From the Principal:

Today we thoughtfully, prayerfully and with sorrow enacted Jesus’ passion. “Who could have imagined that any of this would happen? A motley group of runaway labourers escapes from the clutches of their superpower overlords; bread and wine is changed into the body and blood of a man who is being hunted down; the Son who was sent by God into the world washes the feet of his disciples. It is no wonder that Peter initially resisted. God’s love for us is beyond comprehension. This night we are left with the directive: ‘As I have done, so you must do.’ Our thanksgiving is expressed in our own self-emptying service of others. Having received the gifts of God, we give them away; they flow from God through us to others”.

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Jesus is the body language of God. He is Who God is living a fully human life. Stripped of his tunic with a towel girding his waist, his disciples could see his heart beating, divine energy pulsing into the world – as menial service.

Our Lord knows who we really are, not our imaginary self-portrait, our face to the world, but who we are at ground level where our feet can be somewhat dirty and embarrassing. He wants to wash us clean, soothe and refresh us, so that we can better follow him on the Way.

And he commands us, if we purport to be his followers, to wash and soothe and refresh the feet of others so they may better journey through life. Pope Francis memorably did this by washing the feet of prisoners, two of whom were women, one of whom was Muslim. Can we doubt that this helped their rehabilitation?

We could take a moment to pray that we might, like Pope Francis, be the presence of the serving, soothing, refreshing God in the lives of those who need us, setting their feet on the path to a happier and fuller life.

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Carol Seagar
Principal
I invite you to take time to reflect on this Liturgy from Reconciliation last week.

Litany of Forgiveness

Priest: Forgiveness is a way of life for families. Every day family members are called to forgive one another for infractions both great and small.
Reader: The response is, Lord, we are sorry.
All: Lord, we are sorry.
Reader: Blessed are you, Lord our God. We come before you to ask your forgiveness for all of our failings both great and small. Generous God, you give us so many gifts in life, yet sometimes we forget to share them. And so we say...
All: Lord, we are sorry.
Reader: Faithful God, you are with us in one another, yet we sometimes refuse to recognise you. And so we say...
All: Lord, we are sorry.
Reader: God of gentleness, you ask us to bring peace to our family and to the world, yet sometimes we spread anger and trouble. And so we say...
All: Lord, we are sorry.
Reader: Gracious God, you give us a voice with which to sing, and words to speak, and yet sometimes our words are hurtful or untrue. And so we say...
All: Lord, we are sorry.
Reader: Faithful God, you are with us in one another, yet we sometimes refuse to recognise you. And so we say...
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All: Lord, we are sorry.
Reader: Gracious God, you give us a voice with which to sing, and words to speak, and yet sometimes our words are hurtful or untrue. And so we say...
All: Lord, we are sorry.
Reader: Loving God, you sent your only son to show us how to love and serve one another, and yet we sometimes are selfish and unloving. And so we say...
All: Lord, we are sorry.
Priest: Merciful God, as we prepare for reconciliation, help us to ask forgiveness when we need to. Help us to forgive others who have wronged us. And let us be peacemakers in our school and in our family. We thank you for the gift of your forgiveness and love.
All: Amen.

Reconciliation

Priest: Close your eyes… think about what you did this week… think about what you have done so far this year… think about the people you have played with… think about the good things… think about the not so good things… think about a time when you have made a bad choice… a time when you have not treated somebody as you should have done… a time when you could have helped someone, but didn’t… a time when you were untruthful. God wants you to tell him the things that you are sorry for. He loves you and He knows that you are trying to live your lives as best you can, following the examples of Jesus. God is always ready to forgive, in fact he has already forgiven you.
Reconciliation is about being honest with yourself, which is what God wants, because it’s what’s best for you.

Easter Sunday Family Mass at SPC Chapel, 9am, followed by pancakes and an Easter egg hunt. If anyone is able to help with the pancakes please let Jacquie Wood know.
MYTERN
Unpacking the daily MYTERN Message: Working out your strongest PETS

When your children are on a red road it’s easy to say, find a PET that will help to make you feel better, but often they don’t know what PET to use.

It’s important to discuss with your children the different PETS that they can access when their road feels really rough, especially when they are not at home. Here are some ideas to start a discussion. Add as many new ones as you can, as the more there are, the better!

Pocket PETS: can be created for the younger children to have in their pocket so that they can access them at any time – a small toy; a laminated picture of their favourite toy/friend/dog/holiday; an inspirational photo; a special rock or crystal

Invisible PETS: are the ones that you keep in your head. It could be a song, a memory, a joke – anything that is strong enough to make you feel better.

Friendship PETS: could be a hug from your teddy bear or your favourite toy; a talk with a family member or friend; playing with your dog/pet

Giving PETS: being able to make someone else feel better

Exercise PETS: having a skipping rope or ball in your bag can be a good idea for those who need to move to feel better. Exercise PETS are often better done on your own.

Parking and Pick Up

Please do not park over neighbours driveways or so close they cannot get out from their house.

Don’t forget you can pick up children between 2.55 and 3.15 - staggering pickup relieves chaos at 3.00pm.

Nail Polish

Children are not to wear nail polish to school.

Winter Uniform

Children are to change over to winter uniform at the beginning of Term 2.
NACHOS DAY
Thank you to the following mums for helping to make our Nachos Day such a success:

Karen Cashion
Peta Rae
Hayley Saxton
Nerissa Marshall
Natasha Hopwood
Julie Nolan
Kylie Smart
Gail Martin-Shepherd

and to Mrs Morgan for organising.

A profit of $537.70 was made to send to Caritas.

Thank you.

Easter Passion Walk