



# The Evangelist

The St John's Primary School Newsletter

Wednesday 24th May 2017 Term 2 Week 5

*Dear Parents / Carers*

May is the month of Mary, of motherhood. It is the month in which we celebrate the motherhood of Mary. Mary, who by becoming the Mother of God, assumed a special role in our lives and became a mother to us all. For those outside the Catholic Church this can seem a foreign concept. After all, how can a woman, a mere mortal, who lived 2000 years ago be a mother to us all.

However, through our relationship with Jesus we have become adopted sons and daughters of the Father (Ephesians 1:5) making us the brothers of Christ. Hence, His mother has also become our mother by this adoption. And this adoptive motherhood is true motherhood. This then is the motherhood of Mary. It is a true motherhood in which we were conceived in her heart. We honor her as our mother because we are the recipients of her full motherly love.

In our staff meeting yesterday the teachers of St John's prayed the following prayer together to honour Mary our mother.

*Mary, Mother of Jesus'  
give me your heart,  
so beautiful, so pure,  
so immaculate,  
so full of love and humility,  
that I may be able to receive Jesus  
in the bread of life,  
love Him as you loved Him,  
and serve Him as you served Him,  
in the distressing disguise of the  
poorest of poor.  
Amen*



During the month of May I encourage families to pray to Mary our Mother. The rosary is a very special prayer that you might like to pray together.

I hope all our mothers had a very 'Happy Mother's Day.' Our **Mother's Day** celebration on Friday 12<sup>th</sup> May was a wonderful way to recognise those significant women in our lives and their nurturing qualities. The liturgy, prayers, reflection and participation of the students touched the hearts of those who attended. I extend a heartfelt thank you to all our staff who helped in any way to prepare for the celebration. Miss Espiritu did a fantastic job in coordinating this celebration. The afternoon tea was a fantastic opportunity for our mums and significant guests to get together to share a cuppa and chat. I thank our wonderful staff for their generosity in providing the delicious afternoon tea. I'm sure that our mums (significant women) appreciated the lovely gifts that your children purchased at the **Mother's Day stall**. Once again our stall was stocked with a range of beautiful items. I would like to thank Mrs Stone and Mrs Boltjes for their effort in coordinating the Mother's Day stall and for sourcing the gifts. I also express my heartfelt thanks to all our generous mums and grandmas who gave up their time and assisted at the stall. The sale of items ran very smoothly and the children appreciated your help.

**The Riverstone Festival** was a tremendous success; our students, as usual, were beautiful; they were a credit to our school. We congratulate Mrs Heslop on the student's performance at the festival, a job well done children, your beautiful singing and actions was enjoyed by the community. I would like to extend my gratitude to: Mr Fisher, Mrs Heslop, Mrs McCarter, Mrs Cremona, Miss Espiritu and Mrs Berry for representing St John's at the festival and for supporting our children in the parade. Our school community group did a fantastic job with the St John's cake stall. They raised over \$1,000.00. A number of mums and dads worked hard throughout the day. A special mention goes to Trish Talbot and Adrienne Reid who were instrumental in organising this fund raising event.

I wish our Stage 3 girls good luck for the **soccer gala day** tomorrow. I know the team will be wonderful ambassadors for St John's. I extend our thanks to the parents / carers who are transporting the children to the event. Without your support our students would not be able to attend. I would particularly like to express my gratitude to Mrs Peters for volunteering as a referee.

**Kindergarten enrolment** interviews for 2018 continue this week. To date we have 17 enrolments for next year.

**Changes to staffing:** I wish to inform you that Mrs Deb Heslop who has been a wonderful teacher here at John's for about 20 years is relocating with her husband, Steve, to the South Coast. As a result, Mrs Heslop will be finishing her time at St John's at the end of this term. Our sincere gratitude and thanks to Mrs Heslop for her expertise, dedication and effectiveness whilst at St John's.

Mrs Rebecca Tolhurst will be taking maternity leave at the end of this term. We thank Mrs Tolhurst for her many contributions to St John's learning community; for her care of her students and for her generosity of spirit. We wish Mrs Tolhurst, her husband Peter (and son Blake) every good wish as they await the birth of their second child.

Our school counsellor Mrs Anna Madigan-Singh has resigned her position from Student Services, CEDP. I thank Mrs Madigan-Singh for the work she has done with some of our children and families and wish her well in her future endeavours. Lorena McManus has been assigned to St John's until a permanent counsellor is appointed. We welcome Lorena to the St John's Community.

*God Bless, Patricia.*

## ST JOHN'S PRIMARY SCHOOL RULES

**Be a good learner**

**Be respectful**

**Be safe**



## Our School Prayer



*Heavenly Father,  
At St John's we pray that you watch  
over us in all we say and do.  
Guide us with love and peace.  
Be with us as we learn.  
Let us make choices that create a friendly  
and respectful community.  
Help us to be the best we can.*

*Amen.*

# Safety Alert

A concerned parent has notified the school office that a small child is being left in the church car park at afternoon pick-up unattended while the parent collects their child from school.

**LEAVING A CHILD IN A CAR UNATTENDED CAN BE EXTREMELY DANGEROUS**

**PLEASE DO NOT LEAVE YOUR CHILDREN IN THE CAR FOR ANY PERIOD OF TIME WITHOUT ADULT SUPERVISION**

## KISS AND DROP

PARENTS HAVE ALSO BEEN SIGHTED STOPPING AT THE STAFF CARPARK GATES AND ALLOWING THEIR CHILDREN TO WALK THROUGH THE STAFF CARPARK IN THE MORNINGS INSTEAD OF WAITING IN THE KISS AND DROP QUEUE

**THE STAFF CARPARK IS OUT OF BOUNDS AND UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES SHOULD ANYONE BE WALKING THROUGH THERE AT ANYTIME.**

**THE SAFETY OF OUR STUDENT IS PARAMOUNT AND WE APPRECIATE EVERYONES COOPERATION**

### STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY

PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDAR

THE NEXT STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY WILL BE HELD ON

**MONDAY 17TH JULY 2017**

**'NO STUDENTS AT SCHOOL ON THIS DAY'**

TERM THREE WILL COMMENCE

TUESDAY 18TH JULY 2017

every learner  
every day 

School Name

St Johns Primary Riverstone

School Attendance Level %

 86.8%

Scholastic Year

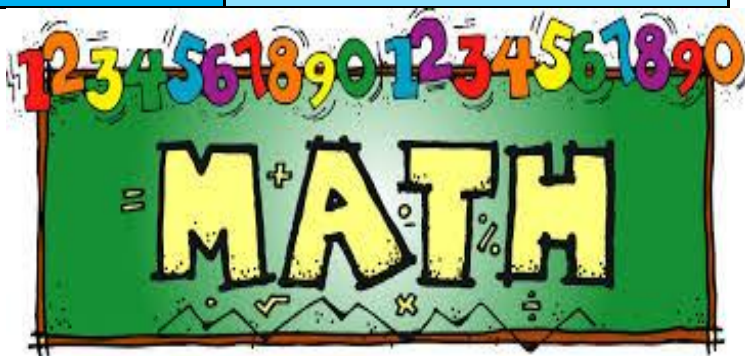
Sch Yr Attendance Level %

K	 100.0%
01	 83.7%
02	 84.6%
03	 90.9%
04	 75.6%
05	 100.0%
06	 66.7%

## WHAT'S COMING UP

25th May	Stage 3 Girls Soccer Gala Day
29th May	PRC Meeting
31st May	School Photo Day
4th June	Bunnings BBQ (Year 6 Fundraiser)
5th June	Athletics Carnival (Charlie Bali Reserve)
22nd June	Stage 3 Boys Soccer Gala Day
29th June	Stage 2 Boys/Girls Soccer Gala Day
30th June	LAST DAY TERM 2
17th July	SDD/NO STUDENTS AT SCHOOL TODAY

**Multiplication and Division** is a focus at St John's this year. The teachers are always trying to add Multiplication and Division in all their Mathematics lessons. This creates as sense that different mathematical strands are connected. The issue of whether times tables being taught is often brought up. **Times tables are taught**, they are taught in a variety of ways and are not taught just by rote learning. Below is an outline of the multiplicative structures that are taught in our learning spaces and examples of word problems that match each structure.



Multiplicative structure	Multiplication word problem	Division word problem
<b>Equal group structure</b>	Three children have 4 cookies each. How many cookies do they have altogether?	12 cookies are shared equally between 3 friends. How many cookies do they get each? (Partition)
<b>Allocation/rate</b>	One sticker costs 5 cents, how much would 3 stickers cost?	I have 30 cents to spend on stickers. If one sticker cost 5 cents how many stickers can I buy? (Quotition)
<b>Rectangular arrays</b>	A box of chocolates has 4 chocolates in each row. There are 3 rows of chocolates. How many chocolates are in the box?	I had a box of 12 chocolates. There are 4 chocolates in each row. How many rows of chocolates in the box? (Quotition)
<b>Times as many or multiplicative comparison</b>	Janie collected 4 seashells. Simone has 3 times as many. How many seashells does Simone have?	Simone collected 12 seashells. This was 3 times as many as Jamie. How many seashells did Jamie have? (Partition)
<b>Cartesian product or combination problems</b>	Jess has 3 skirts, and 4 t-shirts, how many different outfits can she wear?	Jess has 1 different skirts and t-shirt outfits to wear. If she has 3 skirts. How many t-shirts does she have?

Downton A 2008

I encourage parents/carers to present some of these problems to your children (Change the quantities to suit your child/children). Send in examples to Mr Fisher so we can display the students thinking. Once your child/children have worked the problem out see if they can do it a different way.

Jason Fisher

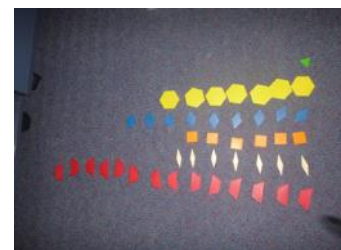
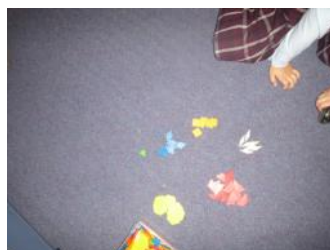
### Numeracy in ES1

Early stage One have been discovering data and different ways they can represent data. The children explored the amount of different coloured M & M's in small packets. The children were then asked to organise the M & M's.



*Great Work  
Early Stage  
One*

The children then explored packets of shapes and organised them so the amounts of each shape are easily identified. Here are some examples ;



*Jason Fisher*

*Assistant Principal*

## Vocabulary Building Ideas

Kids with a large vocabulary understand more of what they read and hear. So big vocabulary=big learning! Exploring new words on a regular basis is one of the best ways parents can support learning at home. Parents are the first “language models” for children. Children listen, then use words, then read them, and, finally, write them. What they learn at home about words supports success in school.



### ***What parents can do to help at home***

Engage your child in conversations every day. If possible, include new and interesting words in your conversation.

Read to your child each day. When the book contains a new or interesting word, pause and define the word for your child. After you're done reading, engage your child in a conversation about the book.

Help build word knowledge by classifying and grouping objects or pictures while naming them.

Help build your child's understanding of language by playing word games and telling jokes and stories.

Encourage your child to read on their own. The more children read, the more words they encounter and learn.

### ***Did You Know???***

***Word origins or facts about words can be fascinating. For example, the word “salary” had its origin in “salarium,” which is Latin for salt. Roman soldiers received their pay in salt.***

***Suffixes are clues to word meanings. For example, “er” or “or” at the end of a word suggests “one who.” Example: conductor-one who conducts; trainer-one who trains, etc.***

Parents who talk to their children, and who encourage an interest in words will lay a healthy platform for academic success. And children will quickly realize that words need not be drudgery but can be exciting and interesting.

*Pauline Berry*  
*Literacy Leader*



## **TERM 2 SCHOOL FEES** **REMINDER**

Term 2 school fees have been issued and are due on Monday, 29<sup>th</sup> May.

Please contact Deanne Hearnden in the school office if you would like to discuss fees further or you would like to set up a payment arrangement.

Discussing of fees will be dealt with confidentially and each person is guaranteed that they will be treated with respect and dignity.

Fees can be paid either by cash, cheque, bpay, postbillpay or by using our EFTPOS facilities.

## **We Need Your Help!**



**St John's  
Fundraiser Team**

## **Woolworths BBQ**

This Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> May 2017, the St John's Fundraiser Team will be having a BBQ at Woolworths in Schofields (Railway Terrace) to raise money for the Spring Fete. Please look for the volunteer note that was sent home with your child yesterday and return to school asap if you can help



## **St John's Cake Stall at the Riverstone Festival 2017**



**was another resounding success thanks to the outstanding creativity and hard work of our dedicated school community!**

There were cupcakes, slices, lollies and delicious delights as far as the eye could see. Beautiful icing looking like sugary coral reefs and crisp, creamy cannoli's vied for attention with delicate shortbread flowers and rich, fudgy brownies. A shout out to those who provided sweetness for our gluten-free/vegan consumers too.

**St John's Community Group would like to extend HUGE thank-yous and big hugs to all of our lovely friends who baked up a storm.**

**Without your efforts the stall would have been far less inviting ☺**

**And last, but most definitely not least, the volunteers who helped set up and pack up the equipment and who staffed the stall throughout the day with enthusiasm and un-ending cheerfulness – fist bumps all round!**

**The cake stall raised \$1,013.95**  
**Congratulations Everyone**

**Our taste buds can hardly wait for 2018 – St John's Community Group**

**The next St John's Community Group meeting will take place on**

**Tuesday 30th May at 6pm in the school hall**

**All parents/carers are most welcome**



# RIVERSTONE FESTIVAL 2017



# ***MAJOR FUNDRAISER***

## ***ST JOHN'S FETE***

**SATURDAY 16<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2017**



St John's School Fundraising Group are working hard organising the St John's Fete which will be held on the 16<sup>th</sup> September 2017.

In order for our fete to be a success we will need the support of the whole school community. This term we are asking families to donate items to our collection days for a 'Tombola Stall.' The basic idea of a Tombola stall is very simple. Supporters of our fete donate items / products in advance. These items then have a number assigned to them and are put on display. During our Fete people buy tickets, which if they match the number on an item, win that prize.

***"Can you supply a small item for our Tombola?"***

Term 2, Week 2: ESI	Toiletries (eg. shampoo, conditioner, body wash, hand wash)
Term 2, Week 3: Year One	Paper products ( eg. serviettes, paper towels, tissues)
Term 2, Week 5: Year Three	Tinned soups, UDH milk products.
Term 2, Week 7: Year Four	Sauces / salad dressings ( eg. BBQ sauce, tomato sauce, Caesar dressing)
Term 3, Week 1: Year Five	Tin products (eg. vegetables, fruits, baked beans etc)
Term 3, Week 4: Year Six	Bottle products (eg. wine, soft drinks)
Term 3, Week 6: Year Two	Snacks (eg. chips, twisties, muesli bars)

Please note that with perishable products the use by date should be checked to ensure it has not expired.  
Keep in mind the date of the fete is the 16<sup>th</sup> of September.

***KEEP YOUR DONATIONS COMING, IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO DONATE***

***THANK YOU FOR YOUR ONGOING SUPPORT***

## AWARDS

Week 3 Term 2 NO ASSEMBLY DUE TO MOTHER'S DAY LITURGY

### Week 4 Values Award

#### FREEDOM

Breanna Xerri ES1, Talara Sciberras Stage 1,  
Hayden Jones Stage 2, Sarah Mansweto  
Stage 3

#### Merit Award

#### Week 4

Elizabeth O'Neil ES1, Billi Watson & Lucas  
Beazley Stage 1, Christopher Uildriks & Aaron  
Sciberras Stage 2, Anthony Chiddo &  
Charlize Tran Stage 3

#### Principal Award

#### Week 4

Manny DeGuzman ES1, Roman Hanna  
Stage 1, Kristian Albanis Stage 2,  
Bella Marie Hanna Stage 3

*Congratulations!!!!*



Bronte Peter 12th May,

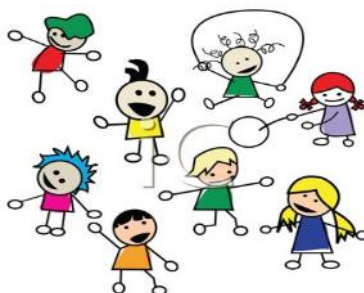
Alex Dennis 16th May,

Lachlan Watson 20th May,

Breanna Xerri 20th May,

Amelia Makin 21st May,

### Parent Representative Council (PRC)



All Welcome!

*This is an invitation to parents/carers of St John's to be part of a **free** information session on **Raising Resilient Children**. The presentation will be presented by Dr Justin Coulson, an Australian leading parent expert, international speaker and author.*

**When: Monday 29<sup>th</sup> May, 7pm**

*Where: Catholic Learning Communities of St John XXIII - St Mark's College, 160 Perfection Ave, Stanhope Gardens*

every learner  
every day 

**At school we are interested in your child's**

Well being and happiness

Engagement with learning in the classroom

Social and emotional development

**The single most important thing you can do to support all of these areas is ensure they attend Every Day**

## **ATHLETICS CARNIVAL MONDAY 5TH JUNE**

**RETURN PERMISSION/  
EMERGENCY NOTES AND  
PAYMENT ASAP**

PLEASE RETURN ALL PERMISSION/EMERGENCY  
NOTES ALONG WITH PAYMENT TO THE SCHOOL  
OFFICE BY THIS FRIDAY 26TH MAY

**SAUSAGE SIZZLE LUNCH  
AVAILABLE ON THE DAY**

LOOK FOR THE SAUSAGE SIZZLE ORDER FORM THAT  
WAS SENT HOME EARLIER THIS WEEK.

ALL ORDERS MUST BE PRE-ORDERED/PRE-PAID,  
NO ORDERS WILL BE TAKEN ON THE DAY  
THE SNACK SHACK WILL ALSO BE AVAILABLE ON THE DAY



**REMINDER THAT PARENTS/CARERS ARE NOT PERMITTED TO PARK IN THE STAFF CAR PARK WHEN THEY DROP OFF OR PICK UP THEIR CHILD/ CHILDREN FROM SCHOOL.**

**THE SAFETY OF OUR STUDENTS IS  
PARIMOUNT AND WE APPRECIATE  
YOUR CO OPERATION REGARDING  
THIS MATTER**

## **COMPLAINTS AND GREIVENCES**

If , at any time, you find that you have a concern with the school, you are encouraged to come to the school and speak with the teacher/s, assistant principal and/or principal, to find a resolution for your concern.

It is our aim to work with all members of our school community to ensure that we do the very best we can to provide a productive, safe and enjoyable learning experience for our students and professionally fulfilling experience for our staff.

If you would like to raise a concern formally, the Catholic Education Office has procedures for ensuring that complaints are handled fairly. Information about how to lodge a complaint and a complaint form are available from the school office or in the Complaint Handling Policy and Procedures. These documents can be accessed on the CEDP website [www.parra.catholic.edu.au](http://www.parra.catholic.edu.au)



# Building Child Safe Communities

## Important Information for Volunteers

Thank you for your interest in volunteering. The opportunities provided to students are greatly enhanced by the contribution of volunteers. All volunteers will need to complete the **Undertaking for Volunteers' Form and Training Module** online before they can volunteer at St John's, please use the link below.

<http://childprotection.parra.catholic.edu.au/home>

### **Step 1: Complete 'Building Child Safe Communities - Undertaking for Volunteers' Form**

You will need to complete a Volunteers Form for **each location** that you volunteer. A notification of your successful completion of the form will be sent via e-mail to the volunteering location and also to your email address.

### **Step 2: Complete the online training module**

It is a system requirement that the online training module be completed by all volunteers commencing at any of our locations and the training needs to be completed every second year.

- Open the module by clicking the **Start** link below.
- Read through the presentation.

Complete and submit quiz questions (this will take approximately 10 minutes).

***NOTE: IF YOU HAVE ALREADY COMPLETED THE TRAINING MODULE YOU WILL ONLY NEED TO COMPLETE THE 'UNDERTAKING FOR VOLUNTEERS' FORM.***

# UNEXPLAINED ABSENCES

LETTERS ARE SENT HOME TO  
PARENTS/CARERS ON A WEEKLY BASIS  
REGARDING UNEXPLAINED  
ABSENCES

THIS IMPORTANT INFORMATION IS  
REQUIRED URGENTLY AND NEEDS TO  
BE RETURNED TO THE SCHOOL OFFICE  
If your child is absent from school it is  
the Parent/Carers responsibility to  
send to school with the child (on their  
return) a written explanation of the  
reason for absence and it also needs to  
be signed by the Parent/Carer. Notifi-  
cation via telephone will be accepted  
providing the caller can be verified.

This is a legal requirement.



## MORNING SUPERVISION

Before school supervision of  
students commences at 8.20am.  
Parents are asked not to drop off their  
children at school prior to this time.

*This is for the safety of all our  
students*

# UNIFORM EXPECTATION

Thank you very much to our parents  
for ensuring that your children  
come to school in the correct full  
school uniform and neatly  
groomed.

- ♦ BLACK LEATHER SCHOOL SHOES
- ♦ JEWELLERY - STANDARD WATCHES (Boys & Girls)
- ♦ JEWELLERY - PLAIN STUD OR SLEEPERS EARRINGS (Girls only)
- ♦ LONG HAIR MUST BE TIED BACK WITH REGU-  
LATION (SCHOOL COLOURS) RIBBON, BAND  
OR SCHOOL SCRUNCHIE AND **EXTREME HAIR  
STYLES ARE NOT ACCEPTABLE. THIS IN-  
CLUDES STREAKS, HAIR COLOURING , LINES,  
SHAVED CUTS, UNDER CUTS, RATS TAILS,  
MULLET ETC.**
- ♦ SPORTS SHOES MUST BE PREDOMINANTLY WHITE  
WITH WHITE LACES **NOT COLOURED.**
- ♦ SPORTS SOCK ARE WHITE COVERING THE ANKLE
- ♦ GIRLS SOCKS ARE LIGHT BLUE and BOYS ARE GREY  
WITH MAROON STRIPE (available at Lowes)
- ♦ NAIL POLISH is NOT PERMITTED
- ♦ SCHOOL HAT IS TO BE WORN OUTDOORS AT ALL  
TIMES (St John's Primary School has a NO HAT NO  
PLAY Policy)
- ♦ GIRLS AND BOYS ARE REQUIRED TO WEAR  
TIES WITH THE WINTER SCHOOL UNIFORM
- ♦ GIRLS TAB TIES ARE AVAILABE FROM THE  
SCHOOL OFFICE FOR \$5
- ♦ BOYS TIES ARE ALSO AVAILABLE FROM THE  
SCHOOL OFFICE FOR \$17
- ♦ GIRLS ARE REQUIRED TO WEAR GREY TIGHTS  
WITH THE WINTER UNIFORM

Thank You for your co-operation

# Parent Pick-up

Parents/Carers are asked to please wait in the parent pick up area in the under-croft and

**NOT TO CONGREGATE NEAR YOUR CHILD'S CLASSROOM OR IN THE AREA BETWEEN EARLY STAGE ONE AND STAGE ONE CLASSROOMS**

This is for the safety of all of our children. We appreciate your co-operation regarding this matter

# ASSEMBLY

Whole School Assembly is held  
**FRIDAY'S AT 2.30PM**

All Parent's/Carers/Family and Friends are most welcome to join our school community

## SCHOOL START AND FINISH TIMES

School commences at 8:50 am and concludes at 2:50 pm

All children that arrive after the morning bell need to be accompanied by a Parent/Carer to the office to complete a late arrival form that needs to be signed by the Parent/Carer. This is a legal requirement and the child will be processed as an unexplained partial absence if the Parent/Carer does not attend the office with the child. Please have your child at school before 8:50am.



## ST JOHN'S PLAYGROUP

Tuesday and Thursday  
**9:15—11:15 am**

If you have children under 5 years old, why not bring them along each Tuesday or Thursday to Playgroup in the Church Hall. Mums, dads, grandparents and carers are all welcome. For further inquiries please contact Tina on 9627 7625 or the Parish Office on 9627 1176

### School

5 McCulloch St Riverstone/PO Box 20, Riverstone, 2765  
Tel: 9627 2588 Email: riverstone@parra.catholic.edu.au

[www.stjohnsriverstone.catholic.edu.au](http://www.stjohnsriverstone.catholic.edu.au)

**Principal: Patricia Charlton**

Office Hours 8.30 am—3.30pm

Call in for a School tour anytime

### Parish

Cnr Garfield Rd & McCulloch St  
Riverstone 2765.

Tel: 9627 1176 Email: [stjohns10@bigpond](mailto:stjohns10@bigpond)

**Parish Priest: Father Zakaria Gayed**

Weekend Mass Times:

Saturday 6pm, Sunday 7am & 9am