## Centenary Snippets

Update No. 28

## Religious Life of the School

The religious life of the school document was launched in 2009. This launch caused us to reflect on the many things that we do at our school which makes it distinctly a Catholic Community. Liturgical celebrations whether they are Liturgy of the Word or Eucharist are highly prized and valued at St Francis Xavier. Our celebrations are distinctly Catholic but acknowledge and respect that many other faith traditions are present in our student, parent and wider community. We welcome all in the Catholic Tradition and value and support where we can, people in their faith journey.

Teachers follow the Religious Education guidelines and include daily prayer in the classroom. Whole school community prayer includes prayer at our weekly assembly led by students or teachers. We begin each year with a whole school Eucharist where we celebrate the gift of our community. Students from years 4 to 7 take part in class Eucharistic celebrations with Fr Roger Burns as the main celebrant. These masses are held twice a year for each of these classes.

During the last six years we have celebrated Lent and Advent with whole school projects. These projects have enabled us to focus on the overarching focus areas of the Archdiocese being Jesus, Mission and Community. We have also been able to align our project with the Brisbane Catholic Education Vision To Teach, To Challenge and To Transform.

The feast of St Francis Xavier, Mother's Day and Father's Day celebrations have always been well attended and are valuable demonstrations of community building.

Our staff group take part in annual retreat days and are constantly being updated on liturgy, celebration and teaching materials.

St Francis Xavier is truly a community of prayer and belief in a God who loves and cares for each one of us. Let us continue to grow in our love for God and each other.