



## **Term 1 Week 2 News from the APRE**

Welcome to a new school year! I am so excited to be your new Assistant Principal in Religious Education at this beautiful school of St Joseph's. I am very appreciative of the warm welcome and gracious hospitality shown by this amazing community. I am looking forward to meeting you all over the coming weeks.

### **Welcome School Mass**

On Friday we are having our first school mass of the year. Fr Dariuzs will be presiding over the Eucharistic Mass and we welcome everyone to join us in the church at 9am. We will be having a shared morning tea straight after the service. It would be wonderful to see you there.

### **2020 Catholic Education Theme**

Our theme for this year is 'A Spirited Tomorrow' and acknowledges that is the 175th anniversary of the opening of the first catholic school in Queensland. We have a long tradition of catholic education and see that is plays a continued relevance in preparing students for the future. The theme also play reference to the work of the Plenary Council as they plan the way forward for the Church in a modern Australia.

### **St Joseph's Charism**

One of the school priorities this year is to enhance our Catholic Identity and in particular unpack one of our school's patrons, St Joseph. The teachers attended a professional learning session in Cairns during 0 Week by Dr Michael Downey. I know I can speak confidently for the staff when I say we all walked away having a deeper understanding of who St Joseph was and how he is relevant for us today. This year we are going to work together to unpack St Joseph, who was a lay person immersed in the real world of work and family, and explore how his journey is relevant to us today, especially in this beautiful town of Weipa.

### **Simultaneous Prayer**

On Friday the students all stopped their learning at 12 o'clock to join other school's in the Cairns diocesan for prayer. This is an opportunity for us to partake in a simultaneous time of prayer to pray for those affected by the bushfires. What a wonderful way of showing our solidarity for those who are suffering and/or grieving at this time.

May St. Joseph smile on you,

Meg Newell