Dear Parents, Guardians, Students and Other Parishioners,

Last night the Parish held a special meeting, a Forum, and invited all the Parish Organisations to send a representative to share what is happening and to create a new way of organising the Parish Events. We have had a Parish Council since the Parish began, but it now consists of two people from the school, one or two parishioners and Fr Tad, meeting every month. Meeting monthly does not seem to be meeting the needs of the Parish in its current form.

About 25 people attended the Forum and it was great to actually put names to faces and to hear about the things that are going on in the Parish. How much do you know about your Parish?

- Did you know that we have committees for creating and celebrating liturgy, cleaning and organising supplies for the church and the Piety store?
- Did you know that the elderly in the Parish who have been part of a group called the Elizabethans are going to fold this year as only one of them still drives and they haven’t got the energy to keep going any more? This group, called the Elizabethans, used to provide hot lunches on a regular basis for the people who meet at the St Vincent de Paul shelter in town, Ozanam House? I remember as a young teacher here that the children from the school used to sing carols at the Christmas Dinner the Elizabethans put on for these homeless men. Every year this group got together to make things for a Christmas raffle and over the years they have contributed massively to the health and wealth of the Parish.

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**St. Elizabeth’s Weekly Calendar ...**

| Monday, 17 November | School Assembly  - 8.45-9am  
|                     | Foundation 2015  - Parent Information Night  - 7.30pm |
| Tuesday, 18 November | Ed Board Meeting  - 6pm  |
| Wednesday, 19 November | Orientation Day  - Mazenod  
|                         | Foundation 2015  - Orientation Session 4  - 10-11am or 12-1pm |
| Thursday, 20 November | Orientation Day  - Sacred Heart  |
| Friday, 21 November  | Yr3 & Yr4  - Learning Community Mass  - 9.15am  
|                         | Mazenod Band  - 2pm |
| Saturday, 22 November | St. Elizabeth’s Parish Mass  - 6.30pm  |
| Sunday, 23 November  | St. Elizabeth’s Parish Mass  - 8.30am, 10.30am, 5.30pm  |

**UPCOMING EVENTS:**

| Wednesday, 3 December  | Transition Lunch  - 2015 Classes  |
| Tuesday, 9 December    | Thank You Brunch  - 9am  |
| Wednesday, 10 December | Carols Night  - 6.30pm  |
Did you know that our Parish used to have a thriving St Vincent de Paul Society, but now we have to contact St John Vianney’s or St Gerard’s if we need to get help or donate goods?

Did you know we have a very active Social Group but although they regularly put on great dinner dances in our PAC, they have to invite other Parishes to come as not many from St Elizabeth’s show an interest?

Did you know that the St Elizabeth Debutante Group raised $11,500 this year in their first year as new managers of the activity. For years, Trixie and Cheryl ran the Deb ball and also made a handsome profit which they give to the Parish?

Did you know that we have 3 choirs in our Parish and they are living their faith in action by giving joy through music?

Did you know that we have a Men’s group that has met since the Parish began. They used to meet regularly in the Garage for social chat, a game of cards, snooker and a beer or two with a barbecue and they still meet once a month on the first Friday of each month? Did you know that they would welcome new blokes to join them?

Did you know that the Knights of the Southern Cross, a group of blokes who work to raise money for the Church also do things like car-parking for events at the cathedral? One of St E’s ex-students is part of that Group and they meet at St Gerard’s. He would love St E’s to have their own group!

Did you know that there is a one-man group running Adult Faith programs and also Baptism for youngsters who come to our Parish seeking Baptism? All that, done by one person!

Did you know that the counters from 30 years ago have all come to the end of their ability to keep counting? Parish has a couple of new people taking this on but would love more!

Did you know that there is a Parish Finance Team? Yep, one man and Fr Tad!

I didn’t know all of that and I have been here for 18 years, if you count the 10 years that I spent here as a teacher! So it was really a good night and helped the community understand that we need to do things differently. The old ways are passed their used by date. I had talked with Fr Tad about setting up this Forum and I was delighted that Ms Pina Martino (School Education Board) and Ms Sue Hatley-Smith could attend and show the Parish what we do to link in with Parish. Ms Maria Popowycz also came and showed the Parish Community all the great things that we do to support the growth of Faith amongst our young People and their families.

The outcome of the evening was that we agreed that the Forum would become a 4 times a year event so everyone could appreciate what was going on in the Parish and we could encourage and support each other. As Fr Tad said in his opening remarks, we need to have a pastoral focus now not a formal business type approach. The Forums will be open to everyone and if you have any great ideas of how we can enrich Parish life, please do come along to the next one in February. I will give you the dates as they are given to me.

I want to thank Kate Robinson on behalf of the school Parish community for doing such a wonderful job of steering the initial Forum meeting.

AN HONOUR!
On Monday night I attended the Australian Council of Educational Leaders Awards night and was awarded a Victorian Fellowship Award for my work in leading in the educational community. It was a great honour to be recognised by my peers and I found myself in very exalted company. You might know John Mooney from Emmerson School and Stephanie Alexandra the chef who set up the Kitchen Garden Scheme in many Victorian Schools, they also received a fellowship from ACEL. I have left my Award in the Office area if you would like to see it.

In my acceptance speech, I dedicated the Award to my three children who were the ones who gave up the most so that other people’s children could flourish. Joanna, Nicholas and Vicki have been very understanding and generous in their support of me and my passion for teaching! I am truly grateful to the people who have trusted me to lead them and who have taught me so much that I needed to know about being a leader and I thank the Catholic Education System for taking a creative and somewhat unorthodox teacher and providing opportunities for her to learn to show grace and dignity under pressure!

THE COMING VICTORIAN STATE ELECTION
There has been some really good news out of Spring Street recently with both the Labour Party and the Liberal Parties committing to fund each student in a catholic School, primary and secondary to 25% of the cost of sending a child to a government school. This will be written into Victorian Law so it ensures our ability to meet our costs well into the future. They have also committed to additional money for capital costs associated with building new schools in low social economic areas. Disappointingly, the Green’s Party has not committed to either funding model. They are however, talking about re-assessing funding to Catholic schools which could damage our ability to keep our schools sustainable. We would want to know for sure what their policy is before voting for them as that may affect the ability of parents to afford a Catholic School education. The Catholic Education Office is keeping us informed about each parties educational policies.

Christine Ash
The Principal
We talk a lot about freedom in our country but maybe not enough about responsibility. That’s why our Yr5 and Yr6 students have made such an impression on me.

As primary school students, they organized a Market Day to raise money for students in Matutinao Elementary School. They made things to sell and created activities and games. The whole school was able to come and be part of the Market Day fundraising. By preparing this wonderful event and involving all of St Elizabeth’s they were able to show that they are able to, in a small way, help people trapped in poverty.

Little by little, as our students grow, they will be able to take on more responsibility. They have realised that they could make a difference and that God expects them to do so.

In this week’s Gospel, Jesus tells a parable about the landowner who leaves the workers in charge of the property. The landowner is grateful to the workers who use the landowners’ money (talents) wisely.

In many ways God has left us in charge of God’s possessions - responsible for the world God created. God has also given us the talents and skills to do that wisely. Freedom is great, but with it comes responsibility to use our talents for the benefit of others.

Our senior students are a good example. They took just a little responsibility for changing the world by helping out with the fundraising for Matutinao Elementary School. As they grow they will realise they could take on more responsibility. They are an example of Social Justice in action. The more they learn about themselves, the more responsibility they can take for using their freedom to build God’s Kingdom.

How do you use your freedom? Believe it or not, you are responsible for helping people who are hungry, lonely, put down or excluded. You are responsible for ending violence and vengeance. If you don’t already - start learning how to exercise that responsibility by volunteering - maybe just a little bit at first. Over time you'll see clearly why God trusts you with such enormous responsibility and how much your talents are needed to take care of God’s creation.

Who inspires you by the way they use their free time to help others?

CLASS LITURGIES

Friday 14 November:
Foundation, Yr1 & Yr2 Learning Communities will prepare and lead the 9.15am Mass.

Friday 21 November:
Yr3 & Yr4 Learning Communities will prepare and lead the 9.15am Mass.

Friday 5 December:
WHOLE SCHOOL GIFT GIVING MASS - 9.15am.

Sunday 14 December:
Yr6 Transition Mass - 10.30am.

Wednesday 17 December:
WHOLE SCHOOL END OF YEAR MASS - 9.15am.

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR CONFIRMATION CANDIDATES
Congratulations and thank you to the newly confirmed and their families for last Sunday’s celebration. It was a joy filled and prayerful celebration shared with family and friends and led by the Most Rev. Bishop Peter Elliott.

There are many people to be thanked as there are so many who have given of their time and energy, their talents and skills to enrich the celebration of the Sacrament. I will start by thanking the parents of the Confirmed who have continually supported their children and walked with them through the time of preparation and continue to show their love and support for all that these children are seeking to do.

I thank the classroom teachers for their preparation of the children, Mrs Ash and the staff of St Elizabeth’s for their support and help in the many tasks that needed to be completed in preparation for the Liturgy to ensure everything was prepared.

I thank the Excelsis Choir and their musical director Tom Buchanan for providing music through their beautiful voices that enabled the joyous, prayerful participation of all. I thank our altar servers and their families, Nerise P, Jayce B, Jason W and a special thanks to Nathan Rawlins who supported our altar servers. They all willingly gave of their time to be of service to Fr Tad and the Bishop for the ceremony.

Lastly I must say a very special thank you to Bishop Elliott and Fr Tad. The church was full to overflowing, we even had people standing in entrance ways and yet even with this crowd they called us to prayerful participation inviting us all to enter into the quiet of the occasion and to be open to the presence of the Spirit in our own lives as well as in the lives of the young candidates.

Many thanks to all who made last Sunday not only a joy filled celebration of the presence of the Spirit but also a prayerful experience of the life of the parish community of St Elizabeth’s. God Bless,

Maria Popowycz
Religious Education Leader
popoma@sedandenongnth.catholic.edu.au
Parents and carers have a critical role to play in guiding and supporting children’s social and emotional learning. Social and emotional skills develop with practice.

Everyday opportunities present lots of opportunities for children to learn and practice skills for coping with emotions, managing relationships and solving problems. You can help children build the skills they need by providing effective coaching.

**HOW PARENTS AND CARERS CAN HELP**

**Encourage discussion of feelings**
Encourage children to talk about how they are feeling. Listen with empathy so they feel understood. Help them to see that feelings are normal and that all feelings are okay. It is important to understand them, and that understanding and talking about feelings helps you to manage them.

**Support children’s confidence**
Help children identify and develop their strengths by encouraging them to have a go at things and find activities they enjoy. Acknowledge their efforts, celebrate their successes and encourage them to keep trying and learning.

**Provide opportunities to play with others**
Playing with other children provides practice in important social skills such as sharing, taking turns and cooperation. Give children feedback when they play appropriately e.g. “I noticed how nicely you shared your toys. That made it fun for everyone. Well done.”

**Lead by example**
Parents and carers are important role models. Children learn how to behave by observing and imitating the behaviour of those around them, particularly adults. When you model positive ways of coping with strong feelings like anger, it helps children feel safe and shows them ways that they can manage strong feelings too.

**Give children choices**
To develop responsibility, children need practice in making choices that are appropriate for their age and experience level. You can help children build decision making skills by encouraging them to explore options and helping them think through the reasons for their choices. Involving children in family decision making (that you are in charge of) helps them to develop skills for responsible decision making and encourages cooperative family relationships.

**Encourage positive problem solving**
Asking questions that help children think of alternative solutions supports their thinking and problem solving skills. When problems arise you can explore them together by asking questions, such as “What could you do about that?” or “What do you think might happen if you did that?”

**Teach children to use assertive communication skills**
Show children how to confidently and respectfully communicate their thoughts, feelings and needs to others in an assertive way, e.g. “I really don’t want to play that game. It’s too dangerous. Let’s play a different game instead.”

Nan Perazzo / Wellbeing Coordinator

www.kidsmatter.edu.au
Two weeks ago, many of our families with students in Yr4 attended an information night about our Yr5/Yr6 1:1 eLearning Tool Program. Once again we have selected the iPad as our tool. Some of the video clips I shared can be viewed here:

21st Century Learning Environments: http://goo.gl/wzoxMr
iPads in Education: http://goo.gl/gd0SB7

If parents of students who will be in Yr5/Yr6 in 2015, do not yet have an iPad, we have worked with a company called CompNow to offer a range of packages that include an iPad, screen protector and cover at a discount. These packages can be purchased at this link: http://goo.gl/Q83f9u  If you would like to order through CompNow and have the iPad delivered before the end of the school year, orders close next Monday 17/11. This portal is one of many options available to parents. Retailers such as Apple, JB HiFi, Big W, Harvey Norman, Myer etc also sell iPads.
In Yr3/Yr4RM, Kia has shown the pillar of persistence.

She is always ready to begin each task on time and she always strives to achieve her goals, no matter how difficult the task may be.

Kia never gives up and does not let others distract her when she is working independently.

She has an ‘I Can Do It’ attitude and shows great learning due to the effort she puts in.
The In2Cricket program is this term's Wednesday afternoon sports program. It is an entry level program aimed at primary aged kids that focusses on fun and plenty of activity. We are lucky to have so many parents on board to make this program run so well.

The favorite games are "Rapid Fire" for the younger players and "T20Blast" for the older players.

Soon we will be linking up with Lyndale Cricket Club and players will be able to continue on with the cricket into the new year.

Already we have a number of students playing cricket at a more senior level at the club.

Yours in Sport
Dean Andrew

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Parents and Friends. Working together for the benefit of our children.

The Parents and Friends Association is the group who organise the Uniform Shop, the Tuckshop as well as organise the fundraising events for the school. We would like to also organise social events. We need your help and input. Please give some thought to coming along to a meeting and chat about how you would like to see the Parents and Friends Association develop further.

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Students leaving St. Elizabeth’s at the end of 2014

Could any families, who are planning on leaving St. Elizabeth’s School at the end of the year, please notify Lisa in the School office on 9795 5258. This will enable us to accurately plan for next years classes.
It’s that time of year again.

We are asking for donations for the Christmas Raffle which will be drawn during Carols Night.

Please send along items to the school office.

Do you work for a company which may donate goods towards our raffle? If so, please email the company details to info@sedandenongnth.catholic.edu.au.

Thank you so much for your support.

Parents and Friends Association

Working With Children Checks

Many of our learning communities have planned excursions, now that the weather is getting warmer, and if you want to go as support on the activity, you will need a current Working With Children Check. Many parents forget that they only last 5 years and so get a shock when we have to say that they cannot go on the excursion as their WWCC has expired. Please make sure that you update it if you need to. You can keep it up to date by going online to www.workingwithchildren.vic.gov.au

New St. Elizabeth’s Winter Tunic / Skirt

The Uniform Shop now has various sizes of the new school tunic for parents/carers to try on their child. Any parent/carer wishing to try on a size is welcome to do so either Tuesday or Friday mornings 8.45-9.15am.

News from the Nook

The Nook is open for parents, grandparents and carers Monday to Thursday.
School News cont ...

School Banking

Don’t forget that **THURSDAY** is School Banking day and students should bring in their weekly deposit.

Please note that the Shark Pencil Case and Penguin Key Ring are no longer available to select as a reward. These items are out of stock indefinitely.

Community News ...

Knights of the Southern Cross
8th National Prayer Crusade for Vocations

We invite all Catholic organisations and individual Catholics throughout Australia to join us in our 8th National Prayer Crusade to pray for an increase in the number of Catholics willing to serve the Church in the priesthood, diaconate and religious life (including service as Catholic Chaplains in the Australian Defence Force.)

**When:**
23—29 November 2014

**What is Required:**
Each organisation of individual Catholic participating is asked to say the special Crusade prayer each day for 1 week during the Crusade period. You can continue for additional weeks if you wish.

**Crusade Prayer:**
“Heavenly father, you know the faith, courage and generosity of your people throughout Australia including the men and women serving at home and overseas with the Australian Defence Force. Please provide your people in Australia with sufficient Priests, Deacons and Religious to meet their needs and be with them always as they endeavour to meet the challenges of their daily lives. We ask this through Jesus Christ, your Son. Amen.’
NETBALL VICTORIA END OF SEASON CAMP
5 - 7 DECEMBER 2014

THE SUMMIT IN TRAFALGAR EAST
FEATURES INCLUDE:

MONSTER COURSE
Participants compete as a team in an obstacle course which will test their physical and mental skills. There will be running, climbing and carrying tyres in order to achieve the objectives. Prepare to get dirty and have some fun.

TEAM BUILDING ACTIVITIES

TRIVIA, KARAOKE & MORE

COACHING from elite athletes in netball skills sessions

FREE TIME
with water sports including waterslides, canoeing & swimming

NETBALL ROUND ROBIN TOURNAMENT TO CONCLUDE CAMP

TICKETS: $285 Includes Netball Victoria singlet, drink bottle & all meals. Tickets are limited to 88 participants only.

BOOKING Can be made at www.nvclinicsandcamps.com.au and close 28th November 2014
ST. MARKS FETE

Giant Raffle - Drawn 7pm
1st prize $8,000 2nd prize $3,000 3rd prize $1,000
(Australian Post Visa Prepaid Gift Cards)

Exciting Rides for everyone from 2-7pm
Including Jumping castle, Chairoplane, Cup and Saucer,
Cha cha, Dodgems, Hurricane, Giant slide, Scouts rope course.

Dunking Machine, Choc Toss and Lolly Hunt
Silent Auction and Spining wheel - Many fantastic hampers to be won.

Amazing local and International cuisine dining with a Licensed Bar
from 1pm-7.30pm

Live entertainment on stage, Hair twisting, Tattoos, Show bags, Lucky Dips and much much more.

Popcorn, Fairy Floss, Slushies, Donuts, Ice-Creams, Devonshire Teas.

Everybody is Welcome :)

Saturday 15th Nov.
4 - 6 Dimar Crt, Dingley Village VIC 3172

111 Bakers Road, Dandenong Nth, Vic. 3175    Tel: (03) 9795 5258    Fax: (03) 9790 0933
www.sedandenongnth.catholic.edu.au    admin@sedandenongnth.catholic.edu.au
Parish Priest : Rev. Tadeusz Ziolkowski SC    School Principal : Mrs Christine Ash
St. Elizabeth’s Out of School Hours Care Program ...

YOUTH LEADERSHIP VICTORIA PRESENTS - ST ELIZABETH’S OUT OF SCHOOL HOURS CARE

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<tr>
<th>Contact Details ...</th>
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<tr>
<td>Elizabeth’s Out of School Hours Care Program</td>
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<tr>
<td>111 Bakers Road, Dandenong North</td>
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<td>Ph: 0422 803 709 / 0426 282 721</td>
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**Before School Care**  
Permanent: $12.00 / Casual: $13.00  
7.00am to 8.55am Monday to Friday during school term, excluding all Victorian public holidays.

**After School Care:**  
Permanent: $13.50 / Casual: $14.50  
3.15pm to 6.15pm Monday to Friday during school term, excluding all Victorian public holidays.

**Vacation Care / Pupil Free Days:**  
Per Day: $45.00  
7.00am to 6.00pm Monday to Friday. (No vacation care available in January.)

**Late Pick Up Fees:** Per minute: $1.00

For enquiries or further information, please contact Elarine on 0422 803 709 or 0426 282 721 during session times.

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<th>Weekly Activities ...</th>
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<td><strong>Beginning:</strong> 17 November 2014</td>
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<table>
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<th>Monday</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Make your own blackboard</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tuesday</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Make your own door hanger for your room</td>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>Wednesday</th>
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<tr>
<td>Black paper chalk creations</td>
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<table>
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<th>Thursday</th>
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<tr>
<td>Colour diffusing flowers, spring murals</td>
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<th>Friday</th>
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<td>Movie with popcorn</td>
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