And it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus, that all the world should be taxed. And this taxing was first made when Cyrenius was governor of Syria. And all went to be taxed, everyone into his own city.

And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem; because he was of the house and lineage of David; to be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child.

And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered.

And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn.

And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them; and they were sore afraid.

And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. And this shall be a sign unto you: You shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger.

And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, goodwill toward men.

And it came to pass, as the angels were gone away from them into heaven, the shepherds said one to another, Let us now go even unto Bethlehem, and see this thing which is come to pass, which the Lord hath made known unto us.

And they came with haste, and found Mary, and Joseph, and the babe lying in a manger. And when they had seen it, they made known abroad the saying which was told them concerning this child.

And all they that heard it wondered at those things which were told them by the shepherds. But Mary kept all these things, and pondered them in her heart.

And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things that they had heard and seen, as it was told unto them.
Dear Parents,

As this is our final issue of Contact for the year I would like to wish all families a very joyous and relaxing Christmas and to thank families for the support they have offered the school throughout the year. Last Monday all families should have received their child’s report and the name of the teacher their child will have in 2016. If you did not receive your child’s report please contact the school. Listed below is the school structure for 2016 and the responsibilities of each staff member.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Parish Priest</th>
<th>Father Jim Clarke</th>
<th>Grade 5 Blue</th>
<th>Mr Andrew Miller</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Principal</td>
<td>Mr Phil Hesse</td>
<td>Grade 5 Green</td>
<td>Mrs Grace Whelan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deputy Principal/I.T. Leader</td>
<td>Mrs Maree Fatouros</td>
<td>Grade 5 Red</td>
<td>Miss Lisa Wenhyronynycz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R. E. Leader/ Literacy</td>
<td>Mr John Downie</td>
<td>Grade 5 Yellow</td>
<td>Mrs Christine Grey</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special Ed Leader/ Wellbeing</td>
<td>Ms Lis Thompson</td>
<td>Grade 6 Blue</td>
<td>Mrs Helen Rochecourtse</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Numeracy/ School Review/ Special Needs Support</td>
<td>Miss Carmelina Corio</td>
<td>Grade 6 Green</td>
<td>Mr Nick Frederiksen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outdoor Ed/ Inter School Sports Leader</td>
<td>Mr Nick Frederiksen</td>
<td>Grade 6 Red</td>
<td>Miss Natalie Di Carlo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Admin Officers</td>
<td>Mrs Rita Petracca</td>
<td>Grade 6 Yellow</td>
<td>Mr Chris Giosis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prep Blue</td>
<td>Mrs Sam Lutgens</td>
<td>Physical Education</td>
<td>Mr Kevin Cahill</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prep Green</td>
<td>Mrs Elizabeth Rodrigo</td>
<td>Music</td>
<td>Mrs Laura Nacketashan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prep Red</td>
<td>Miss Megan Hiscox</td>
<td>Japanese</td>
<td>Mrs Hiroko Ryan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prep Yellow</td>
<td>Miss Natalie La Fontaine</td>
<td>Art Teacher</td>
<td>Mrs Melinda Wharton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grade 1 Blue</td>
<td>Miss Lauren Drill</td>
<td>Library Teacher</td>
<td>Mrs Nanda Roelofs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grade 1 Green</td>
<td>Miss Jessica Cannizzaro</td>
<td>Library Technician</td>
<td>Ms Cheryl Battour</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grade 1 Red</td>
<td>Miss Sharni Spriggs</td>
<td>Reading Recovery</td>
<td>Mrs Helen Tracey</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grade 1 Yellow</td>
<td>Miss Molly McKinnon</td>
<td>Classroom Support</td>
<td>Mrs Betty Carroll</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grade 2 Blue</td>
<td>Mrs Mary Reilly</td>
<td>Mrs Karen Bland</td>
<td>Mrs Jo Faella</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grade 2 Green</td>
<td>Mr Daniel Bau</td>
<td>Mrs Gil Hewawissa</td>
<td>Mrs Dawn Henderson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grade 2 Red</td>
<td>Mrs Janine Boer</td>
<td>Mrs Modie Wesley</td>
<td>Mrs Kathy Siwek</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grade 2 Yellow</td>
<td>Mr Andrew Johnston</td>
<td>Mrs Katie Edgar</td>
<td>Mrs Angelene Longano</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grade 3 Blue</td>
<td>Mr Pat Healy</td>
<td>Mrs Karen Bland</td>
<td>Mrs Jo Faella</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grade 3 Green</td>
<td>Miss Amanda Smith</td>
<td>Mrs Gil Hewawissa</td>
<td>Mrs Dawn Henderson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grade 3 Red</td>
<td>Miss Lauren Wallis</td>
<td>Mrs Modie Wesley</td>
<td>Mrs Kathy Siwek</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grade 3 Yellow</td>
<td>Mr Shane Wilson</td>
<td>Mrs Katie Edgar</td>
<td>Mrs Angelene Longano</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grade 4 Blue</td>
<td>Mrs Sallie Dunstan</td>
<td>Classroom Support</td>
<td>Mrs Karen Bland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grade 4 Green</td>
<td>Miss Diane Donald</td>
<td>Mrs Jo Faella</td>
<td>Mrs Gil Hewawissa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grade 4 Red</td>
<td>Mr Nathan Carey</td>
<td>Mrs Karen Bland</td>
<td>Mrs Jo Faella</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Year 6 Graduation Last Friday’s Year 6 Graduation Ceremony was a most successful celebration and the Committee worked hard to bring about its success. The Year 6 students were a credit to their families and school. The Graduation Committee lead by Marina Nittoli and Amelia Guerra worked tirelessly to make the evening a success. Mrs Maree Fatouros, Nick Frederiksen, Helen Rochecouste, Sharni Spriggs and Daniel Bau are to be thanked for their contribution and the school staff who supported in various ways. I am sure that in the years to follow we will hear of the success of these children.

End of Year Thanksgiving Mass will be celebrated today at 11:30 am. Please note the Grade 6 students are expected to attend school on all days, including the Thanksgiving Mass and wear full school uniform.

2016 School Year Children in Years 1-6 commence on Thursday 28th January. Prep 2016 children commence on Group A – Thursday 28th January, Group B – Friday 29th January. All prep children commence Monday 1st February. Please note prep children will have every Wednesday off from school until Wednesday, 2nd March.

Year 6 trip to Canberra will be on Monday, 22nd February until Friday 26th February. More information will be sent home early 2016.

School Photographs – Parents are asked to keep Wednesday, 9th March free as all children will be involved in school photos.

Term Dates 2016

TERM 1 - Wednesday 27 January – Thursday 24 March
Students return: Thursday 28 January
*Easter 26 - 29 March
TERM 2 – Monday 11 April – Friday 24 June
TERM 3 - Monday 11 July – Friday 16 September
TERM 4 - Monday 3 October – Friday 20 December

Sacramental Dates 2016 The Sacrament of Confirmation will be held on Saturday 13th & Sunday 14th August at 2pm & 4pm on both these days. The Sacrament of Holy Eucharist will be celebrated on Sunday 29th & Saturday 4th June, 2016 at 2pm & 4pm on both these days.
Parish Christmas Carols – The school in conjunction will the parish invites children to be part of our school / parish Christmas Carol evening on Sunday, 20th December at 7.00pm. If you would like your children to be part of this event please read the information sheet attached to this issue of contact. Our School Choir will be performing and children can be involved in our Nativity Play. All children in the school are invited to participate.

School Office The school office will be closed from 12.30pm on Thursday 17th December and will open on Wednesday 27th January 2016 at 8.30am.

All the best for a most enjoyable and relaxing Christmas.

Yours sincerely,

Phil Hesse
Principal

TERM 4 ENDS WEDNESDAY 16TH DECEMBER AT 1.15PM
TERM 1 RESUMES THURSDAY 28TH JANUARY 2016 FOR STUDENTS IN YEARS 1 TO 6
PREPS START HALF ON THURSDAY 28TH JANUARY & HALF ON FRIDAY 29TH JANUARY 2016
MONDAY 1ST FEBRUARY 2016 ALL PREPS RETURN

DATES TO REMEMBER

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wed. 16th December</td>
<td>Students finish Early dismissal 1.15pm</td>
<td>Wed. 27th January</td>
<td>Staff return</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thurs. 17th December</td>
<td>School Administration closes 12.30pm</td>
<td>Thurs. 27th January</td>
<td>Uniform shop open 10am – 1pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thurs. 17th December</td>
<td>Term 4 ends</td>
<td>Thursday 28th January</td>
<td>Students (Year 1 to 6) return</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday 20th December</td>
<td>Advent – Week 4</td>
<td>Thursday 28th January</td>
<td>Preps return Group A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 25th December</td>
<td>Christmas Day</td>
<td>Friday 29th January</td>
<td>Preps return Group B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday 26th December</td>
<td>Boxing Day</td>
<td>Sat. 30th / Sun. 31st Jan.</td>
<td>Reconciliation Commitment Masses</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sat. 23rd / Sun. 24th Jan</td>
<td>Reconciliation Commitment Masses</td>
<td>Wed. 3rd February</td>
<td>No Preps attend school</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

SCHOOL DIARIES: The Diaries that are included in Years 3, 4, 5 & 6 Book Lists will be given out on the first week of school next year to those students who have ordered them as they hadn’t arrived from the supplier in time to be included in the Book Packs.

JOKE OF THE WEEK

Two young women were walking along a country lane when a large green frog jumped out before them and said:

"Please dear maidsens. One of you kiss me and I will turn into a handsome prince."

One girl quickly scooped up the frog and put it in her handbag.

"Aren't you going to restore him to a prince?" asked her friend.

"No. Princes are a dime a dozen. But a talking frog, now there is potential for making a dollar."

SCHOOL WEBSITE NEWS

www.ssworville.catholic.edu.au

DID YOU KNOW?

- To access permission forms etc go to http://www.ssworville.catholic.edu.au/parent-resources-1/forms under Parents / Forms and Notices. These will be updated for next year.

CDF STUDENT BANKING: THE FIRST DAY FOR STUDENT BANKING IN 2016 WILL BE THURSDAY 4TH FEBRUARY.

BIRTHDAY WISHES

Wishing the following students a very happy birthday.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Carson Eugenio (Prep B)</th>
<th>Michael Di Scala (1B)</th>
<th>Geet Lamba (1B)</th>
<th>Emilie Maini (2Y)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Marc Blangard (Prep G)</td>
<td>Lolita Ordones (3R)</td>
<td>Sabrina Farinaccio (2R)</td>
<td>Angelica Skoblar (Prep Y)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jessica Khorani (3G)</td>
<td>Julian Pawlowski (3R)</td>
<td>Kristian Savino (6B)</td>
<td>Deanne Sylvester (3B)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colby Valenzuela (5/6P)</td>
<td>Cheryl Chau (4B)</td>
<td>Emily Do (6B)</td>
<td>Gabriella Roughan (1B)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kayd Pieterse (3G)</td>
<td>Amelia Mikolajewski (3R)</td>
<td>Samuel Salantri (3B)</td>
<td>Sebastian Hart (Prep B)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tyler Waltner (3R)</td>
<td>Dianne Mendis (3G)</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
PARENT’S ASSOCIATION NEWS
Thank you to everyone for your support over the last year. We really appreciate it and couldn’t have achieved what we have without you.
Wishing everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy and Safe New Year. St Simon’s Parent’s Association.


UNIFORM SHOP ROSTER: Wednesday 27th JANUARY 2016 10am to 1pm

CAHILL DANCE: Classes offered 3 years to adult. Pre School Dance & Movement, Classical Ballet, Jazz, Tap, Funk & Contemporary. Venue St. Simon’s. For more info phone Julie 9759 7191 or Sue 9752 8010


SUPER SPEAK: Is Melbourne’s award winning public speaking & drama programme for 6 – 15 year olds, runs fun weekly classes for students to help them to develop confidence and skill in presentations, performance and everyday communication. Rowville classes are held on Monday afternoons. For more information, timetable and enrolments visit www.superspeak.com.au or call 9572 5249.


EASTERN REGIONAL LIBRARIES - SUMMER QUEST: Pick up your registration form and passport at any branch of Eastern Regional Libraries. Complete simple tasks, win rewards along the way and go into the draw for the Family Grand Prize! Tuesday 1st December to Friday 22nd January 2016. www.yourlibrary.com.au

The Staff of St. Simon’s School
Wish you a Happy and Holy Christmas
3rd Sunday of Advent

First Reading Zeph 3:14-18
With gladness the Lord will rejoice over you.

Second Reading Phil 4:4-7

Who are some of the ‘great’ people you have encountered in your life—not those who are famous or wealthy, but those who have had a profound influence on you?

Share the memories of the gifts you received from such people.
3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

GOSPEL

When all the people asked John, 'What must we do?', he answered, 'If anyone has two tunics he must share with the man who has none, and the one with something to eat must do the same.' There were tax collectors too who came for baptism, and these said to him, 'Master, what must we do?' He said to them, 'Exact no more than your rate.' Some soldiers asked him in their turn, 'What about us? What must we do?' He said to them, 'No intimidation! No extortion! Be content with your pay!'

A feeling of expectancy had grown among the people, who were beginning to think that John might be the Christ, so John declared before them all, 'I baptise you with water, but someone is coming, someone who is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to undo the strap of his sandals; he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fan is in his hand to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his barn; but the chaff he will burn in a fire that will never go out.' As well as this, there were many other things he said to exhort the people and to announce the Good News to them. (Luke 3:10–18)

- 'A feeling of expectancy had grown among the people.' Is there an expectancy growing in you as the coming of Christ draws closer?
- 'What must we do?' Are there things which you can do in your life in order to live more ethically? John's words offer a deep challenge to how people live.

DID YOU KNOW?

- Tax Collectors at the time of Jesus were disliked immensely for two reasons. They collaborated with the Roman oppressors and they skimmed additional monies from the people for themselves.
- The Jewish people of this time were hopeful that a Messiah would come to overthrow the tyranny of the Roman Empire and set them free.
- The word 'Messiah' in Hebrew means 'anointed one'. The word 'Christ' has exactly the same meaning in Greek.

PRAYER

Use this week's Responsorial Psalm as this week's prayer:

Truly, God is my salvation,
I trust, I shall not fear.
For the Lord is my strength, my song,
he became my Saviour.
Cry out with joy and gladness:
For among you is the great and Holy One of Israel.

SYMBOLS AND IMAGES

The image of Jesus as a farmer who separates the wheat from the chaff is a stern one but serves as a reminder that the choices we make have consequences, not only in this life but in the eternal life to come. Truly living the life of a Christian is not an easy task.

MAKING CONNECTIONS

Make a special effort to live ethically this week.

Use the ritual lighting of the Advent wreath candle. You could use some reflective music and spend time in quiet contemplation of the signs of Christ's presence in the world.

Strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is near.
First Reading Micah 5:1-4
Second Reading Heb 10:5-10
Gospel Luke 1:38

I am the servant of the Lord: may his will for me be done.

Use the Advent wreath and candle-lighting ritual again. In your prayer, give honour to Mary and Joseph for the way they cooperated with God’s plan.

Try to be intuitive to God’s voice this week. What is being communicated to you at this time in your life?
GOSPEL
Mary set out and went as quickly as she could to a town in the hill country of Judah. She went into Zechariah's house and greeted Elizabeth. Now, as soon as Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leapt in her womb and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. She gave a loud cry and said, 'Of all women you are the most blessed, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. Why should I be honoured with a visit from the mother of my Lord? For the moment your greeting reached my ears, the child in my womb leapt for joy. Yes, blessed is she who believed that the promise made her by the Lord would be fulfilled.' (Luke 1:39–44)

- 'You are most blessed.' Do you have a sense of how 'blessed' you are? Can you recognise the 'blessedness' of others?
- Have there been occasions when you had a sense of being filled with the Holy Spirit or a sense of the closeness of God?

DID YOU KNOW?
- In Luke's Gospel the conception and birth of Jesus are described in parallel with the conception and birth of John the Baptist. One important difference is that the announcement of the miraculous conception of John to elderly parents comes to his father Zechariah, while the announcement of the conception of Jesus comes to his mother, Mary.
- In Matthew's Gospel it is Joseph who is the main protagonist while Luke concentrates on Mary's role in cooperating in God's plan for the world.
- Luke's Gospel pays a great deal of attention to the role that women play in the story of salvation.
- Mary undertakes a journey from Nazareth in Galilee, in the north of Israel, to the hill country of Judah in the south. This is an extraordinary journey for a young pregnant woman of her time to undertake alone!

PRAYER
Mary's great song of rejoicing which comes after today's Gospel makes a suitable prayer this week:

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord;
my spirit rejoices in God my saviour.
For he has looked upon my lowliness;
behold, from now on, all ages will call me blessed.
The Mighty One has done great things for me,
and holy is his name.

SYMBOLS AND IMAGES
It is Mary's willingness to accept her role in God's plan for salvation that makes her such a special figure. Throughout the Scriptures, God often chooses those who are lowly and apparently powerless to assist in his plan for salvation. Mary's simplicity and faith is a model for all believers. Her response to God's call is one we can all emulate.

MAKING CONNECTIONS
This week try to visit someone who is in need of some attention, especially as Christmas is almost upon us. Make the time to reach out to another.
2015 End of Year Report to the School Community

In accordance with the purpose set out in the constitution of the St Simons Parents Association, the planning, co-ordination and facilitation of many varied social functions and fundraising events has been conducted this year.

Many of the fundraising activities during the year were those that have proven to be highly successful over a long period. Events such as the Chocolate Drive, Walkathon and both the Fathers and Mother’s Day Stalls were again extremely well supported activities. New events were on the calendar this year, both the Twilight Movie Night and Bogan Bingo were successfully staged events that provided valuable funds but most importantly were great fun events.

Below are some highlights of the events and social services of the Parents Association this year and the associated revenue received.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Net Profit 2015</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cadbury Chocolate Drive</td>
<td>$11,428.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mothers Day Stall</td>
<td>$2,231.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Walkathon</td>
<td>$5,940.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fathers Day Stall</td>
<td>$2,191.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School Disc</td>
<td>$550.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pizza Day</td>
<td>$4,045.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Movie Night (inc Screen Advertising Income)</td>
<td>$5,028.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bogan Bingo</td>
<td>$658.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The activities of the Parents Association do raise funds for projects within the school; however most importantly help build a community spirit through the interaction of parents, teachers, students and the parish bringing these activities to life. Events such as the Twilight Movie night and Bogan bingo brought families and teachers together in a social setting. There were also many parents and proud grandparents walking with children participating in the walkathon. On behalf of the Parents Association we would like to thank the teachers of St Simons for their attendance and support in these activities.

The highlighted fundraising income, combined with other minor fundraisers has achieved total income for 2015 of $64,862.82 (gross income) as at the 30th November 2015, and a bank balance of $57,598.70.

As in previous years a $10,000 contribution has been made to the school for I/T and the second stage of the Shade Sail project is due for completion over the holiday period. We estimate that this will cost approximately $25,000.00.

Throughout the school year the Parents Association has also provided morning teas and assisted at St Simons Day and Tim’s Day. Before the conclusion of the term 4 the Association will in conjunction with the teachers put on a morning tea to thank the numerous parents who have given support and volunteered there time throughout the year.

It goes without saying many hands make light work. Without the supportive time and effort from the families in the St Simons community the success of all events either fundraising or social, big or small, cannot be achieved.

The Parents Association would like to thank all who have been so supportive in the generous giving of their time and effort.

We wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Prosperous New Year and look forward to your continued support next year.

Anthony Madigan
President (Interim) - St Simons Parent’s Association 2015
SHHHH... CAN YOU KEEP A SECRET?!  

Date: 26th February 2016

St Simon's Parents Association proudly presents: Cinema Under the Stars, St Simon's Style!

Lock the date into your 2016 diaries now! There will be food and drink available on the night. What better way to see in the new school year than with a fun and relaxed opportunity to meet families in your child's new grade?

Any questions?

More details will be provided in Contact in 2016. Otherwise, call Kathy West on 0407 836 819.
St. Simon's Parents' Association

POSITIONS VACANT

St. Simon's Parents' Association is currently seeking individuals to join the Parents' Association to help organise social and fundraising events for the schools.

If you:

- Are self-motivated
- Enjoy team work
- A desire to be actively involved in the decision making process on current and future School fundraising and social events.
- Enjoy supporting your child's education and school
- Have a passion for the school community and desire to see it develop.
- Are looking to have fun
- Have a sense of humor
- A desire to make new friendships and work with the principal and teachers

Then, this is the role for you!

This role will allow you to develop your organisation skills, leadership qualities, fundraising skills and influencing abilities to decision making and much more. Finally, you will have a real impact on your child's education and by providing valuable resources and improvements with the school.

Whether you are a full time employees, part time employees, stay at home parents with young children, if you have any amount of time you can give you SHOULD apply for these positions.

Remuneration: The gratitude of the community and the feelings of accomplishment and self fulfilment.

Apply by completing the attached nomination form or by attending the Annual General Meeting on Wednesday 17th of February 2016 at 7.30pm. If you have any questions please contact Anthony on 0457 855 057 or Leanne on 0412 095 941.
St Simon's Parents' Association
Frequently Asked Questions

Q. Why do we need a Parents' Association (PA)?

A. The PA helps to organise extra fundraising and social events at the school such as Mother's Day and Father's Day Stall, morning teas, food in- service days and social events such as the movie night.

Q. We pay fees so why do we need to fundraise?

A. Catholic students on average receive 20 percent less government funding than government schools. When fees are included, Catholic schools operate on around 90% of the cost of education in a Victorian government school.

![Average net recurrent income per student, 2010](http://www.cem.edu.au/our-schools/funding-of-catholic-schools/)

Accordingly, we need to fundraise to try and make up this difference to ensure that our children have the most up to date equipment and resources for their learning and development.

Q. Where does all the money the PA raises go?

A. Each year the PA contributes $10,000 towards the schools IT department and in consultation with the Principal, Mr Hesse, we select a project within the school to raise funds for. In 2014/2015 we have been fundrasing for Shade Sails to cover the playgrounds on the oval. The second set of sails will be installed over the summer holidays. The total cost of the shade sails have been funded by funds raised through PA fundraisers.
ST SIMON'S PARISH
CHRISTMAS CAROLS
Sunday 20 December, 7pm

7pm Nativity Play
7.30pm Choirs
8pm Supper (pls bring a plate)
8.15pm Christmas singalong

If your child would like to have a part in the live Nativity Play to begin the evening
Please come to practices on
Tuesday 15 December, 3.30pm
(afternoon tea provided 3.20pm)
and Sunday 20, 3pm
in the Church
RSVP: Jacqui 9764 4058