

# CHAPEL MESSAGES FOR THE WEEK ENDING 25 March 2016

## MONDAY 21 MARCH

Good Morning All

Welcome to Week 8 Term 1 and its Holy Week.

School will finish for Easter on Thursday with chapel at 11.30am followed by Parent -Teacher interviews.

School will begin after Easter on Wednesday 30th.

Our theme for this week is GIVE THANKS

The Bible reading was Psalm 100 on pages 615 and 733 in the Wesley Bibles.

GIVING THANKS sits well given that Palm Sunday yesterday reminds us that this week is Holy Week leading into Easter.

Whether Christian or not, whether Easter holds significant meaning for us or not, whether it's just a public holiday or the death and resurrection of someone central to our life and faith, our theme causes us to think about those things we GIVE THANKS for.

It is the things we GIVE THANKS for which validate and endorse us as people, provides the directive for us to be the way we are, to do the things we do, and provides us with a sense of belonging.

We GIVE THANKS for this last weekend and the efforts of both students and staff as they competed on the various stages at Polyfest.

Kapahaka Wesley placed 3<sup>rd</sup> in their Exit and overall placings are still to come in.

The Tongan Stage Wesley placed 3<sup>rd</sup> in the Lakalaka and 1<sup>st</sup> in the Kailao.

The Samoan Stage Wesley placed 1st for the Manaia (Yr 13 Prince Lafele-Saumani individual dance), 3<sup>rd</sup> for Tauluga, 2<sup>nd</sup> for Uniform and received the Cup for Best Behaved School.

The Niuean Stage Matakau Aoga Tote (less than 35 members), Wesley placed 1st Lologo Tapu vaha tuai (traditional hymn), 1<sup>st</sup> Takalo (war dance), 1<sup>st</sup> Meke (drum dance), 1<sup>st</sup> Overall Uniform, 2<sup>nd</sup> Leader of Group (Zuriel Togaiatama). Year 13 Prefect Zuriel Togaiatama placed 3<sup>rd</sup> Senior Niuean speeches and Gabrielle Togaiatama placed 1<sup>st</sup> in Junior Speeches.

Our cultures provide validation, directive and the sense of belonging for us as Maori and Pasifika, as Wesley College.

We GIVE THANKS for one another and the unconditional relationship we live in alongside each other every day.

God's unconditional loving relationship with us is the mandate for our relationships with one another.

It provides the foundation for our School's Special Character and the way we relate to each other.

God's love for us is expressed by us in the myriad of things we GIVE THANKS for, ways in which God reminds us that God is always with us ... in everyone ... and in everything. We GIVE THANKS.

Have a blessed day

## **TUESDAY 22 MARCH**

Good Morning All

We continue to GIVE THANKS, our theme for this week.  
The Bible reading was from Matthew 21:1-11 on pages 1035 and 1208 and in the Wesley Bibles.

The encouragement this week is to have an attitude of THANKFULNESS in everything.  
When our attitude is one of GIVING THANKS, whatever comes our way, everything is an opportunity to do good to do well, to make a difference.

A THANKFUL attitude then gives us the courage and confidence to face each new day in full view of everyone and everything with clarity and with purpose.

I GAVE THANKS to the young men who were eating at the old chapel last night and left all their rubbish and cutlery there for me to pick up this morning. I am THANKFUL because when I picked up their rubbish I am constantly reminded of God's call to care for the environment, to look after what has been God given.

Jesus entry into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday marks the beginning of Holy Week.  
I don't know if Jesus was THANKFUL given what would happen to him over this week.

His betrayal by one of the tight Twelve, his denial by another of his closest disciples, his death on the cross, his resurrection.

Jesus may well not have been THANKFUL that he had to die for us and the whole of humanity, but we GIVE THANKS that he did.

As we remember this Holy Week and GIVE THANKS to God for the sacrifice made for us, we GIVE THANKS too that Jesus' death wasn't the end.

Having an attitude of THANKFULNESS gives us the courage and confidence to face each new day in full view of everyone and everything with clarity and with purpose, knowing that it is in Jesus' resurrection that we are given hope and for this we GIVE THANKS.

Have a blessed day

## **WEDNESDAY 23 MARCH**

Good Morning All

We continue to GIVE THANKS this Holy Week.

It's a wild and windy one here today at Wesley and the weatherman says, the wet is coming.  
We GIVE THANKS to our Cultural Groups for the array of trophies and certificates adorning our stage presently from Polyfest.

CONGRATULATIONS to the Wesley Waiuku Kapahaka who placed 6th out of 14 groups in their section.

THANK YOU to Prefects Michaela Leaupepe and Taine Denny for leading worship this morning.  
The Bible reading was Psalm 7:17 on pages 548 and 662 in the Wesley Bibles.

v17 I will GIVE THANKS to the Lord because of his righteousness and will sing praise to the name of the Lord Most High.

When we wonder if anyone is honest or fair we can be assured that God will continue to bring justice and fairness when we involve God in the things we do.

If we ever feel that we are being treated unfairly, ask the One who is always fair and just to be with us. Then GIVE THANKS for God's presence.

Have a blessed day

## **THURSDAY 24 MARCH**

Good Afternoon All

We GIVE THANKS that as a School, family and community, we are able to celebrate the onset of the Easter break with a Service of Thanksgiving to end our School day for the Easter holidays. There is something very special about the celebration of Holy Communion with young people who witness to the love of God for them. For this we GIVE THANKS to God.

The blessings of Easter and our Risen Lord to all our School, family, community and friends. May Easter be a time of peace and joy, a time of family and rest, a time of God with us.

By your wounded hands, teach us diligence and generosity.  
By your wounded feet, teach us steadfastness and perseverance  
By your wounded and insulted head, teach us patience, charity and self-mastery.  
By your wounded heart teach us love, teach us love, teach us love.  
Daphne Fraser

Have a blessed Easter

## **FRIDAY 25 MARCH**

No Chapel Message today.

