

## St. Thomas the Apostle Parish Family Catechetics Newsletter

July/August 2017

## Catechetics Office Staff

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Mass Times: Saturday 6:00pm Sunday 10:30am

Dear parents,

Wow, we have come to the end of term 2. Where has the time flown by? We are now already half way through the year! Seems like just yesterday that Lisa and I were introduced to you, as the new team for 2017. Time does fly by!

First of all, Lisa and I want to congratulate all the candidates who received the Sacrament of Reconciliation, earlier this month. We were truly so proud of them and how they each went through the sacrament so diligently and respectfully. Congratulations too, to the parents who did such an excellent job in preparing their children and getting them ready for this significant day. We all know that the role of parents is of utmost importance. In fact, it has been rightfully said that parents are always the primary educators of their children! So thank you very much dear parents, for taking your role very seriously and helping your children to get closer to God and the Catholic Church.

One little, but nevertheless, significant point that I would like to mention is how all parents were requested by us to try and be seated in the church by 7.15 pm for a 7.30 start. Lisa and I were both amazed to see that nearly everyone was present in the church, even before 7.10 pm. This, I would like to say, is a testimony of your cooperation and commitment towards the Family Catechetics Program. So once again, we are thankful to you and we look forward to getting the same help and support from you, in term 3.

As mentioned earlier, in the last email sent out to you with all the meeting dates for the rest of the year, we are next meeting on the 20<sup>th</sup> of July with the grade 2 group of children and parents at 4pm and the First Holy Communion Group at 6.30 pm. Then on 27<sup>th</sup>, we have the meeting for the Confirmation candidates and parents.



Congratulations to all the candidates, who received the Sacrament of Reconciliation this month, and their families too! Thank you Fr Tao(who is missing in the picture, as he had to rush off to another meeting), for celebrating this sacrament.

In the month of July, on the 3<sup>rd</sup>, we celebrate the feast of our patron saint, St. Thomas the Apostle. Thomas the Apostle was one of the Twelve Apostles of Jesus Christ, according to the New Testament. He is informally called "Doubting Thomas" because he doubted Jesus' resurrection when first told about it. Later, when convinced, after touching the wounds, he is supposed to have said, "My Lord and my God. This is one of the most explicit statements of faith in the New Testament, thus giving us Christians a prayer that will be said until the end of time. He is well known for his courage and bravery, having even travelled as far as India. May we try to emulate the qualities and virtues of our Patron Saint, St Thomas in our lives.



Enjoy your holiday break and we are looking forward to seeing you next term.

Josette and Lisa