**NEWS UPDATE**

**SO WHO ARE THE POOR AT BETHANY?**

Jesus had a special sense of mission to poor, oppressed and marginalized people.

“*The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to preach good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to release the oppressed, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor.*” (Luke 4:18-19)

Jesus was repeatedly reaching out to those at the bottom of the social pyramid--poor people, women, Samaritans, lepers, children, prostitutes and tax collectors.

Jesus said

“When you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind, and you will be blessed.” (Luke 14:13)

We have not only financially poor, but those who are “poor” *physically, socially, spiritually, culturally, academically at Bethany*…….

Some students might lack love in their life a hug, a kiss, someone who deeply cares. Some might lack a sense of the sacred, lacking Faith and values, an emptiness devoid of God and His ongoing creation. Others might be ‘poor” academically and struggle to master their learning because of intellectual difficulties.

We have many who could be called “poor” at Bethany. We have been called to the mission of Jesus to address the needy, marginalized and most disadvantaged in our community.

**WHEN IS THE BETHANY FUN FAIR?**

Not too far away…..

Friday, October 25th. (Third week of next term)

Put the date on your calendar as we look forward to this great event for the children and their families.

**CLASS MASSES**

Each term the Parish and school provide an opportunity for children to attend a liturgical celebration with those from their grade during the school day. We welcome the presence and participation of parents. Please note the following times scheduled for this term.

- Years 5 and 6 - Mass - Wednesday, 28th August, 2013 at 1:30pm.
- Years 3 and 4 - Mass - Friday, 13th September, 2013 at 1:30pm.
- Years K, 1 and 2 - Mass - Wednesday, 18th September, 2013 at 1:30pm.

We will advise changes and send reminders of these celebrations!
A “SPRING FAIR”
Our local St Vincent de Paul Society are hosting a fundraiser and everyone in the Bethany community is invited!!
Keep the date in the calendar

Saturday, October 12th in the Bethany Hall. A great night with food, friends and fun guaranteed. Bigger and better than last year!
More details to come soon….

MUNCH ‘N CRUNCH
Years 2 & 4 host this term’s Munch ‘n Crunch. Thank you in anticipation for sending in the goodies for the K-6 students. They love these days.

LEAVING STUDENTS
If you are leaving Bethany at the end of year, Could you please make sure you have submitted a NOTIFICATION OF STUDENT LEAVING FORM. This needs to be submitted to the Office.

VOICE OF YOUTH COMPETITION
Best wishes to the students competing at Holy Family, Luddenham next week. All Bethany Yr 6 students have competed and given their speech to their peers.
Congratulations to our representatives for 2013:
Jessica Shillito, Rafae1a Safadi, Rachelle Ellis, Caleb Myburgh

FEAST OF SAINT MARY MACKILLOP
Yesterday, August 8, marked the 104th anniversary of the death of Mary MacKillop. It is also the Feast Day of Australia’s first Saint. Mary founded the Sisters of St Joseph and was dedicated to educating children: especially the poor, marginalised and disadvantaged. Throughout her life she was inspired to do God’s will and to help those in need.

SAVE THE DATE - FATHERS DAY
Friday, 30th August, 2013
7:30am - breakfast
8:00am - 9:00am - Open Classrooms
9:15am - Liturgy in the Hall

CANTEEN ROSTER - WEEK 5 - Contact MICHELLE 0404-580-636
LUNCH ORDERS AVAILABLE WEDNESDAY AND FRIDAYS ONLY

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<td>Janelle King</td>
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VOLUNTEERS NEEDED Contact MICHELLE 0404-580-636
Resiliency Robbers

All parents have the best of intentions when raising kids. Wanting what is best for kids can cause parents to make decisions that are not always in their (children’s) long-term best interests.

If you buy the line that the promotion of resilience is in the best interests of kids then check out the following common parenting mistakes that reduce children’s resilience.

Robber # 1:
Fight all their battles for them
Nothing wrong with going into battle when kids struggle or meet with difficulty inside or outside school but make sure this is the last resort, not the first option.

- Resilience notion # 1: Give kids the opportunity to develop their own resourcefulness.

Robber # 2:
Make their problem, your problem
Sometimes parents can take too much responsibility for issues that are really up to children to work out or decide. Here’s a clue if you are wondering what I am talking about: a jumper is something a mother puts on her son when she is cold!

- Resilience notion # 2: Make their problem, their problem.

Robber # 3:
Give kids too much voice
In this era of giving children a voice it is easy to go overboard and allow them too much of a say in what happens to them. Kids often take the easy option to avoid hard or unpleasant situations.

- Resilience notion # 3: Make decisions for kids and expect them to adjust and cope.

Robber # 4:
Put unrealistic or relentless pressure on kids to perform
Expectations about success and achievement are important. Too low and kids will meet them. Too high and kids can give up. Too much and kids can experience anxiety.

- Resilience notion # 4: Keep expectations in line with children’s abilities and don’t put excessive pressure on them.

Robber # 5:
Let kids give in too easily
Resilient learners link success with effort. They don’t give up because they don’t like a teacher or when confronted with multi-step or more complex activities. Similarly they don’t bail out of a sporting term half way through the season because the team is not winning or they are not enjoying it.

- Resilience notion # 5: Encourage kids to complete what they have started even if the results aren’t perfect.

Robber # 6:
Neglect to develop independence
Don’t wait until they are teenagers to develop the skills of independent living. Start early and promote a broad skill set so that they can look after themselves if you are not around.

- Resilience notion # 6: Don’t routinely do for kids what they can do for themselves.

Robber # 7:
Rescue kids from challenging or stretch situations
There are many times kids are put in situations that are outside their comfort zones for a time. For instance, giving a talk, singing at the school concert or going on school camp may be challenges for some kids. They try all situations that kids usually cope with so show your confidence in them and skill them up rather than opt for avoidance.

- Resilience notion # 7: Overcoming challenges enables kids to grow and improve.

Sometimes the manageable hardships that children experience such as a friend moving away, not being invited to a party or completing a difficult school project are fabulous learning opportunities. They help kids to stretch and grow. Dealing with them effectively also teaches kids that they are capable of coping when they meet some of life’s curve balls.

And that is a huge lesson to learn at any age.