It was the fifteenth year in the reign of the Emperor Tiberius. Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea. Herod ruled Galilee, and his brother Philip ruled Iturea and Trachonitis. Lysanias was the ruler of Abilene. It was at the time when Annas and Caiaphas were chief priests that God spoke to John, son of Zechariah, in the desert. John travelled throughout the region around the Jordan River. He told people about a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. As the prophet Isaiah wrote in his book,

“A voice cries out in the desert:
‘Prepare the way for the Lord!
Make his paths straight!
Every valley will be filled.
Every mountain and hill will be levelled.
The crooked ways will be made straight.
The rough roads will be made smooth.
All people will see the salvation that God gives.’”

(Luke 3:1-6)

Gospel Reflection

This week and next, our Gospel readings invite us to consider John the Baptist and his relationship to Jesus. John the Baptist appears in the tradition of the great prophets, preaching repentance and reform to the people of Israel.

In today's Gospel we also note Luke's attention to political and historical detail. Luke shows that salvation is for all people and situated in world events. Therefore, Luke lists the political and religious leaders at the time of John's appearance in the desert. Salvation is understood as God's breaking into this political and social history.

John's preaching of the coming of the Lord is a key theme of the Advent season. As John's message prepared the way for Jesus, we too are called to prepare ourselves for Jesus' coming. We respond to John's message by repentance and reform of our lives. We are also called to be prophets of Christ, who announce by our lives the coming of the Lord, as John did.

In this new liturgical year, the Gospel of Luke will be the primary Gospel proclaimed (Lectionary Cycle C).
### 2019 LEADERSHIP TEAM

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School Captains</th>
<th>Vice Captains</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mya Simmons</td>
<td>Dougald Hook</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Isabell Shore</td>
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<td>James Ashton</td>
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<tr>
<th>Environmental Leaders</th>
<th>Mission Leaders</th>
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<tr>
<td>Emily Turner</td>
<td>Mason Edgerton</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Millie Banks</td>
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<td>Alex Bayada-Harvey</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>MacKillop House Captains</th>
<th>McNamee House Captains</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Amelia Johnston</td>
<td>Oliver Jarick</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ava Ward</td>
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<td>Harvey Shephard</td>
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<tr>
<th>McAuley House Captains</th>
<th>Shannon House Captains</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jessica Denman</td>
<td>Danai Mhako</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Keeley Holmes</td>
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<td>Harry Meacham</td>
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STAFFING FOR 2019

Co-Principal’s          Mrs Kerrie Basha & Mrs Kerry Maher
Assistant Principal    Mr Steve Maguire
REC                    Mr Glenn Corben
Primary Coordinator    Mrs Rachel Cranney
Office                 Mrs Nicole Downey
Office                 Mrs Rebecca Jefferis
Office                 Mrs Gemma Dwyer
Learning Support       Mrs Gemma Belmonte
Music Coordinator      Mrs Fiona Nell
Librarian              Mrs Anne Fredericksen

Kinder Blue            Mrs Katie Frew & Mrs Stacey Nobes
Kinder Gold            Mr Glenn Corben & Mrs Michelle Brown
Kinder Orange          Mrs Edwina Haydon
Year One Blue          Mrs Sjaan Wilson
Year One Gold          Mrs Mandy Stewart & Mrs Michelle Brown
Year Two Blue          Mrs Rachel Cranney & Mrs Mandy Stewart
Year Two Gold          Mrs Annette Short
Year Three Blue        Mrs Karen Proudford
Year Three Gold        Mrs Cheree Pell
Year Four Blue         Mrs Carolyn Wait & Mrs Jennie Corben
Year Four Gold         Mr Steve Maguire & TBA
Year Five Blue         Mrs Abigail Hawke
Year Five Gold         TBA
Year Six Blue          Mrs Sonja McNiven & TBA
Year Six Gold          Mrs Sally Curran & TBA

Teachers Aides         Mrs Jennifer O’Brien
                        Mrs Michelle Wright
                        Mrs Kathy Eather
                        Mrs Nikki Provost
                        Mrs Elizabeth Woodham
                        Miss Lynne Webster

Canteen                Mrs Mandy Giffin
Grounds & Mt’ce        Mr Matt Downey

We farewell the following staff and wish them well.

Mrs Ainsley Greer - St Joseph’s Oberon
Miss Olivia Robertson - St Joseph’s Wee Waa
Mr David Duncan - Cudal Public School
Mrs Nikki Breen - “The Beach” - Gold Coast
RIGHTS & RESPONSIBILITIES WHEN ONLINE

Year Six had a visit from Constable Jeff about their rights and responsibilities when online. The most important information he gave was:

- use a password that is difficult to guess
- use privacy settings
- be aware of information about yourself when posting photos
- think before you post
- if you experience ongoing bullying - tell a trusted adult, block the sender or report it.

Chromebooks for Week 10

**Year 3**
- Monday: No
- Tuesday: No
- Wednesday: No

**Year 4**
- Monday: Yes
- Tuesday: Yes
- Wednesday: No

**Year 5**
- Monday: Yes
- Tuesday: Yes
- Wednesday: No

NO CANTEEN NEXT WEEK
Year 6 recently attended a Post-Confirmation Retreat at James Sheahan Catholic High School. Thank you to the Sheahan Mission Team and Miss Amber Calleja for facilitating the day. It was full of singing, dancing, drama and prayer and a wonderful opportunity to make new friends.

My name is Jenelle Price. I am hanging up my Canteen apron for the last time at St Mary’s, where I’ve happily spent 10 years helping out.

I have thoroughly enjoyed helping Mandy and her other volunteers with the preparation of our children's lunches. Over the years, each shift has seen me do something different, whether it be meeting someone new, interacting with our gorgeous St Mary’s kids and their committed teachers, learning a new recipe - thanks to this year’s "Friday Specials" or having a laugh with the ladies, and Mandy’s own children - Owen and Bek.

Both my sons - Aidan and Evan have also liked me doing Canteen. Their visits were always the highlight and I enjoyed seeing them in their regular day-to-day routine at St Mary’s. Mind you, it cost me a few Fruit Sticks and bags of chips! But I happily traded those for conversations which took place whilst they were in the moment, instead of after the fact. It was also a nice way to get to know their fellow classmates, especially the girls who I did not see a lot of outside of school.

I’d like to take this opportunity to thank Mrs Mandy Giffin and all the lovely ladies I’ve encountered along the way who helped make each shift unique and special. We all had other places we could have been however; we chose to do something helpful that would make happy memories for our kids. Our rewards were the numerous ones we gained in return.

I’d implore anyone who has a few hours where the world will cope without them between Tuesdays and Fridays to enquire at the office about this wonderful opportunity of being involved at St Mary’s.

To all St Mary’s families - Merry Christmas, best wishes and happy packing with your holiday AND tuck shop bags. Thank you. Mrs Price.
WEEK 10

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>Mon</td>
<td>17-Dec-18</td>
<td>End of Year Mass 9:30am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tue</td>
<td>18-Dec-18</td>
<td>Flag Raising 9:30am; Last day of 2018 school year.</td>
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YEAR SIX UNIFORM CHANGES - Week 10

Monday - sport uniform (reward day)
Tuesday - school uniform - Mass
Wednesday - Christmas clothes

HOUR OF CODE

December 3-9 was Computer Science Education Week. Students from St Mary’s Catholic Primary School participated in activities related to Computer Science. Many classes did an ‘Hour of Code’ in their classrooms. Some students also learnt how to start using code to program our robots. They used Edisons and Spheros and had lots of fun coding and problem-solving. A huge thank you to our wonderful P&F for providing funds so that we could purchase such fantastic resources as the Spheros and Edisons!!

What is the Hour of Code? The Hour of Code started as a one-hour introduction to computer science, designed to demystify "code", to show that anybody can learn the basics, and to broaden participation in the field of computer science. It has since become a worldwide effort to celebrate computer science, starting with 1-hour coding activities but expanding to all sorts of community efforts. Every student should have the opportunity to learn computer science. It helps nurture problem-solving skills, logic and creativity. By starting early, students will have a foundation for success in any 21st-century career path. (Hour of Code)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CLASS</th>
<th>CLASS AWARDS</th>
<th>BOOKWORK</th>
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</table>
| KB    | Wade Kennewell  
Robert Shore  
Bree Collins  
Keenan Holmes  
Scarlett Purvis |          |
| KG    | Jack Flitcroft  
Indiella Carter  
Soren Hansen  
Seth Bayada  
Beau Turner  
Tahlia Baldock  
Eithen Jerry  
Thomas King  
Ryan Marshall  
Oliver Miller  
Thomas Ridding  
Lincoln Seymour-Burgess | Tahlia Baldock  
Matilda Cudars  
Freya Denman  
Soren Hansen  
Lewis Hinchliff  
Mikaili Elliott  
Emerson Gosper  
Oliver Miller  
Thomas Ridding  
Beau Turner |
| 1B    | Cruz Carter  
Ruby Duffy  
Matilda Freeman  
Lachlan Jones |          |
| 1G    | Sybilla Hawke  
Jude Graystone  
Brea Koomen |          |
| 3B    | Jake Mulhall  
George Hawke  
Isobel Nathan  
William Pell  
Bailey White  
Annabelle Foster | Xavier Duncan  
Harry Miller  
Macey Thomas  
Jayden Ford  
Oscar Tracey  
Joshua King  
Bailey White |
| 3G    | Anthony Clarke-Randazzo  
Mia Holmes  
Sebastian King  
Fergus May  
Poppy Summerton |          |
| 4B    | Layla Thompson  
Georgie Perkins  
Marlon Hiney  
Isaac Braimbridge |          |
End of Year Mass
We invite all parents, grandparents and families join the school to celebrate our last Mass together for 2018.
Tuesday, 18th December – 9:30am at St Mary’s Church.

2019 Sacramental Dates

RECONCILIATION
There is no First Reconciliation in 2019 as we transition the sacrament from late Year 2 to early Year 3 as part of preparation for First Holy Communion.

FIRST COMMUNION – YEAR 3
First Communion Parent Information Evening – 9:30am OR 7:00pm - Wednesday, 8th May – Kenna Hall - Week 2 (Term 2)
Sacrament Weekend – Saturday, 22nd June & Sunday, 23rd June – End of Week 8 (Term 2)
First Communion Thanksgiving Mass - 9:30am – Tuesday, 25th June – Week 9 (Term 2)

CONFIRMATION – YEAR 6
Confirmation Parent Information Evening –
9:30am OR 7:00pm - Wednesday, 3rd July – Kenna Hall - Week 10 (Term 2)
Sacrament Weekend – Saturday, 17th August & Sunday, 18th August – End of Week 4 (Term 3)
Confirmation Thanksgiving Mass 9:30am – Tuesday, 20th August – Week 5 (Term 3)

CHRISTMAS EVE MASSES

IN ORANGE CITY
6pm at James Sheahan Catholic High School (Mercy Hall), Anson St, Orange
8pm at St Mary’s, Park St (near the cnr with Byng St), Orange
10pm at St Joseph’s, cnr of Byng and Hill Sts, Orange

IN ORANGE DISTRICT
6pm at St Michael’s, Derowie St, Manildra
6pm at St Patrick’s, Church St, Cargo
7.30pm at St Columbanus, Main St, Cudal

CHRISTMAS DAY MASSES

IN ORANGE CITY
8am at St Joseph’s, cnr of Byng and Hill Sts, Orange
9.30am at St Mary’s, Park St (near the cnr with Byng St), Orange

IN ORANGE DISTRICT
8am at St Brendan’s, Long Point Rd, Mullion Creek
9.30am at St Lawrence’s, Riddell St, Molong
St Mary’s
Catholic Primary School

Christmas Appeal

This year the needs of the Orange community are centered on the FAMILY. We would like to continue to help those who are less fortunate than us have a joyful family experience.

You can help by giving a gift for a family to use. For example:

Gift vouchers to local coffee shops,
Flip out entry ticket, Movie tickets,
Ten Pin Bowling, coffee shop vouchers
or even a garden shop gift vouchers.

All items will be donated

St Vincent de Paul Society
good works

Thank you for your support.
Together we can create a world where there is justice for all.
MISS STEPH’S BUST BRAIN CANCER

Nerium Hamper - valued at $1,700

Tickets available for $5 each at the
St Mary’s Dance Concert - Thursday 13th December

Drawn 16th December

Let’s Support Miss Steph

WIN OUR NERIUM HAMPER!

For every donation made to
Steph’s Bust Brain Cancer - fund cancer research
will go into the draw to win our Nerium Hamper!

Hamper includes:
2 x day creams, 2 x night creams, 2 x eye serums, 2 x body firming lotions, 2 x hydrogel eye patches, 2 x double botanical cleansers, 2 x Prolistic body lotions, 2 x Illumiboost brightening and shield serums, a cosmetic bag and a canvas bag – valued at over $1700 in retail value!
The power of saying yes to kids

Saying no is part of the deal when you’re a parent.

With some age groups, (yes, two year olds and fourteen year olds, I’m talking about you) it can seem as if no is on automatic recording. It’s exhausting, not to mention personally disappointing to continually refuse a child’s requests.

Before you had kids you probably swore that you would not be that person who always says no! But no is okay, as long as you say yes as well.

No is born of good intentions (you want kids to stay safe so ‘No you can’t stay out late’ is reasonable in the right circumstances.)

No is born of teaching kids to fit in (‘You can’t lock yourself in your bedroom when we have family and friends around.’)

No is born from strength (I said no to your request yesterday, it’s no today, and it will be no tomorrow) but can be worn down by continuous pestering.

There is a power to saying yes.

Being a parent places you in a position of power. It’s easy to use that power to say no. It’s harder, but more effective in the long run to seek a balance between no and yes, and in doing so, develop greater autonomy in kids.

SHARE THIS

Yes gives your nos some legitimacy. If you never say yes, then no becomes tiring for kids to hear.

Yes can develop many wonderful qualities in kids and promote real autonomy as long as yes is used wisely. Here’s how.

“Yes, when –” develops responsibility

A sense of personal responsibility is a wonderful character trait to develop in children and young people. A simple way of promoting responsibility is to add a condition to your yes. Adding ‘when’ teaches kids that good things in life generally come with a condition attached.

Yes, you can stay out until after dark when you show me you can behave responsibly when you are with your friends.

Yes, you can play with your toys when you pack up the last lot you got out

“Yes, if –” promotes good decision-making

Independent kids are able to make their own decisions and also wear the consequences of their choices. Encourage them to make their own decisions with the word “if” judiciously added to a yes to their request.

Yes, you can go out to play if you think you can be home on time.

Yes, you can have that toy if you are willing to pay for it.

Note: You need to make sure kids wear the consequences of a poor choice if this strategy is to be effective.

“Yes, and –” promotes a benefit mindset

In this current era of high consumption, it can be challenging developing a sense of generosity in kids. At Parenting Ideas, we encourage parents as much as possible to develop a benefit mindset from an early age so that kids think in terms of how can they contribute to the wellbeing of others. Adding an ‘and’ to your yes helps to teach kids to think ‘we’ not ‘me’.

Yes, you can go to your friend’s house and you can drop your little brother off at his mate’s house along the way.

Yes, you can have some cake and you can cut a piece for your mum as well.

Use your parenting power wisely

Being a parent places you in a position of power. It’s easy to use that power to say no. It’s harder, but more effective in the long run to seek a balance between no and yes, and in doing so, develop greater autonomy in kids.