Religious Life of the School

The Religious Life of the school, which is reflective of the second dimension of the Religious Education – ‘teaching people to be religious in a particular way’ (Moran, 1991), provides a lens through which our school community at Star of the Sea can develop and enrich its religious life.

The four interrelated components: Religious Identity and Culture; Evangelisation and Faith Formation; Prayer and Worship and Social Action and Justice provide an important focus for the development of the religious life of our community. They are reflected in the following ways:

Evangelisation and Faith Formation at Star of the Sea

• Strong links with the St Joseph’s Parish is present where there are many opportunities for students to celebrate mass at one of the three churches in the parish
• Whole school masses and liturgies held throughout the year. Year levels have the opportunity to also celebrate masses and liturgies at the school Chapel
• Sacramental programs, while parish based, is led jointly by parish and school staff.
• Focus on spiritual growth during Lent and Advent
• Student spirituality focus - class prayer, Camp Liturgies
• Use of the Chapel for prayer opportunities
• Community Celebrations including Mother’s day, Father’s Day, Grandparent’s Day (Prayer Assemblies)
• Staff RE News each week informs and supports staff
• Exploring the values and messages contained within the school Charism – Faith, Community, Compassion and Comittment
• Students involved as altar servers for school celebrations
• Year 6 students attending mass at Burrum Heads and Howard
• Year 5 students attending St Mary of the Cross Mass at St Joseph’s
• Year 4 students attending healing masses at St Joseph’s.
Religious Identity and Culture at Star of the Sea

- Focus on “Star of the Sea” story
- Focus on Mary’s story eg School Feast Day (The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, May-Month of Mary)
- School Iconography
- Sacred Spaces including the School Chapel and Mary’s Garden, Mary Focus in Administration
- Sacramental programs run between school and parish
- Opening Mass – Year 6 Leaders Commissioning
- Catholic Education Week - Whole School Mass
- Celebrations linked to Mary including Mother’s Day
- Buddy Grade

Feast Days linked to Mary
- 8th Sept: The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary (School Feast Day)
- May 24th – Our Lady, Help of Christians
- August 8th – St. Mary of the Cross MacKillop (Parish Mass-Year 5)
- August 15th – The Assumption of Mary
- October 7th – Our Lady of the Rosary
- Holy Week
- Palm Sunday, The Last Supper, Jesus’ Trial & Praying in the Garden, The Way of the Cross: Whole school production and presentation of events in a whole school liturgy on the last day of term
Prayer and Worship at Star of the Sea

- Staff Prayer – Wednesdays – 8.15am in the Chapel and at weekly staff meeting
- Whole staff mass once a term in the chapel
- Lenten staff prayer
- Induction of Year 6 Leaders
- Class Masses for Year 4-6 on Fridays at 10am in the chapel (one a semester for each Year level)
- Class Liturgy of the word for Prep - 3 held on Fridays in the chapel (one a semester for each year level)
- Parish Healing Mass (Year 4)
- St Patrick’s Mass at Howard (Year 6)
- Class Prayer Time - Daily
- Shrove Tuesday – Classroom Activities/Pancake day
- Ash Wednesday – 4-6 mass at St Joseph’s church
- Ash Wednesday – Prep – 3 liturgy in school hall
- Opening Mass – Year 6 Leaders Commissioning

- End of Year Mass
- Year 6 Graduation Mass
- Community Focussed Prayer Assemblies
  - Mother’s day, Father’s Day, Grandparent’s Day, ANZAC Day, Remembrance Day, NAIDOC Week
- Holy Week
  - Whole school production and presentation of events in a whole school liturgy on the last day of term.
  - Whole school Christmas Story /Liturgies

Feast Days – Celebrated in class prayer and Assemblies

May 8th – Mother’s Day
May 8th – The Ascension of the Lord
May 15th – Pentecost
May 22nd – The Most Holy Trinity
May 24th – Our Lady, Help of Christians
May 29th – Feast of Corpus Christi
June 3rd – Sacred Heart of Jesus
August 8th – St. Mary of the Cross MacKillop (Parish Mass-Year 5)
August 15th – The Assumption of Mary
October 7th – Our Lady of the Rosary
November 1st – All Saints Day
November 2nd – All Souls Day
November 11th – Venerable Catherine McAuley
Social Action and Justice at Star of the Sea

- Project Compassion Launch
- Lenten staff prayer
- Care and Concern Meals
- Parent Care and Concern contact

- Breakfast Club (each Tuesday)
- NAIDOC Week
- ANZAC Day March

- Project Compassion fundraising events throughout term
- Lenten Activities – Ways to Pray Resources
  - St Vinnies Winter appeal
  - Catholic Missions Appeal – October
- Mission Market stall day for Catholic Mission month
- Christmas Hamper Appeal