Dear God,
Thank you for my mum.
She works so hard to take care of me.
Help me to be more thoughtful of her,
To notice when she is tired, and be kind and helpful.
Help me to cheer her up with hugs and humour when she is down.
To spend time with her, and to listen to her worries.
To give to her, and to thank her each day.
Help me to do nice things for her.
She is a good mum.
Please look after her,
Help her at work.
Help her to rest,
And give her health and happiness every day.
Amen.

We congratulate our Year 4 students who celebrated their First Eucharist on the weekend: Mark, Mayom, Isaac, Judith, A’Lisaandro, Callum, Bruno, Lucia, Mahlet (blessing), Jose, Machar, Rafaela, Brandon L, Justin, Cyrus, Jack, Michael, Josh, Pola, Brandon V, Adam, Luciano, Mia, Sienna, Megan, Sienna C, Emmersyn, Liana, Rebecca, Czarina, Isack, Maya, Zoe, Daniela, Robert, Alannah O, Enzo, Ashley, Alananah R, Nicholas R, Sony, Matthew, Luana and Teague. May they always feel close to Jesus and pray to become more like him.

We pray for Devlyn’s (Yr4) great grandmother who is unwell at the moment in hospital and for Ayeza (Yr 3) whose grandfather passed away last week in the Philippines and whose grandmother died early in April. We continue to keep Janice in our prayers as her father’s funeral is being celebrated on Tuesday.

THANKS to the SFA COMMUNITY: The Szczykutowicz Family would like to thank the St Francis of Assisi PS community for their heartfelt condolences on the passing of much loved father and grandfather of Anetta, Andre’, Pola and Hannah: Edmund. We have found support and comfort surrounded by our school leaders, staff and community members during this difficult time. We sincerely appreciate the wonderful tribute made during the Mass and your gentle and warm presence nearby at all times.

NAPLAN: Just a reminder that Year 3 and 5 students will be completing the NAPLAN assessments next week. Parents of these children that have any questions or concerns please contact Emily or your child’s Home Group teacher.

Mothers’ Day Stall
Tomorrow
FRIDAY, 6th MAY
Children will have the opportunity to buy a gift for their mum/special person
Gifts range from $1.00—$5.00.
Afternoon Tea & Activities
2.00pm: Afternoon tea
2.30pm: Family activity
What a wonderful community event was shared last Monday afternoon. We had an opportunity to experience a live TV broadcast of the weather from our school. We thank Adam and Nathan Healy who wrote to Channel 10 and invited them to broadcast the weather from St Francis. Thanks too, to Diane Healy who liaised with Channel 10 and to our wonderful PIP team who managed to provide a delicious sausage sizzle for everyone. Sausages were donated by Sarita and we raised over $400.00 for the school. We really hope that we see such enthusiasm in other parent engagement events planned for this year!

PARISH RAFFLE TICKETS sold and/or unsold need to be returned tomorrow Friday 6th May. Many thanks for your support of this parish fundraiser.

BOOK CLUB: All book club orders were sent home yesterday with the children. We hope to use the funds raised from this terms sales to purchase new books for the library in the Wyndham Plaza for the Yr. 3-4 students to access. Thankyou!!

STAFFING NEWS: We are seeking a coeducator to start with us as soon as possible. If you are interested or know someone who could be interested and you/they hold the necessary qualifications please check the website where Catholic schools advertise positions vacant: http://web.cecv.catholic.edu.au/CEOPositionsVacant

BABY NEWS:

AMY has a beautiful new son—Hunter George. Both he and Amy are well.

SUSAN finished with us yesterday—a little earlier than expected! She’ll try to slow down a bit while she gets ready for her baby to arrive. We wish her all the best.

TEGAN finishes her role as Yr 2 home group teacher next Friday. We welcome Ben on Monday as he gets ready to take on this role.

DENTAL VAN: Coming home today is information about the upcoming visit by the Dental Van and the opportunity for your children to have a teeth check while at school. If you are eligible and want to access the service please return the completed permission slip. See Margaret or Marthese if you have any questions.

RESEARCH INVITATION: Families with children in Yr 3-6 are being invited to participate in a research project related to working memory. See further information in the envelope sent home today with Yr 3-6 students.
Author of TOM GATES!
Wyndham City Libraries and The Sun Bookshop present the author of the award winning Tom Gates series, Liz Pichon. Liz is in Australia and will be making an exclusive trip to the Julia Gillard Library Tarneit for a very special event! Liz will talk about the Tom Gates series and share her inspirations as an author and illustrator. She will also show children how to draw her characters so bring along a notepad and pen. Children will also have the opportunity to have their book signed and books will be for sale at the event. Bookings required through the Library. Ages 8-13
When: 4:30 pm Monday 23/05/16
Where: Julia Gillard Library Tarneit
Cost: Free event.

PIP FUNDRAISER: We are selling Entertainment Books this year for $65. The book contains over $20,000 value for the best restaurants, arts, attractions, hotels, travel & shopping. We receive 20% from every book sold,. Books can either be purchased in digital form or hard copy. Go to the link www.entbook.com.au/91u8506 or contact Kellie at kelliedelaney@live.com for further information!

Local Census jobs

Make a difference in your community and join Australia’s largest logistical peacetime operation – the 2016 Census of Population and Housing.

Census night is August 9, and the Australian Bureau of Statistics is right now looking for dedicated, enthusiastic self-starters to fill up to 6,900 Field Officer positions across Victoria. If you’re community minded and comfortable using a mobile or tablet device, the ABS wants to hear from you.

Field Officers play a critical role by visiting households and ensuring everyone makes the Census count. They’ll also earn around $21 an hour and enjoy flexible, part-time work hours for up to 3 months. To do the job you’ll need to be a good communicator, reasonably fit, licensed to drive and able to travel and work independently.

To apply or find more information, visit www.abs.gov.au/careers

(Australian Bureau of Statistics)
OUR FIRST HOLY EUCHARIST

It took years to get to this day where we could finally receive Jesus for the first time. We all came together and we were very open to God. Our faith that brought us here was enough to fill the whole church. Our learning and the rehearsals came together on that Saturday and by the time the day arrived, we knew our parts off by heart. You could feel a sense of community and reverence among the congregation. We came to church dressed in our formal attire as we prepared ourselves for the photos. The feeling of both excitement and nervousness was flowing through the air.

Even though we readers were quite scared, we faced our fears and showed our confidence as our parents watched over us with pride. We were waiting for our cue to go up and read, but Father Jude just asked us to come up, and while it confused us a little, we came out of it okay because we were listening carefully and knew all the parts of the mass. When we did our jobs, we felt a great sense of responsibility and holiness. Candles were taken down the aisle gracefully and the hosts were treated with great respect as they were passed to Father Jude. One of our favourite parts was when we gathered around the altar and Father Jude gave us the sign of peace.

On this special day, the community showed us their support with love, encouragement and guidance. As we received Jesus for the first time, we felt like we were becoming closer to Him. A lot of us thought the bread tasted like an ice cream cone.

It was a very spiritual day and the community left the church filled with the love of Jesus. Lots of photos were taken which made us feel like superstars and we were filled with joy when everyone was congratulating us. All the rehearsals certainly did pay off as we confidently walked out with Father Jude ready to spread the word of God. We believe that our confidence on the day came from our trust in God. We left the Church feeling peaceful and went off to continue the celebration as we remembered this really special day when Jesus stole our hearts.

Written by the 2016 Year 4 Eucharist candidates

Photo courtesy of Belinda