United in faith,  
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nurture personal growth,  
inspire a passion for learning,  
build community and  
encourage dreams.

A Validated Religious Education Program …

A School Religious Education Program
The St Joseph’s School Religious Education Program is now fully validated as being in accordance with the requirements of the Archdiocese of Brisbane. The school program has been redeveloped since 2013 when the current Religious Education Curriculum was published. The program was validated in June 2015.

Religious Education at St Joseph’s School is organised around the Model for Religious Education (Catholic Education Archdiocese of Brisbane, 2013). This model illustrates the distinct and complementary roles of the classroom teaching of the learning area Religion and the Religious Life of St Joseph’s School.

The school Religion program draws its content from the Religion Curriculum P-12 (Catholic Education Archdiocese of Brisbane, 2013) and is organised at St Joseph’s School through Year Overviews and Unit Plans.

Information for parents
Parents can now access current information about their child’s class unit topics through the Religious Education tile on the Parent Portal. There is a full overview of unit topics taught for each class throughout the year and this page includes links to curriculum content descriptions as well as parent friendly paragraphs of information about each of the unit topics. Parents are encouraged to explore this additional information.

Model for Religious Education

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**“Jesus in each other” —why we care for each other… (Prep)**

This term started with the Prep children learning more about the Easter Story. During the first couple of weeks we read Gospel stories about Jesus’ resurrection. We then began our unit that focusses on caring for each other. We read the stories of Joseph and David from the Old Testament. These were introduced as stories that Jesus would have known. The children became familiar with the characters, events and messages from these stories and shared their feelings and thoughts about them. The students then considered the message from these stories as being that God’s plan is for people to live safely and happily together, for the good of all. The Prep children then learnt about Jesus’s greatest commandment: “Love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul and all your mind and love your neighbour as yourself” (Matt. 22:37-39).

The Prep children have celebrated some significant events at school and home this term: The Season of Easter; Pentecost; the Feast Day of Mary Help of Christians – 24th May; the Feast Day of St Anthony – 13th June; Grandparents Day; and Mother’s Day. These special days give us a great opportunity to learn the Christian stories and to learn why we care for each other.

**The local faith community … (Year 3)**

It is an exciting time in Year 3 as many of the children are participating in our local parish sacramental program. This term some children have celebrated the sacrament of Reconciliation and will continue preparing to receive the sacraments of Confirmation and First Eucharist next term.

This term the children in Year 3 have developed their understanding about the local parish community and its connection to the wider Brisbane Archdiocese. They have identified some key people as leaders of these communities and have learnt about the role and duties of the bishop and priest. The Year 3 children were lucky to meet Bishop Brian Finnigan who visited our school on Friday, 12th June. Bishop Brian will be presiding at one of the Confirmation celebrations next term.

The children have learnt about how new members are welcomed into the Catholic Church and have studied the Sacraments of Initiation: Baptism, Confirmation and First Eucharist. The children have explored the symbols, actions and words used in the celebration of these Sacraments in the Catholic Church and they have listened to some key New Testament stories that are linked to these Sacraments: Jesus’ baptism, the Last Supper and Pentecost.

**All the world is sacred … (Year 2)**

This term in Year 2 Religion, the students have been learning about the sacredness of all creation, especially human life. They have explored the Christian teaching that human beings have been called to be co-creators and stewards of God’s creation.

The students understood that by being a steward of God’s creation, they have two responsibilities: to take care of their environment; and to pursue peace and justice in their daily actions. They listened to Bible stories about creation and made connections between the messages in these stories and ways they can show respect and care for all God’s creation.

The Year 2s have learnt about some saints whose lives showed examples of ways to be stewards of God’s creation. They have realised that the world is God’s gift to all generations and therefore it is our moral duty to work together and show actions that demonstrate care and respect for this wonderful world. This unit of work reflects the motto of our school, ‘Jesus in each other’ as the students work together to care for each other and the natural environment.
Living Community … (Year 4)

The students of Year 4 this term have been consolidating their study of St Paul and his wise thoughts. They looked at the letters he sent to Philippi, Rome, Corinth and Galatia. The students followed St Paul’s journeys across the Mediterranean and the messages he delivered to all new Christians struggling to understand Jesus’ teaching and what it meant for them.

The children of Year 4 summarised his messages into single statements and tried to apply these to our community in St Joseph’s. The texts spoke about proclaiming Good News, building peaceful relationships and supporting and encouraging one another but mainly about sharing our love for one another and living together in a loving community.

Together, the students discussed how they could live and encourage others to live according to St Paul’s teachings and apply our rules to the way we live our lives today. The wonderful posters that were created displayed a visual interpretation of these important messages. St Paul has been our inspiration this term.

The Holy Spirit in the lives of believers … (Year 5)

At the start of this term, the students in Year 5 learnt about aspects of Judaism as a community of believers. In particular they explored Jewish worship and the features of the Synagogue.

The students then investigated the Holy Spirit as the Holy Spirit appears in Scripture - particularly the story of the action of the Holy Spirit in the lives of the Apostles at the time of Pentecost.

The Year 5s then explored the words, symbols and actions found in the Catholic Rite of Confirmation. They investigated the roles of individuals in the Confirmation ceremony and identified the Sacrament’s connection to the lived experience of believers.

The students then investigated the role of the Holy Spirit in the formation of conscience and identified some of the ways in which conscience is formed by the Word of God (e.g. the Ten Commandments) and Jesus’ moral teaching (e.g. The Beatitudes). The students then explained how conscience is a judgement of reason that takes into account the good of all. They described how the formation of conscience is assisted by the gifts of the Holy Spirit (wisdom, understanding, right judgment, courage, knowledge, awe and wonder and reverence).

Some images associated with the Holy Spirit
Learning about Jesus … (Year 1)

The Year 1 students began the term listening to, viewing and reading stories from different Gospels relating to the death and resurrection of Jesus. These stories included The Last Supper (Mark 14:22-25) and the Passover (Matthew 26:17-19). We then moved onto the children learning about the nature of Jesus’ mission and ministry. They explored aspects of Jewish daily life at the time of Jesus. The children wrote their ideas about Jesus after looking at pictures of Jesus and painting their own images of Jesus.

The children learnt about Jesus as a young boy and explored Jewish life in the time of Jesus including meal times, leisure times, observing the Sabbath, praying and food laws. The children read stories from different accounts of the Gospel: Jesus being lost in the temple (Luke 2:41-47), Jesus’ Baptism (Mark 1:9-11; Matthew 3:13-17; Luke 3:21-22), Jesus calling the disciples (Mark 3:13-1), healing the Ten Lepers (Lk 17: 11 – 19) and teaching the disciples to pray (Luke 11:1-4).

Through these Gospel passages, the children identified key events, places and characters in the life of Jesus. The children developed a timeline showing the life of Jesus. They also identified some aspects of the nature of Jesus’ mission and ministry, as well as some similarities and differences between the different Gospel accounts.

Class Led Assembly Prayer
(Usually Wednesday in the FBCC)

**Term 3**

| Week 1 | Wed 15/7 | 4 White |
| Week 2 | Wed 22/7 | 2W & 2G |
| Week 3 | Wed 29/7 | 2 Orange |
| Week 4 | Wed 5/8 | 3G & 3W |
| Week 6 | Wed 19/8 | 5 Orange |
| Week 7 | Wed 26/8 | 3 Orange |
| Week 8 | Wed 2/9 | 5 Blue |
| Week 9 | Wed 9/9 | 2 Blue |
| Week 10 | Wed 16/9 | 2 Green |

**Term 4**

| Week 1 | Wed 7/10 | 5 White |
| Week 2 | Wed 14/10 | 1 Blue |
| Week 3 | Wed 21/10 | 1 Green |
| Week 4 | Wed 28/10 | 1 White |
| Week 5 | Wed 4/11 | 3 Blue |
| Week 6 | Wed11/11 | 11AM 6 Blue |
| Week 7 | Wed 18/11 | 6 White |
| Week 8 | Wed 25/11 | 1 Orange |
| Week 9 | Wed 2/12 | 4B & 4O |

Class Masses in the Church

**Term 3**

| Week 3 | Fri 31/7 | Year 1 |
| Week 4 | Tues 4/8 | Year 4 |
| Week 5 | Fri 7/8 | Year 5 |
| Week 6 | Fri 21/8 | Year 2 |
| Week 9 | Fri 11/9 | Year 6 |
| Week 10 | Fri 18/9 | Year 3 |

**Term 4**

| Week 2 | Fri 16/10 | Years 6 & Prep |
| Week 3 | Fri 23/10 | Years 4 & 2 |
| Week 5 | Fri 6/11 | Year 5B, 6O, 6B and all Year 1s |
| Week 6 | Fri 13/11 | Year 5O, 5W and all Year 3s |
| Week 8 | Fri 27/11 | Whole School End of Year Thanksgiving Mass |

Thank you to the classroom teachers of St Joseph’s School who have written an article explaining their classroom Religious Education Program for this term.

This Term’s articles were written by: Karlee Slater, Alison Powers, Liz Blackwell, Chris O’Rourke, Kim Thompson, Kate Hutton, Mick Woodbridge and edited by Peggy Roe.

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