August 18th 2014

Dear Parents and Families, Staff and Children

The Gospel read at Mass yesterday was a story about faith (Matthew 15: 21 – 28). Jesus uses an incident with a woman seeking a cure for her daughter to show his followers how having faith makes people strong.

The woman was a foreigner (from Canaan) and so not welcome in Galilee. Many locals did not see her as being worthy of approaching Jesus because she was an outsider. However, in the eyes of God everyone is equal and worthy of respect and assistance. In response to the woman’s request for healing for her daughter Jesus affirms her faith in these words: “Great is your faith! Be it done for you as you desire”.

The faith that this woman displayed is sometimes called ‘expectant faith’ because it is a faith that knows God will respond. What is important to remember is that God will respond in God’s own way and in God’s own time. Expectant faith knows there will be a response, and waits patiently trusting in the faithfulness of God regardless of the difficulties or problems.

The challenge for us is not to walk away from God when we face difficulties and do not get an immediate response from God because God never walks away from us. The woman in the Gospel story could have walked away from Jesus when her first request went unanswered. However, she simply asked again and waited for a response from Jesus. This patient waiting is itself an act of faith.

We pray this week for a deepening of our faith. We pray for the strength to wait patiently and trust in the faithfulness of God who never abandons us.

Jesus and Mary bless all Santa Teresa families.

Yours sincerely
In JMJ

Br Daniel
Principal

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Be giving of yourself to others. People need to be open and generous towards others because if you withdraw into yourself you run the risk of becoming egocentric; and stagnant water becomes putrid.

Don’t be negative. Needing to talk badly about others indicates low self-esteem. That means: ‘I feel so low that instead of picking myself up I have to cut others down’. Letting go of negative things quickly is healthy.

Pope Francis
Welcome
Welcome to the teachers and students from Galen College Wangaratta who are visiting the Santa Teresa community this week.

Congratulations
Congratulations to the following children who received awards at the assembly last Wednesday: Jamie Young (Looking after Things); Simon Bloomfield (Making Good Choices).

Magic Words
Green: Claudia Oliver, Keilan Davis, Shara Tilmouth & Geoffrey Ronson
Acid Green: Joel Cavanagh
Amber: Anthony Wilyuka
Blue: Jamie Young
Purple: Bryce Douglas (100 Words)
Red: Kurt Smith & Elijah Bloomfield