Palm Sunday is the beginning of the Easter Holy Week. Our story begins Jesus and his disciples rode into Jerusalem, in a parade-like fashion, with the crowds chanting and waving palm branches. Jesus was coming into Jerusalem to celebrate the Passover, a Jewish tradition, with his friends. We also have to tell the children that Jesus knew he was going to have to die soon in order to save the world.

We then move on to tell the story about the Last Supper, which we know as Holy Thursday. And, by the way, if you’ve never taken your children to a Holy Thursday service before, this is a good year to start as they will be able to witness the priest doing the washing of the feet just as Jesus did.

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FROM THE PRINCIPAL’S DESK
Dear Parents and Guardians,

To explain Easter to our children can be difficult depending on their age as it involves death and dying. As adults, we understand that Easter Sunday is the day when Christ rose from the dead allowing Christians to have eternal life. Christ conquered his death on the cross and rose from the dead; this is a joyous celebration.

St Cecilia’s Catholic Primary School is a multi-cultural Catholic School where staff, parents and students strive to provide a secure environment concerned with the spiritual, moral, social, emotional and intellectual development of each person. We endeavour to create an atmosphere of openness, mutual respect and loyalty within the school community.
We need to explain a couple of things about the Last Supper: Jesus told the disciples that he was going to die and be resurrected. Jesus washed the feet of his disciples to show that he was no better than them. That they were all friends and that the greatest love is when one gives his life for his friends. Jesus told them that he will be betrayed. Someone was going to give him over to the officials. Jesus did not want them to be sad or to worry because this is what had to happen.

After the Last Supper, Jesus and his disciples went out to the Garden of Gethsemane. This is the place where Jesus prayed to God to take away the cross if there was any other way to save the world. But Jesus also trusted God and prayed that he would do his father's will. It is here, at the garden that Judas, the betrayer, handed Jesus over to the officials.

On the next day, Good Friday, Jesus stood trial and the people who had cheered for him at the beginning of the week, on Palm Sunday, now wanted him to be crucified (a form of Roman execution where a person is nailed to a cross to die). Because the Roman governor, Pontius Pilate, did not want to upset the Jewish people, he allowed Jesus to be sentenced to death.

At this point, remind the children about the Stations of the Cross. Hopefully they have gone through the Stations at least once before. Remind them that the Stations of the Cross tell the story of Jesus' death and resurrection. If you are in church when you are explaining this, take them around to the stations so they can see the struggles Jesus went through on his way to the cross. If you have older children, emphasis the physical pain Jesus went through before being made to carry the cross to Calvary; that he fell three times on the way; that a man named Simon was made to help Jesus carry the cross. The children need to understand that even though Jesus had been beaten and suffered, that he knew he would be alive again in 3 days. He promised it to the disciples and to others who heard his message. While Jesus hung on the cross, there were people who made fun of him and did not believe that he was the Son of God. Remind the children that his mother, Mary, was there, and so was Mary Magdalene, and John. Jesus asked John to look after his mother. Then, after only 3 hours, Jesus died. Typically death by crucifixion took days to occur. To make sure Jesus was dead, a Roman soldier pierced the side of Jesus, leaving a wound.

After death, Jesus' body was taken down from the cross and put in a tomb. Remember to tell them that a tomb is like a cave with stone as a door. Since Jesus was poor, he was put in the tomb owned by a rich man named Joseph of Arimathea.

That is the end of Good Friday. Be sure to take your children to the Good Friday service. You can also tell the children that because Jesus was such an important person, there were Roman guards at the tomb to make sure no one bothered Jesus' body.

On the next day, Holy Saturday, the church is still in mourning at the death of Jesus. It is kind of a sad time, just like when someone we love has died. Take them to the Easter Vigil and let them see the church prepare for the celebration of the resurrection of Jesus.

Then, on Easter morning, it is time for celebration. Tell the children what happened when the women went to the tomb that morning. The women had gone to the tomb to finish preparing Jesus' body for death, as was the Jewish custom. Tell them about how they found the tomb empty because Jesus had risen. They were sad at first, but when Jesus appeared to them, they were happy and ran back to tell the disciples that Jesus was alive.

We have to tie this all together so that the children can see how the events of the week played out. The week started well with Palm Sunday, and went really badly with the trial, suffering, and death on the cross, but then we are happy because Jesus is alive.

All through the year we talk to the children about how Jesus is alive. This is the time in the church calendar to ensure the children know and understand how we know this and why we know this.

Always remember to keep your explanation of things on age-appropriate terms. Children are smart, but we need to balance the need to give them information with the amount of information we give them. And this isn't a one time thing.

Each year make sure that you take the time to tell them the Easter story. It is essential to their catechetical formation and understanding of the most important time in the church calendar.
Special Assemblies
Not only has this been a special time in a Church but also our School. During Holy Week we have been blessed to have our students lead us through a reflection of each day. On Monday our Year Two class with Miss Dowdeswell told us the story of Palm Sunday; as a school we all finished by singing Hosanna. It really helped us to understand Jesus entering Jerusalem and the feeling of joy that surrounded him.

On Tuesday Mrs Sheen and the Year Three class helped us to understand Holy Thursday and we looked at the Last Supper and the washing of feet.

Wednesday saw a very powerful retelling of Good Friday by Mrs Joukhadar and the Year Five class. It really told us of the suffering of Jesus but the need for this day to take place and why we call it Good Friday.

Then on Thursday we finished with the Easter story as Mrs Kay and the Kindergarten class told about Easter Sunday and how Jesus rose from the dead and the joy that was felt by his friends and followers. We still feel that joy today as we joined in with the story.

Shade Saviours.
Once again I would like to thank Michael Warren and his band of men who came to the school last Friday to put our shade back up after the cyclone. It is a huge job but as always I can rely on some wonderful fathers in our school and their work colleagues. In no time at all our shade was once again over the Kindergarten and Pre Primary area as well as the play equipment on the oval. I know our students thoroughly enjoyed playing outside on the equipment on Monday morning and it was a lot cooler for them all.

Interschool Swimming Carnival
What a fantastic day our students had on Friday when they competed in the Interschool Swimming Carnival. Each year our students take to the pool to enjoy a day swimming with students from the surrounding schools. Our students are always well supported by our parents and staff and each other. The school spirit from each school was just amazing and it was a very successful day. Thank you to Mrs Lyn Poharama for organising and running the carnival together with Miss Campbell, Mrs Campbell, Mrs Crisp and parent helpers. It was an awesome day. Congratulations to our team who won the event and thank you to our wonderful parents for helping out in so many ways on the day. Congratulations team you are outstanding!

P&F Conference
The P&F Federation hosts a conference each year. It is an amazing event and a wonderful chance for all School P&F groups to meet and talk. They have some sensational speakers and it is truly an inspirational event. During the conference they recognise the many different P&F groups in our Catholic schools and Principal’s may nominate their P&F for excellence awards. For the past two years our P&F have been nominated and awarded the Excellence Award for building a positive school community an award they truly deserve. I nominated them again this year because of the awesome work they do in our community throughout the year. While they may not have brought home the award for the third year winning, we all know just how sensational they are as a group, so I would like to add into the newsletter their nomination. I believe they are the best P&F any school could have and I am proud to work with each and every one of them. They are inspiring as the nomination reads:

Our P&F is the most amazing group of industrious and cooperative parents who constantly strive to build community. Although, Port Hedland is an isolated town, the feeling of community spirit felt in our school makes all who join, feel part of the school family. This feeling of family takes on a life of its own thanks to the commitment of the P&F, who are quick to build on that school community every day. Every year our parents come and join the P&F, becoming involved in providing so much for our community, not only in raising funds for
resources, but also in this special spirit with a feeling of fun.

I have had the privilege of working with these sensational parents for the past four years and while our executive changes each year, the feeling of care and concern for all does not. Every year I look forward to working with these extraordinary and talented women to see what can be achieved, as we all work in harmony towards the same goal. Their enthusiasm and drive has to be seen to be believed. No event is too big or too small for them to tackle. Every event they run is professional and well thought out. Every detail is discussed and thought out carefully. They truly are a team of dedicated people with a shared vision.

While our P&F is made up of women, their partners and children are fully supportive of the work that they do for our school. They are quick to discuss the needs of our school with them, finding ways to support the staff and their requests, which are made on behalf of our students.

Our school is a school of happiness, peace, joy and tremendous school spirit reflecting the harmonious partnership between the P&F and the school staff. From Disco’s to Photo night competitions the P&F continue to amaze.

Farewell to Staff
It is always hard to say goodbye to valued staff members. This term we will be saying farewell to Mrs Emily Hopkins. Emily has been a wonderful inspiration to our senior students. She has helped to form them into leaders of our school and taught them about respect and diligence to work. Emily is a gifted pianist and has shared this gift with us during our End of Year Concert’s and choir practice last year. Emily is a quiet achiever who has a great sense of humour and a love of children. We wish her well as she leaves us to take on her new role of motherhood. It has been a privilege to have Emily with us for the past two years and one term.

Thank you
The staff would like to thank the awesome P&F for their beautiful morning tea that was delivered to the staffroom on Tuesday. The staff were delighted to be recognised by our parents with the wonderful feast that was prepared by our Year One Parents.

Quality verses Quantity of Time
Your child’s self esteem is greatly influenced by the quality of time rather than the quantity of time you spend with them. Quality time means that you are available to your child when they want to discuss and deal with issues and concerns as they arise. Quality time shows children that you are truly interested in them, that you value and enjoy their company and want to know how they are experiencing their world. It provides a wonderful opportunity to get to know your child, to share things that have happened during their day or just share a happy moment. These interactions teach your child important life skills about relationships and intimacy and how to relate effectively with others. Quality time builds trust within the family so that your child knows that they can depend on their family when it really matters. Your children will know they can use the family as a resource, sounding board and a place to find comfort and support if you prioritise the time you spend with them from an early age.

Quality time means:
- Spending frequent small amounts of time together.
- When your child approaches you, be prepared to be attentive and interested.
- Make a date with your child or share a special activity (and keep to it!).
- Never underestimate the value of a short chat.
- Using open ended questions and not being too judgemental.
- Sharing opinions, stories and feelings in an environment of mutual respect and understanding.

With the holidays coming up so soon it may be an excellent time to plan some quality time together with your children.

I wish you a peaceful and relaxed holiday during Easter and look forward to your safe return next term.

God Bless

Paula MacKenzie
Principal

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Special Assemblies – Holy Week
A very big thank you to Kindy, Year Two, Three and Five for leading our school community in our Holy Week celebrations. In Holy Week, we are reminded of the promise of Easter. Thank you once again children for your engagement in our special assemblies and to your class teachers for all their hard work. A special thank you to Mrs Gillian Strachan for her support with costumes and props. You are a great support to our teachers.

First Holy Communion
If your child is Catholic and you wish for your child to receive their first sacrament of Holy Communion, please mark the following dates in your diary.

Enrolment forms have been sent home to Year Four already. If your child is in another year, please collect an enrolment form from the school office.
Enrolment forms need to be completed and brought to the Enrolment Mass on Sunday 29 April to the parish you belong to. This is not a school Mass. Please attend Mass in your own parish.

Parents and children should attend the following sessions and these meetings will be combined with both parishes.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Enrolment Mass (please bring your completed enrolment form with your child)</th>
<th>Sunday 29 April</th>
<th>St Cecilia’s Church at 8.30am</th>
<th>St John the Baptist Church at 10am</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1st Sacramental Meeting</td>
<td>Thursday 3 May</td>
<td>St Cecilia’s School Hall 6.30-7.30pm</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd Sacramental Meeting</td>
<td>Thursday 24 May</td>
<td>St John the Baptist Church 6.30-7.30pm</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First Holy Communion</td>
<td>Sunday 10 June</td>
<td>St Cecilia’s Church at 8.15am</td>
<td>St John the Baptist Church at 10.15am</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

If you have any questions or enquiries, feel free to contact me via email: joukhadar.grace@cathednet.wa.edu.au or call the office on 9173 2162.

Project Compassion & Chick-a-Thon

Our chick-a-thon has come to a close. Thank you to our generous families for your donations to our class Project Compassion boxes. Our chick-a-thon was a great success and our classes raised the following number of chickens (each chicken is worth $10):

- Kindergarten: 11 chickens
- Pre-Primary: 10 chickens
- Year One: 26 chickens
- Year Two: 24 chickens
- Year Three: 30 chickens
- Year Four: 12 chickens
- Year Five: 15 chickens
- Year Six: 18 chickens
- Year Seven: 33 chickens

Overall, our school raised an AMAZING $1,825.45!!

That’s 182 chickens! Thank you again for your generous donations to Caritas Australia.

Thank you to our Year Seven Religious Leaders, Ruby Esmonde, Sara McDonald, and Tamara Van Den Hurk for leading our very successful chick-a-thon and a huge thank you to Mrs Emily Hopkins for supporting you along the way. Mrs Hopkins, we couldn’t have done it without you!

Wishing you all a Blessed Easter and a safe and happy holiday. See you next term.

Mrs Grace Joukhadar
Assistant Principal Religious Education

PARISH NEWS

MASS TIMES
St Cecilia’s - Port Hedland
Tue & Thu Morning Mass 8.00am
Fri Morning Mass 7.15am
Saturday Evening Mass 6:00pm
Sunday Morning Mass 8:30am

St John the Baptist - South Hedland
Wed Night Mass 6.00pm
Saturday Evening Mass 7:15pm
Sunday Morning Mass 10:00am

Seafarers Centre - Port Hedland
Sunday Evening 5.00pm (All welcome)

GENERAL CAMPUS NEWS

LIBRARY NEWS

A very special thank you to our amazing mums for volunteering to cover our wonderful new library books! Your hard work is very appreciated, and without your help it would take a LOT longer to get our exciting new books on the shelves.

Miss Dee Campbell
Library Teacher

SCHOOL UNIFORMS

The start of a new term is a wonderful time to make sure your child / children are all prepared with uniforms. Please make sure your child is wearing the correct uniform to school each day. An easy way to do this is to check with the class teacher if you are unsure. Staff are checking uniforms each day to make sure students are in the correct uniform and wearing it correctly as well. Students in the wrong uniform or not wearing the uniform correctly, will be issued with a uniform note. Please sign the note and return it to the classroom teacher. Parents and students are aware of the uniform when the student is enrolled. Repeated deliberate incorrect wearing of the uniform will lead to parents being informed by phone and asked to bring the correct uniform to school so the student can get changed. Faction shirts are worn in Terms 1 & 2 as part of the Sport Uniform.

TERM TWO

Just a reminder that Term 2 commences on Monday 23 April. There will be a public holiday on Wednesday 25 April (ANZAC Day).

HOLIDAYS

Wishing all St Cecilia’s families a safe, holy and happy Easter! I look forward to seeing you all back next term – refreshed and healthy!

Miss Dee Campbell
Assistant Principal

DONATIONS PLEASE

We would appreciate any donations the following items:
- used stamps
- aluminium can ring pulls
- Ice-cream containers and lids
- Shoe boxes

These can be brought in to the front office.

Mrs Rozario
School Secretary
BIRTHDAY WISHES

Congratulations to the following students who will celebrate their birthday.

April
10 SHEEN, Talitha PP
18 HOLMSTROM, Xennex PP
19 BARLOW, Maddison Y1
19 CORNELIUS, Jordyn Y5
21 BRITCLIFFE, Alex Y4
22 CAMPBELL, Olivia Y3
22 SHIRLEY, Caitlyn Y5
24 WADE, Amy PP
24 FOTI, Scarlett Y1
25 MCSWEENEY, Jaden PP
26 DOYLE, Zaina PP
28 SELFIE, Tayla Y6
29 CECICH, Josie Y7

May
3 DHU, Elijah Y4
4 SMITH, Riley Y3
4 ESMONDE, Ruby Y7 04
5 TE TAU, Rawiri Y7
6 BIRCH, Matthew Y7

MERIT AWARDS

22 March 2012
PP: Anthea Colato-Lopez
Yr 1: Maddison Barlow
Yr 2: Sam Goodman
Yr 4: Alex Britcliffe
Yr 5: Jack Bowins
Yr 6: Brianna Barron-Liddell
Yr 7: Damien Buckland

29 March 2012
PP: Zayne Cox
Yr 1: Rohan Collins
Yr 2: Jamal Doyle
Yr 3: Thomas Barlow
Yr 4: Caelan Press
Yr 5: Alyssa Elliott
Yr 6: Lily Fisher
Yr 7: Joshua Elsum

COMMUNITY NEWS

PORT HEDLAND JUNIOR RUGBY LEAGUE

We are having our Football sign on, on Saturday 28th April at 12pm to be held at the Marie Marland Oval, South Hedland.

PORT HEDLAND TENNIS CLUB AGM & SOCIAL NIGHT- Friday 13th April, 6pm

Free sausage sizzle and social tennis for community members wishing to be a part of Port Hedland’s best tennis facilities. Come along socially or join our committee with all positions up for nomination. All current members and interested parties are invited to attend. To be held at the Port Hedland tennis courts McGregor St, Port Hedland. For more information please call 0488 689 499 or 0409 694 361

WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER

LOOKING FOR THE PERFECT MOTHERS DAY GIFT....ENRICH YOUR MARRIAGE BY GIVING YOUR WIFE THE GIFT OF TIME TOGETHER. A Marriage Encounter Weekend can help you do that. It's a weekend away from jobs, children and phones - time to focus on each other and your relationship. Weekend Dates: 4 - 6 May 2012 & 2 - 4 November 2012. For Bookings/details contact: 0424 220 625 - Joe & Margaret or Email: WABookings@wwme.org.au
Website – www.wwme.org.au

PORT HEDLAND JUNIOR CRICKET

2012 REGISTRATIONS

Junior Cricket is Back! Fees are $60 per child payable at time of registration, with a $10 discount for siblings. And as in previous years, cricket sessions for Milo and Juniors will commence on the first day of the new school term, Monday 30 April, at 4.30pm at the Racecourse ovals. Sessions conclude at 5.30pm.

PHJCA AGM. Will be held next Wed April 4 @ 7pm at the The Rec Club. All positions open. We've had a number of people from our Junior committee move on, so there's vacancies for any parents keen to lend a hand. Helpers are also needed for Milo training sessions, and to assist with game-day duties for our Junior matches. Ph Mike on 0408 930 677 or Sam on 0407 195 706 for queries.
ST CECILIA’S SCHEDULE OF SERVICES FOR HOLY WEEK

PALM SUNDAY
6.00 pm Saturday 31 March
8.30 am Sunday 01 April
- Blessing of palms,
- Procession to Church,
- Mass

SACRED PASCHAL TRIDUUM

HOLY THURSDAY
- THE LORDS SUPPER
7.00 pm Thursday 05 April, Holy Mass

GOOD FRIDAY
- PASSION OF OUR LORD
3.00 pm Friday 06 April, Celebration of the Passion of Our Lord

HOLY SATURDAY
- EASTER VIGIL
7.00 pm, Saturday 07 April,
- Liturgy of the LIGHT
- Liturgy of the WORD
- Liturgy of WATER
- EUCHARIST

EASTER SUNDAY
- RESURRECTION OF JESUS
8.30 am, Sunday 08 April, Mass of the Resurrection

ST JOHN THE BAPTIST SCHEDULE OF SERVICES FOR HOLY WEEK

PALM SUNDAY
7.15 pm Saturday 31 March, Mass
9.45 am Sunday 01 April, Gathering at 8 Lovell place for procession to church,
10.00am Mass

SACRED PASCHAL TRIDUUM

HOLY THURSDAY
- THE LORDS SUPPER
7.00 pm Thursday 05 April, Mass of the Lords supper followed by prayer at the altar of repose

GOOD FRIDAY
- PASSION OF OUR LORD
9.30 am Friday 06 April, Stations of the Cross
3.00 pm Friday 06 April, Celebration of the Lords Passion

HOLY SATURDAY
- EASTER VIGIL
7.00 pm, Saturday 07 April,

EASTER SUNDAY
- RESURRECTION OF JESUS
10.00 am, Sunday 08 April, Mass, followed by celebration of Easter in the Parish Centre. Please bring something to share over a cup of tea/coffee.

Yoga with Grace for Kids

SPECIAL 4 WEEK COURSE
SATURDAYS 5-26 MAY
FOR KIDS 4-12 YRS

Yoga enhances self-awareness and helps children to become more flexible and coordinated. Children who practice yoga learn to tune into their bodies and minds more acutely. Yoga also promotes self-discipline.

Yoga With Grace for Kids classes are fun and enhance the imagination in a non-competitive environment. Striking poses using nature and animals, children learn about their interconnectedness with the world.

Saturdays 5, 12, 19 & 26 May
Ages 4-7 years: 2:00-2:45pm
Ages 8-12 years: 2:45-3:30pm
Cost: $70 per child (includes two kids tank tops)
Location: St Cecilia’s Primary School Hall
(35 Sutherland St, Port Hedland)

To register, email: info@yogawithgrace.com.au
Places are limited. Bookings essential.
www.yogawithgrace.com.au