

CHAPEL MESSAGES FOR THE WEEK ENDING 13th APRIL 2017

MONDAY, 10th APRIL 2017

Good Morning All

Welcome to Holy Week and our last week of the School term.

It's a beautiful blue sky filled warm day today at Wesley. We give God thanks!

Our prayers and thoughts for staff member Mrs Marli Gordon whose husband passed away overnight.

Our sympathies and prayers for former student Jason Koroheke and his family as they mourn the loss of their daughter and loved one.

Annie and Stephen Tema finally left for Shanghai, China last Thursday. We wish them well as they settle in their new country.

THANK YOU to Mrs Natalie Faitala and CONGRATULATIONS to our students who represented us at the Sheilah Winn Shakespeare Competition held on Sunday. The group performed very well and both scenes (*A Mid-Summers Nights Dream* and *As You Like It*) received accolades from the Judges.

Wesley College was awarded with a special award for Best Ensemble work.

CONGRATULATIONS to Telly Mapuhola who also received an award for being a student director for her scene.

CONGRATULATIONS to the 2nd XV who drew their rugby game with Sacred Heart on Saturday.

THANK YOU to the 70 students who travelled to Trinity at Waiake to join the congregation there for Palm Sunday.

THANK YOU too to Hostel parents Mrs Ranger and Mr Raos who accompanied us.

We will FAREWELL Hostel Manager Bill Leach and staff member Syra Nelson on Thursday at a special morning tea.

Our theme for this week is HOLY WEEK.

The Bible reading was from Matthew 21:1-11 on pages 1035 and 1208 in the Wesley Bibles.

Jesus' entry into Jerusalem is both significant and poignant as the reality of this week calls us to pause and as best we can in the busyness of this week, walk with Christ to the cross. For us death is not final and the hope that comes Easter Sunday is the life-long hope that God is with us.

God with us, in and throughout our life as we seek to fulfil our potential in realizing God's will for each of us.

The hope is that wherever our potential takes us, we do so knowing what has been done to enable us to be.

As Christ entered the East gate to Jerusalem in all humility and riding a donkey, a similar procession was entering the West gate of Roman armies expressing military strength and power. The question posed at our service yesterday was ... which gate will we enter and which crowd will we associate ourselves with?

Have a blessed start to Holy Week.

TUESDAY, 11th APRIL 2017

Good Morning All

Cloudy skies here at Wesley. God is good!

HOLY WEEK ...

Our faith teaches us that Jesus' death was more than martyrdom, that it actually effected forgiveness of sins and reconciliation between God and humanity. We are enabled then to proclaim the mystery of our faith:

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Explaining the message of Easter to our young people can be a difficult one.

Instead, let's look for ways in our everyday living whereas God's people the messages of sin and salvation, brokenness and healing, rupture and forgiveness, death and resurrection can be conveyed.

Our young people will witness some of those concepts in real life, It is the hope given at Easter, that when they see their parents snap at each other and then reconcile, or when they receive a hug after they have misbehaved, or when they hear us talk about our hope of seeing a deceased loved one again, that they will learn from and also enact and pass on these concepts as they participate in life and living. We live in hope!

Have a blessed day

WEDNESDAY, 12th APRIL 2017

Good Morning All

It's a wet and windy but warm day here at Wesley. God is good!

GO WELL to all our students and staff away at the 7s today.

This morning a Family Service was held for staff member Mrs Marli Gordon and her family. Marli's husband Jimmy passed away on Sunday evening. Normally we would take a group of staff and students to visit the family but Marli asked if she and the family could come to us here at School.

We are thankful that as a school and family we were able to share together in paying our respects to Jimmy.

Marli has been a staff member for many years and equally so her husband Jimmy who was a cook in the kitchen from 1995 to 2003. Jimmy was described by former catering Manager Hana Panapa and current staff member Kathy, as a 'colourful' character which sometimes

was seen in the food he made. Rice puddings would be either orange or pink reflecting the love Jimmy had for things from Thailand which is where Marli hails from. Jimmy would grumble about having to do things but he would always do it especially when it had to do with feeding the students. He would do anything for them. He was a straight shooter and you always knew where you stood with Jimmy.

Former Principal Rev Ian Faulkner wrote 'I have some memories of Jimmy in the kitchen - one of a 'team' of notable characters.'

We pray for Marli and the family in the days ahead as they prepare to farewell Jimmy. Thank you to our School for their contribution to this morning's service. Thank you to Hana and Kathy Panapa who shared their memories of Jimmy. Thank you to Head Boy Xavier Faitala who spoke on behalf of the School. Thank you to Head Girl Bella Brewster who led the reading and made our presentations to Marli and the family. Thank you to Maatua Vince for his sharing and waiata. Thank you to Mr Richard Smythe the longest serving staff member for his recollections, waiata and accompanying the singing. Thank you to the Principal for his words of comfort and support. Thank you to Rev Ian Faulkner and Mrs Faulkner for their message of sympathy.

Have a blessed day

THURSDAY, 13th APRIL 2017

Good Morning All

It's cloudy and threatening rain, weather warnings are ahead of us going into Easter. Wherever people are and maybe travelling this Easter please take care.

Today is our last School day of Term 1 and as we break for the school holidays we wish everyone a well-deserved rest with family and loved ones..

To all our Staff - Maintenance, Laundry, Cleaning, Kitchen, Health Clinic, Office, Hostel and Teaching - it has been a long term for us all. Thank you for all your hard work and effort this term in ensuring we together provide a happy, safe place and space for our students and community.

This morning the School bade farewell to two members of staff - Mr Bill Leach Hostel Manager and Miss Syra Nelson.

Bill, his wife Anne and the family have had a long association with the School. Their children schooled here and they were always involved in the life of the School. Bill and Anne have moved to Hamilton where they will live.

We wish Bill well in his retirement and give thanks to God for his many years of service and faithfulness to caring for our School and especially his advocacy of our young people. He reminded us this morning 'it is about the kids!'

Syra is a former student who returned and has given back to the school through her work in the kitchen, to kapahaka and other areas of school life. Syra and her son Kaiya have lived on site and contributed to the life of our community.

Syra goes now to train as a Youth worker with the Elim Church and we wish her God's blessing as she leaves us.

Kaiya presently attends Karaka School but his big dream is to return to Wesley as a student and so he was presented with a school blazer, shirt and tie. The expression on his face was priceless!

We will gather in Chapel at 11.30 for our Easter Service and Holy Communion after which the students will leave for the holidays.

Parent Teacher interviews will begin at 1pm - 6pm today.

The blessings of Easter to all our Wesley family and community here in Aotearoa and throughout the world.

God is forever with us and for this we are always thankful.

Have a blessed day!

