

The Voice and Spirit of Painsley

Hi all,

Hope everyone is well and you are all enjoying the sunny weather. On Sunday, we celebrate the Solemnity of St. Peter and St. Paul. St. Peter and St. Paul are the greatest leaders of the early Church and they spent their lives working endlessly for Jesus. Both of them suffered for their faith and spent time in prison. But even then, they continued their work by writing many letters that we can still read today. We remember their courage and faith and thank them for sharing Christ's message with the world.

Let us ponder...

We look forward to new beginnings

The leader of a tribe encamped at the base of a mountain was dying. The chief summoned his three sons and said, "I am dying and one of you must succeed me as head of our tribe. I want each of you to climb our holy mountain and bring back something beautiful. The one whose gift is the most outstanding will succeed me." After several days the sons returned. The first brought his father a flower that grew near the summit and was extremely rare and beautiful. The second son brought his father a stone that was colourful, smooth, and round, having been polished by rain and sandy winds. The third son's hand was empty. He said, "Father, I have brought nothing back to show you. As I stood on top of the holy mountain, I saw that on the other side was a beautiful land filled with green pastures and a crystal lake. And I have a vision of where our tribe could go for a better life. I was so overwhelmed by what I saw and by what I was thinking that I could not bring anything back." And the father replied, "You shall be our tribe's new leader, for you have brought back the most precious thing of all – the gift of a vision for a better future."

This Sunday's Gospel

Matthew 16:13-19

In Sunday's Gospel we hear that Jesus was so impressed with Simon that he gave him a new name. He also said he would build His Church upon Simon Peter. Jesus gave this great task to Simon Peter because Simon Peter recognised and believed that Jesus was the Son of God. He had great faith and was willing to put that faith into words but also into actions. Because of Simon Peter's great faith, Jesus gave him the keys to the kingdom of heaven. We all know the importance of keys. Keys lock doors but they also open them too! As a disciple, Peter spent his time sharing Jesus' message with other people. He opened their hearts to God's love. We can open our hearts also. We have a golden opportunity during lockdown to stop and listen, to pray and to try to hear what Jesus is asking us to do. Just like the 'keys' to God's kingdom we can think of some 'key' words that show us what Jesus asks us to do. Love, believe, forgive, give, share and hope. They are the 'keys' that truly open our hearts to God's love and welcome Him inside. Take the opportunity today to do just that!

Prayer for summer days

Father of all creation, thank you for this day. May I treat with respect and kindness your beautiful, natural surroundings as well as all whom I may meet this day. Through the majesty of the natural world, may I sense even just a bit of your great glory. Help me to savour these summer days and make time for prayer, reflection and play. Amen

Food for thought

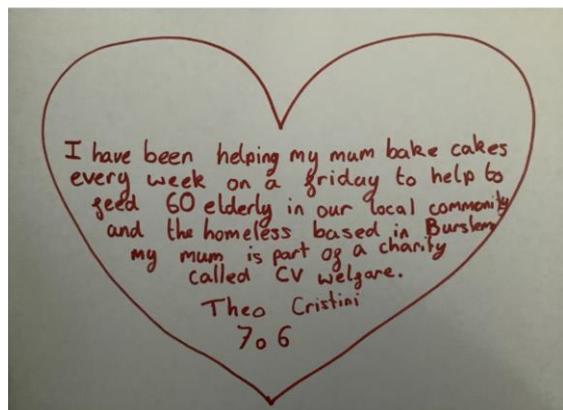
The most important question!

A student, during her second month at medical school, was given a pop quiz by the teacher. She was a conscientious student and had breezed through the questions, until she read the last one: "What is the first name of the woman who cleans the school?". Surely this was some kind of joke. She had seen the cleaning

woman several times. She was tall, dark-haired and in her 50s, but how would she know her name? The student handed in her paper, leaving the last question blank. Before class ended, one student asked if the last question would count toward their quiz grade. "Absolutely," said the teacher. "In your life you will meet many people. All are significant. They deserve your attention and care, even if all you do is smile and say 'hello'." The student never forgot that lesson. And also learned that the cleaner's name was Helen.

'Shining Sacred Heart' Students

Here are some more wonderful examples of how our students have been supporting and helping their families and friends whilst at home:



Message from the Principal

I am so proud of all of our students through our time apart. Each and every one has demonstrated their discipleship by showing love to others in their words and actions and embracing the opportunities shared with them. These qualities of discipleship will most certainly be the 'key' to knowing yourself and who God has called you to be.

God Bless