Dear Families,

As we come to the end of the school year and prepare to celebrate Christmas and summer holidays we are also preparing to say goodbye to some staff members. Ms Ophelia Anderson has been with us for two years and in her time with us she has always had the children’s best interests at heart. She has a gentle way of working with each student so she

Next year we welcome new staff members to St Catherine of Siena. Mrs Kylie Hoey will be joining our Year 5 team, Ms Caitlin Walker and Mr Blake Pittman will be joining our Year 4 team, Ms Seona Payne will be joining our Year 2 team, Ms Bianca Igarro will be our new LoTE teacher and Ms Kristie Browning will be our new Wellbeing Leader. We welcome all of these new staff and wish them well as they begin their time with us in 2016.

Have a great week

Carmel Marantelli
PRINCIPAL
Parish Of Melton Office
10 Unitt Street, Melton
Tel: 9743 6515, Fax: 9747 8603
Email: stdoms@bigpond.net.au
Office open: Tuesday-Friday 10am-4pm

Mass Times - St Catherine of Siena
Wednesday: 9.15am
Saturday Evenings: 6.00pm
Sunday Mornings: 9.00am & 11.00am

Reconciliation
Saturday: 5.30pm - 5.45pm

Mass Times - St Dominic’s
Tuesday Evening: 7.00pm
Thurs - Friday: 9.15am
Sunday Evening: 5pm

SCHOOL FEES

Fee statements were sent out to some families last week. All 2015 school fee balances are to be finalised by the end of the year.

Any outstanding amounts at the beginning of the year will be brought to the Parish Finance Committee.

CDF STUDENT BANKING

This Thursday December, 10th will be the last week for student banking for 2015. Please ensure you have your books at school on this day if you wish to bank.

Canteen News

Our last day this year for the canteen will be Tuesday 15th December, for both counter sales and lunch orders.

The canteen will reopen on Monday, February 1st for over the counter sales and lunch orders and will continue to open Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday every week in 2016.

I would like to wish you all a merry Christmas and safe new year and holidays. Have fun and we will see you all in 2016.

Karen, Marg and Jasmine.

Last Chance Raffle Tickets

Thank you to all who have supported the Gold Coast holiday raffle. The response so far has been fantastic. At this stage we still have a number of books outstanding all unsold books need to be returned. As this raffle is a registered one we need to account for all the tickets issued. No more raffle books will be issued, however tickets can be purchased next Monday, December 14 before Christmas concert. Thank you for your understanding and your efforts in supporting this raffle.

PFA committee

Whole School End of Year Picnic

This Friday, 11th December, is our whole school picnic for students and their families at Maddingly Park, Maddingly. This is a whole school community event and we would love to see you there to celebrate the end of the 2015 school year with us.

Date: Friday 11th December 2015
Venue: Maddingly Park, Maddingly VIC 3340
Time: 8:50am-3:15pm for students going on the bus.
For parents meeting us their with their children the picnic begins at approx.9:30am and concludes at approx. 2:00pm
Snack and lunch arrangements: Children need to bring food for the day as per usual: a healthy snack and lunch as well as a drink bottle of water.

PLEASE DO NOT SEND DRINKS OR FOOD IN GLASS OR BREAKABLE CONTAINERS

Clothing: Students will need to wear their full sports uniform and bring their school hat and sunscreen.

We will be taking sport equipment for the children to use and there are play facilities at the park.
The last day of 2015 for students is next Thursday, December 17. Students will be dismissed at 1.30pm.

The first day of 2016 is Thursday 28th January for Preps and Friday 29th January for Years 1-6. Preps will have half days on the 28th and 29th January.

Our Christmas Concert will be held on Monday, 14th December at 6:30pm in the school hall. We will also be drawing the Christmas Raffle at this event. Please keep this date free. This year’s theme is ‘Smile’, children are asked to come dressed in bright colours.

We will be having a full rehearsal on Monday at 11:30am if anyone is unable to attend on Monday evening you are more than welcome to attend at this time to view the concert.

Thank you, Ms Jodie Russell
Performing Arts Teacher

Christmas is fast approaching and we are asking for the help of some actors to assist with delivering the Gospel clearly during the 6 pm Family Mass on Thursday 24th December. We need some children to play the following parts of the Christmas story

*Mary and Joseph
*shepherds
*angels.

We also need some young people to help with readings, prayers and bringing up the gifts during Mass.

If you are able to help please see Fr Charles or call the parish on 97436515 if one of your children would like to participate.
### TERM 4 CALENDAR

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Friday</th>
<th>Saturday</th>
<th>Sunday</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7 Dec  Wk. 10</td>
<td>8 Dec</td>
<td>9 Dec</td>
<td>10 Dec</td>
<td>11 Dec</td>
<td>12 Dec</td>
<td>13 Dec</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Wk. 3 Advent</em></td>
<td><em>End of Year</em></td>
<td><em>Year 6 Big Day</em></td>
<td><em>School Picnic at</em></td>
<td><em>Wk. 3 Week Of Advent</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>Liturgy 8.55am - Yr. 3&amp;4</td>
<td><em>Whole School Thanksgiving</em></td>
<td><em>Out at MSAC</em></td>
<td><em>Maddingly Park</em></td>
<td><em>Reports to go home</em></td>
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<tr>
<td><em>Christmas raffle</em></td>
<td><em>Tickets due</em></td>
<td><em>Wedge Park</em> Performance 12pm</td>
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<tr>
<td><em>Prep Christmas lunch</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>14 Dec Wk. 11</td>
<td>15 Dec</td>
<td>16 Dec</td>
<td>17 Dec</td>
<td>18 Dec</td>
<td>19 Dec</td>
<td>20 Dec</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Wk. 4 Advent</em></td>
<td><em>Transition to</em></td>
<td><em>Christmas Liturgy</em></td>
<td><em>Last day for</em></td>
<td><em>Last day for</em></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Liturgy 8.55am - Yr. 1&amp;2</td>
<td>2016 classes*</td>
<td><em>Preps</em></td>
<td>students. Children will be dismissed at 1.30pm</td>
<td><em>Staff</em></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><em>full Christmas Concert dress rehearsal</em></td>
<td><em>St Dominic's Year 6 Graduation in the church</em></td>
<td><em>St Catherine’s Year 6 Graduation in the church 7pm</em></td>
<td></td>
<td><em>Christmas Concert 6.30pm</em></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>11.30am all is welcome</td>
<td><em>Christmas Concert 6.30pm</em></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><em>Christmas Concert 6.30pm</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>21 Dec</td>
<td>22 Dec</td>
<td>23 Dec</td>
<td>24 Dec</td>
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<td>26 Dec</td>
<td>27 Dec</td>
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### CFA CHRISTMAS PARTY

- **BBQ**
- **Raffles**
- **Entertainment**
- **Visit from Santa on the Fire Truck**
- **Christmas Presents for the Kids**
- **Face Painting by Animal Farm**
- **Jumping Castle**
- **Lollies & Fairy Floss**

**UNIFORM SHOP**

- The Uniform Shop will be open at the following times:
  - Monday, 14th December 8.30am - 9.00am
  - Tuesday, 15th December 8.45am - 9.30am

- The Uniform Shop will open again in 2016 on the following days:
  - Thursday, 28th January 2016 9.00am - 11.00am
  - Friday, 29th January 2016 8.30am - 9.00am
  - Monday, February 1st 2016 8.30am - 9.00am

- From then on it will open every Monday and Wednesday from 8.30am –9.00am throughout 2016

A reminder that there is no Eftpos/ credit card facility available in the uniform Shop.
# MELTON PARISH

## CHRISTMAS MASS TIMETABLE 2015

“We Come Home for Christmas”

St Catherine of Siena Church
Bulmans Rd Melton West

### CHRISTMAS MASSES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Christmas Eve</th>
<th>Thursday 24th December</th>
<th>6.00pm, 9.00pm &amp; Midnight</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Christmas Day</td>
<td>Friday 25th December</td>
<td>9.00am &amp; 11.00am</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Carols will precede all Masses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Saturday 26th December</td>
<td>6pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday 27th December</td>
<td>9am &amp; 11am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5pm St Dominic's</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| New Years Eve    | Thursday 31st December | 7pm |

### RECONCILIATION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Communal Reconciliation</th>
<th>Thursday 17th December</th>
<th>at 7.30pm</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

| Individual Reconciliation | Saturday 5th December | 5.15pm - 5.45pm |
|                          | Saturday 12th December | 5.15pm - 5.45pm |
|                          | Saturday 19th December | 5.15pm - 5.45pm |

The Parish Office will be closed from Thursday 24th December 2015 until Wednesday 27th January 2016
January 2016
Vacation Care Program
Melton City Council

Important Information

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mon</td>
<td>7am</td>
<td>Melton Care Centre, Melton Shopping Centre</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed</td>
<td>7am</td>
<td>Bridge Road, Melton South</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri</td>
<td>7am</td>
<td>Rye Road, Waverley</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Notes:
- For further information contact: 9760 7200
- Enrolment forms are available at the Centre or on the website.
- Enrolment forms must be returned by 12 noon on the day before the program.
- Enrolment is limited to 20 children per day.
- Payment must be made in full at the time of enrolment.
- Payment is accepted by cash, cheque, or credit card.
- Enrolment is subject to change.

Program Details
- Monday 4 January 2016 to Friday 22 January 2016
- 7am to 6pm daily

Cost

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Fee</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mon</td>
<td>$25.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed</td>
<td>$25.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri</td>
<td>$25.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Enrolments Close
- 16 December 2015
- 8 January 2016
- 12 January 2016
- 19 January 2016

Program Locations
- Melton Care Centre, Melton Shopping Centre
- Bridge Road, Melton South
- Rye Road, Waverley

Please Note: Activities listed may be subject to change.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thu 5 Jan</td>
<td>Show and Tell</td>
<td>9am</td>
<td>The school year has finished and we've been a while since we've seen you.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Today, we thought you should have a day to bond and play with your peers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>and share your special moments with the group.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon 4 Jan</td>
<td>Loving Summer</td>
<td>9am</td>
<td>After some long and snowy winter, we want to celebrate summer fully by combining our fun outdoors and having a watermelon and watermelon competition.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>We will also be making jelly and having a watermelon competition.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mar 11 Jan</td>
<td>Party Day</td>
<td>9am</td>
<td>We're having a party! By children's request, we'll be hosting a party at the school. People can bring food, games, and drinks. The party will include a special treat at 10am.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>We're also planning a surprise for children's birthday on the 11th.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mar 18 Jan</td>
<td>Art Time</td>
<td>9am</td>
<td>The Library and the classroom are having an art festival. We'll be painting, drawing, and making crafts with the help of a local artist.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>The festival will include a free excursion to the library and the classroom.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mar 25 Jan</td>
<td>Science Week</td>
<td>9am</td>
<td>The classroom and the Library are having a science week. We'll be conducting experiments and learning about science from our resident scientists.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>The science week will include a free excursion to the science center.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mar 29 Jan</td>
<td>Science Course</td>
<td>9am</td>
<td>The classroom and the Library are having a science course. We'll be exploring different scientific concepts and theories.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>The course will include a free excursion to the science museum.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apr 1 Jan</td>
<td>Super Obstacle Course</td>
<td>9am</td>
<td>The classroom and the Library are having a super obstacle course. We'll be navigating various obstacles and challenges.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>The obstacle course will include a free excursion to the adventure park.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apr 8 Jan</td>
<td>Wind Down</td>
<td>9am</td>
<td>The classroom and the Library are having a wind down. We'll be relaxing and unwinding after a busy week.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>The wind down will include a free excursion to the relaxation room.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**My Parents 'N' Me** sessions are age appropriate. Children are divided into two groups.

**Group 1: ages 6-10**
- Children can talk to a neutral person about the changes in their family.
- They can share their experiences with other children in similar situations.
- Children can be assisted to develop resilience and coping strategies, using a variety of activities.
- They can access information to assist them.

**Group 2: ages 10-12**
- Children discover that 'I am not the only one'.
- They can share complexities with others in the group.

---

**Supporting children after family separation**

Children whose parents have separated are affected by numerous stressful experiences. Some of them may include:
- Feeling that separation is their fault
- Feeling caught in the middle
- Feeling unheard
- Exposure to ongoing conflict
- Forming new relationships in blended families
- Moving schools and between two homes
- Many children who experience parental separation cope well with the changes over time. However, some children will experience difficulties along the way and require support to help them build resilience.

---

**Early intervention that focuses on building**

Children’s resilience in a safe and supportive environment will benefit families now and into the future.

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**About My Parents 'N' Me**

My Parents 'N' Me is about helping children to understand their parents’ separation, about changes in the family and to feel safe and comfortable to express themselves.

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**Group work**

Children respond to group projects with a greater degree of ease and pleasure than to individual activities. My Parents 'N' Me was therefore designed to create an alternative culture for children within which they can learn from and about each other’s peers.

It also allows them to gain more insight into their own approach to painful issues as they freely select an approach between watchfulness and participation in appropriate school-age activities.