

Catholic Life & Mission



Dear Parents,

In our recent survey, we asked you the following questions:

- How do you know Holy Rosary is a Catholic School?
- Do you know what school does to help children live Jesus' teaching day to day?
- What do we do to support our child's faith Journey?
- Have you seen the poles at the front of school. Are you aware of what these represent?
- Have you heard your child talk about Catholic Social Teaching?

Catholic Social Teaching is a set of principles that we follow as followers of Jesus. These come from scripture and are the behaviours we follow everyday in and out of school.

These are:

Symbol	The principle	What this means ?
	Dignity of the human person	We believe every human person is made in the image and likeness of God. This is a gift that we all share as fellow human beings; we are all infinitely loved by our Creator.
	Family and Community	Our faith calls us to love God and to love our neighbours in every situation, especially our sisters and brothers living in poverty.
	Solidarity and Common Good	Solidarity arises when we remember that we belong to each other. Solidarity spurs us to stand side by side with our sisters and brothers, especially those living in poverty.
	Rights and Responsibilities	The Church recognises that one cannot have rights without responsibilities.
	Option for the poor and vulnerable	The option for the poor reminds us of God's preferential love for the poorest and most vulnerable people. God's love is universal; he does not side with oppressors, but loves the humble.
	Dignity of work	Workers have the right to join trade unions, to a just wage, to spend time with their families and to rest. Work is an essential part of our human dignity and everyone has the right to participate.
	Stewardship	In the first pages of the Bible we read how God created the sun and the stars, the water and earth, and every creature. We believe Christ is the redeemer of all creation

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The poles on the school path have been created by the children in school with each one representing one of the Catholic Social Teaching principles.



Each day in school, we celebrate and recognise being part of a Catholic Family. These things take place:

- Daily prayer session where children use traditional prayers and also share their own. These are known as “**Celebration of the Word**”. These sessions are based on the Gospel for that week.
- 2 hrs and 45 minutes per week on direct teaching of RE
- 2 Assemblies each week to explore scripture and focus on how we put these principles into practice
- **Big Question** – This takes place once a week to discuss a question linked to world religions
- **Lectio Divina** – This is a chance to reflect on a piece of scripture. This is completed as part of a unit of work.

In addition, we:

- Host **Prayer stations days** where children take part in activities based on a theme.
- Prayer stations are displayed around school for children to engage in prayer during their day
- Celebrate feast and **liturgical days** with the children and these are often led by the Faith Team
- Classes are now named after a **Saint** and the children share their class saint at parent assembly
- Give weekly awards for our school values – Joy, Belong, Committed, Love and Faith and also award the Caritas award for Love in action.
- Send home **prayer bags** for children to engage in prayer outside of school
- **Laudato Si ambassadors** share information about how to follow the Pope’s vision for Care of our Common home and meet weekly to plan and carry out activities.
- **Faith team** lead prayer sessions and plan celebrations
- Celebrate **masses** during the year i.e. Ash Wednesday, Advent
- Celebrate our faith in the outdoor area with signs of our Faith – Poles, Stations of the cross

