holy Easter. Please travel safely.

Ros Oates

OLOR School Canteen Roster

PLEASE PLACE YOUR ORDERS ON THURSDAYS.

Reminders: Please use 2016 Price List and brown paper bag

Week 8 – GOOD FRIDAY
NO CANTEEN

Week 9 – Stacey Hunter
Julie Kregar
OUR LADY OF THE RIVER SCHOOL BOARD 2016
Last night the 2015 School Board AGM was held. We thank and welcome the
2016 School Board members:
President: Fr Paul Bourke  Executive: Principal - Ros Oates
Chairperson: Dimitria Dale  Secretary: Naomi Hunt
Staff Representative: Rosemary Perre
Parent Representatives: Cilla Marsden, Kelly Storer, Michelle Kennedy, Kelly
Minchella, Phil Cresp, and Rowan Cresp. Further board positions will be
determined at the next meeting. At OLR we value the important role
parents play in the education of their children and volunteering the time to
be on the School Board is most appreciated. I look forward to working with
our 2016 board members.

STUDENT FREE DAY/WEEK 2016 REMINDER
In the past ‘Student free days’ have been on separate occasions throughout
the year, up to 5 days. Last year the school board approved that in 2016 we
will extend the Term 2 holiday break by one week and all student free days
will be held in that week, Monday 25th to Friday 29th July. School will resume
on Monday 1st August for the beginning of Term 3. This will mean a 3 week
holiday in the middle of the year and it will provide the staff with an
opportunity to attend our biannual retreat in Penola with a focus on the
Josephite traditions.

BERRI EASTER BREAKFAST CARNIVAL
This year OLR will again run its legendary egg and bacon rolls at the Berri
Easter Carnival on Saturday 26th March in Vaughan Terrace Berri.
The stall will run from 7.30am – 11.30am. If you are available to assist
could you please contact Shaun Kelly as soon as possible. We understand
that some families will be unavailable over the Easter period, however if
you are able to donate a tub of cream or a packet of rindless bacon that will
be most appreciated. Donations need to be brought into school
tomorrow. Thank you to Mr. Kelly for organising this fundraiser.

OUR LADY OF THE RIVER SCHOOL CAPTAINS 2016
On Sunday the OLR senior students were presented as a part of the Palm
Sunday Mass their School and Sports Captains badges. Thank you to the
families who attended and congratulations to this year’s leaders.

School Captains: Lana Gregoric and Harmon Singh
School vice Captains: Madison Martin and Riley Herbert

SPORTS CAPTAINS
Captains St Mary’s: Josh Sawyer, Layne Fenwick
Vice Captains St Mary’s: Jed Kelly, Kye Stokes
Captains St Joseph’s: Callum Isaacs, Tia Efthimiou
Vice Captains St Joseph’s: Mitchell Foulds, Jamie Kovacic
Captains St Patrick’s: Suhaiel Sowkathali, Katelyn Hayes
Vice Captains St Patrick’s: Darcy Minchella, Tia Koutouzis

RIVERLAND MUSIC FESTIVAL
Students across the Riverland are invited to audition as: Assisting Artists for
the Riverland Primary Schools’ Music Festival. 2016 Music Festival will be
held at the Chaffey Theatre Tuesday 2nd August, Wednesday 3rd August and
Thursday 4th August. Audition dates: Wednesday 25th May from 4.00pm at
Berri Primary School Multi-purpose room. Forms can be collected from
OLOR School front office. All enquiries can be directed to Mary Geddie on
0409 875 344

FAITH/FEED/FUN
Sunday 3 April, 2016
St. Joseph’s School, Barmera.
If your family/children would like to attend, please complete the attached Consent form
and return to St. Albert’s School office
by Tuesday 29 March.

2016 RE NEWS
Fr. Paul Bourke: 85821894
Fr. John Stuart James:
85882452 ~ 0419176514

MASSES TERM 1
Thursdays 9.00 am
St Mary’s Church
Thurs 7th April – Yr 1 & Yrs 3/4
Mass

Our Lady of the River Parish Holy Week Mass and Service Schedule
Holy Thursday: Berri, Loxton 7.00pm
Good Friday: Barmera, Renmark, Waikerie 3.00pm
Loxton Stations of the Cross 3.00pm
Holy Saturday Vigil: Renmark 7.00pm
Easter Sunday: Berri, Loxton 9.00am
Barmera, Waikerie 11.00am

NEW SCHOOL TIMETABLE
8.30: Children arrive at school
8.50: Classes begin & Fitness
11:35: Early Lunch (10mins)
11.45: Lunch Play
12.15: Classes resume
1.45: Afternoon Break (10mins)
1.55: Afternoon Play
2.15: Classes resume
3.00: Pack-up/clean-up
3.15: Dismissed

REMINTERS
Thursday 24th March
School will be dismissed at
11.35pm
Easter Plays begin at 10.15am
(Children are permitted to wear
dark clothing or their sports
school uniform)