

St Catherine's
Catholic Primary School
Covenant



St Catherine's Covenant

Our School Covenant expresses our Vision and Mission for St Catherine's, guided by the Charism of the Presentation Sisters. It is a commitment to do all we can to be faithful to the Covenant, personally and professionally, in all our relationships and responsibilities.



VALUES

As a Christ-centred community, we value:

- Evolving faith
- Life-long learning
- Compassion and justice
- Loving and purposeful relationships
- The uniqueness of the individual
- Collective diversity
- Courage
- Our natural environment

COMMITMENT

We will strive to achieve our vision through:

- Effective teaching and learning
- Productive partnerships
- Shared responsibility
- Humble and respectful service
- Collaborative wisdom



A Brisbane Catholic Education School

The St Catherine's School Story

St Catherine's Primary School is a school of just over 500 students, found in the leafy suburb of Wishart. It is a Prep to Year 6 co-educational school.

We are a school of living faith and quality relationships, where every child is encouraged to reach their full potential.

Established by the Presentation Sisters and founded on Nano Nagle's vision of education for all, our school is an integral part of the Upper Mt Gravatt Wishart Catholic Parish and shares in the mission of Jesus. As a community we are blessed and in turn we compassionately respond to those in need by supporting social justice initiatives such as St Vincent de Paul and the Romero Centre.

Contents

St Catherine's Covenant.....	2
History.....	4
The Story of Nano Nagle	8
Charism of the Presentation Sisters.....	9
Living Faith – Live like Jesus and Nano Nagle.....	10
Quality Relationships – Treat others with respect.....	13
Potential of the Individual – Pursue your personal best.....	16
Global Stewardship – Care for the environment.....	19
The Power of Hope – Create change for a better world.....	22
Icon of Nano Nagle	26
Patron Saint – St Catherine Labouré.....	28

Acknowledgement of Country

Let us open our hearts and minds to acknowledging the traditional owners of this magnificent land, the Yuggera and Turrbal people. They have gathered near the slopes of Kaggar Mabul for learning and ceremony for tens of thousands of years.

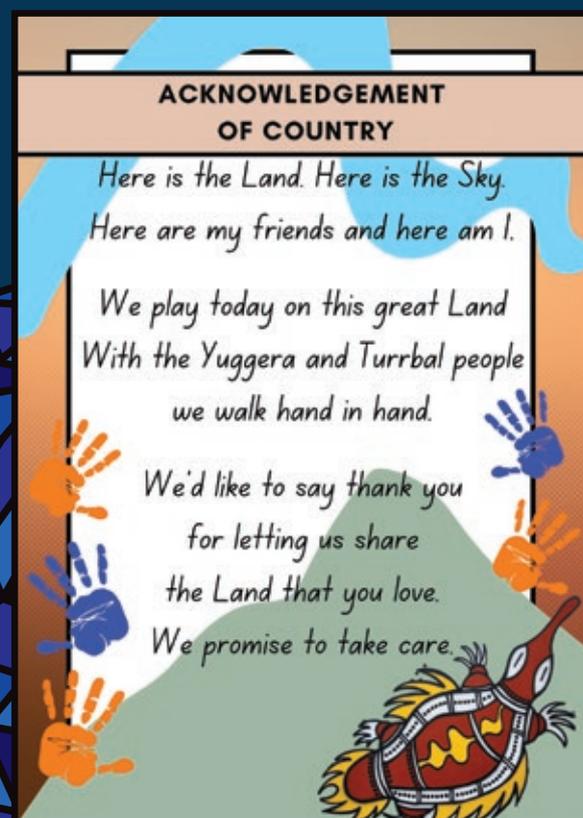
We acknowledge the traditional custodians and their descendants who maintain their spiritual connection and traditions. We thank them for sharing their culture, spirituality and way of living with the land in this place we now all call home.

Let us not forget the millions of footprints that have travelled the Dreaming pathways and our own loved ones who have gone before us.

May we continue to walk gently together in reconciliation and peace as we move forward, united in spirit, united in God's love and united as one community to create change for a better Australia.



Please see the school website for an in-depth explanation of the artwork.





History



The Yuggera people of the Yuggera Language Group were the original inhabitants of this region. Kaggar Mabul (Mt Gravatt Mountain, adjacent to St Catherine's) was a landmark which guided First Nation peoples from the south, as they journeyed north, to gatherings in the Bunya Mountains. John Oxley recorded sighting this landform during his journey up the Brisbane River in 1824. Farming attracted European settlers to Mt Gravatt and Slacks Creek in the 1860s. After 1931, parts of what is Newnham Road today became part of a stock route from southside farming areas to the Cannon Hill Saleyards. The land beside Newnham Road was eventually developed into small farming blocks. An early celery farmer's home is still a family home in Garie Street. Farms reduced the width of Newnham Road but this route was still used occasionally by travelling stock until the 1960s.

In the 1950s and 1960s following World War II, Mt Gravatt and Upper Mt Gravatt saw the rapid development of housing estates accommodating young families. The developing residential suburb between Logan Road and Bulimba Creek was known as Mt Gravatt South.

In 1952, when as part of St Agnes' Parish (stretching from Mt Gravatt to Kingston), Fr John Rosenskjar was able to use the garage of a plasterer, Mr Moore, on the present site of St Catherine's, as a Mass Centre. For the growing population, St Bernard's School opened in 1955. The first St Catherine's Church was opened in 1960, thanks to extraordinary volunteers, including Jack Tierney. In 1962, St Agnes' School opened. In 1964, Mt Gravatt South State School opened in Morella Street. In 1972, both St Bernard's and St Catherine's were established as distinct Parish



Left: St Catherine's School, Wishart Staff 1974
Principal: Sr Margaret Conway, PBVM
Seated left to right: Sr Margaret Conway, Sr Carmel Hodgkinson, Sr Paschal Murphy, Sr Margaret Hallinan
Standing: Mrs Mona Quantock, Miss Barbara Callaghan, Sr Rosemary Haley, Mrs Maud Chapman, Mrs Iris Dunn



Communities. Fr John O'Shea was St Catherine's first Parish Priest (1969–1970). There was no presbytery so Fr O'Shea lived in Fr Power's house on the present site of Seton College where St Otterin's Church was located. Fr O'Shea's grandmother financed the building of St Catherine's Presbytery, located adjacent to the Staff car park today.

On 4 March, 1973, Archbishop P.M. O'Donnell (in perhaps his last duty before retirement) blessed and opened St Catherine's War Memorial School, founded by the Presentation Sisters in the Nano Nagle tradition. The first principal was Sr Margaret Conway. The initial enrolment consisted of children in Years 1 and 2 situated in one small block of six classrooms. St Catherine's grew quickly and another block of classrooms and an Administration block were built. With the closure of St Munchin's School

in 1979, St Catherine's grew again. St Munchin's had been conducted by the Daughters of Charity on the present multi-dwelling complex called 'Golden Outlook' opposite an entrance to Westfield Carindale on Creek Road. The St Catherine's Year 7 classes had to be accommodated in the Administration block so a third block of classrooms was needed. The School's learning environment was progressive and engaging for all stakeholders.

On 23 June, 1974, Archbishop Rush blessed and opened St Catherine's Presentation Convent. The Presentation Sisters ministered in St Catherine's Primary School, St Thomas More Secondary College and the Catholic Education Office. Presentation Sisters who were Principals of St Catherine's were Sr Margaret Conway 1973-1976, Sr Ricardo 1977-1980 and Sr Denise Ryan 1980-1985.



The Eighties marked some important events for St Catherine's. On 13 February, 1983, Archbishop Rush blessed and opened a new Parish Church built on land acquired by the Parish adjacent to the first Church. The former Church building was refurbished as a Library and Hall. With the help of many families volunteering for working bees, the school's ovals and adventure playground were established.

This decade saw the gradual and then final withdrawal of the Presentation Sisters. The first lay Principal, Mrs Bev Tronc was appointed in 1986, thus beginning a new era for the school. Principals who have succeeded Mrs Tronc have been Mr Michael Byrne 1987-1996, Mrs Annette Duffy 1997-2002, Mrs Helen Camden 2003, Mr John Carroll 2004-2009, Mr Paul Leeson 2010-2019, Mrs Maureen Hunter 2019 and Mr Paul Mitchell since 2020.

With changing demographic patterns, the Nineties saw St Catherine's School contract in size but was no less vital in the community. This technological decade saw computers and digital technology begin to be present throughout the school. This has continued until the present day.

A Preschool was established in 2000. During the trialing of Prep in Queensland schools, a Transition Class was offered here at St Catherine's from 2003-2006 to accommodate children bridging between Kindergarten and Year 1.

On 30 March, 2007, a Creche and Kindergarten Centre was opened on the ground floor of Block B by Peter Fardoulys (Vice President of the C&K Board of Management) and Phil Reeves M.L.A (former student). On 16 May, 2007, the Labouré Library was blessed by Bishop Joseph Oudemann and opened



by Mr David Hutton (Executive Director of Brisbane Catholic Education).

From 2007 to 2014, St Catherine's offered Prep to Year Seven. In 2015, Year Seven became the first year of High School in Queensland, thus making Year Six the Senior class.

The Australian Government's 'Building the Education Revolution Program' enabled the Nano Nagle Centre to be built on the site of the former Convent and opened in 2010. An Outside School Hours Service had begun (before 2009) and had been accommodated in part of what had been the Convent. Incorporated as part of Centacare Child Care Services, now Catholic Early Ed Care, it provides before, after school and vacation care. The OSHC transferred to new facilities in the new Nano Nagle Centre in 2010.

In 2011, St Catherine's Parish Community joined with St Bernard's/St Martin's (Eight Mile Plains) Parish to form the Upper Mt Gravatt Wishart Parish.

In 2012, a new Administration building at St Catherine's was blessed and opened on the site of the earlier Administration building.

St Catherine's is proud of its historical roots and today seeks to provide the riches of a Catholic education for the good of families and children into the future. Throughout five decades, St Catherine's has maintained a commitment to excellence in learning and nurturing each student as a unique individual. The School Covenant, developed in 2004, captured the spirit of St Catherine's according to its history and charism. In 2023, the community has recontextualised the School Covenant (Mission and Vision) to build on the Charism of the Presentation Sisters and it is still a rich benchmark to our hope for the future.

The Story of Nano Nagle



At St Catherine's we have a role model of a life well lived; our Guiding Light – Nano Nagle. She lived her life with the conviction that life is so blessed that it should be lived in service to others; which reflects our school motto "To Love and Serve".

Nano Nagle did not start out serving others. She was born in Ballygriffin in Ireland, County Cork in 1718.

Nano's story is one of a wealthy upbringing, in a privileged family, where she had everything she needed and wanted.

When Nano was young, Catholics in Ireland were banned from education as was overseas travel for Catholic Education. Nano's relatives, with strong connections in France, arranged for Nano and her sister, Ann, to travel to Paris, smuggled in a cargo ship, to attend school. They engaged in their schooling and Nano enjoyed a busy social life in Paris with balls, parties, theatre outings, all the glamour of a wealthy young lady. After one of these parties, she noticed a group of poor and homeless people huddled in a church doorway and was struck by the contrast with her privileged life. This is where her life took a new direction.

When Nano's father died, she returned to Ireland with her eyes open to the extreme poverty of her people. They had no clothes, no jobs, no food, no education and rampant crime amongst the poor. Nano began to visit the sick and the elderly, bringing them food, medicine and comfort. Night and day she visited the impoverished to help those in need with baskets of food, ointments, bandages, money and a lantern. This was dark and treacherous work. Her ministries to the poverty-ridden and sick in her hometown of Cork gave her the nickname 'The Lady of the Lantern'. The lantern later became the symbol of the Presentation Sisters worldwide.

Nano risked her own life and transformed the lives of others by offering hope, love and compassion. Her thirst for justice drove her desire to bring about change for a better world. Her biggest fight was the injustice of a system that did not allow education for Catholic children. Nano acknowledged that sometimes in life we fight battles that seem overwhelming, perhaps even impossible, but she refused to give up despite the risk and hardship. Everything she planned to do was illegal and would put not only herself but also her family at risk; the risk of imprisonment and the risk of death by hanging. She would not let her work, God's work, be stifled because of fear.

Nano said, "If I try and succeed, I will know that it is God's will. So I am going to try. I will leave the rest in His hands".





Nano established her first school for the poor in 1754, in a rented mud cabin in Cove Lane. This was done in defiance of the law and in complete secrecy for fear of persecution. Within nine months she had 200 girls attending her secret schools. In three years, she had eight schools operating, five for girls and three for boys.

Nano decided to open a convent where women could share the mission of Jesus through prayer, teaching and care for the sick and needy. Nano and three companions opened the first Presentation Convent in Cork, Ireland, on Christmas Day in 1775. Nano founded the Sisters of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary (PBVM), commonly known as the Presentation Sisters, now a worldwide Catholic Institute of religious women. She was declared Venerable in the Roman Catholic Church on 31

October, 2013 by Pope Francis, on the path toward possible canonization as a Saint.

Service to others requires that we stop thinking about ourselves and instead focus on the people around us, or as Nano Nagle would say, "Deeds, not Words". Her deeds now mean that hundreds of schools in twenty-four countries across the globe are founded by the light of Nano and the Presentation Sisters.

Nano Nagle died on 26 April, 1784. Her last words to the small group of sisters at her bedside were, "Love one another as you have hitherto done." Her last words have helped to form our most important school rule at St Catherine's, 'Treat Others with Respect', which is based on the Golden Rule, 'Treat others the way you would like them to treat you'.

Charism of the Presentation Sisters

Charisms, or spiritual gifts, are special abilities given to all Christians by the Holy Spirit to give them power to represent Christ and to be a channel of God's goodness in the world. A charism is a deep awareness of Gospel values linked to a special need in the world. It is expressed variously in different times, places and cultures – including in our own time and wherever we are. It calls forth from us radical responses to address real needs. Nano Nagle's dream was for all to be able to participate fully in life. The denial of education for the poor and for Catholic children in Ireland in the 18th Century was unjust and denied them, individually and as a society, freedom and a future. The aristocrat Nano risked political, military and social repercussions to initiate radical social changes so that this could happen. She devoted herself and her wealth to the education of the poor and destitute. In the unlit alleyways of Cork, by the light of a dim lantern,

Nano took risks visiting homeless and sick women in their humble homes, bringing them compassion and practical help.

Being a school founded by the Presentation Sisters, we have adopted the Presentation charism which is a gift spread through the Holy Spirit in the Church and in the world. Nano Nagle engaged in God's mission (her charism) which was characterised by:

- Passion for those made poor and for changing the structures of society that made and kept people poor
- Zeal – doing "all in her power" to change the way things were for those made poor
- Courage
- Trust in Divine Providence

All are found in our School Covenant.



Living Faith – Live like Jesus and Nano Nagle

As you move through life, take time to live just as Nano and Jesus did. Find opportunities big and small, every day, to show compassion to the sick, the poor and the marginalised. Don't ever forget that your uniqueness – your gift that you bring to the world – is a blessing for those around you. Embrace the potential you have to make a difference to one, a few, or many.

The St Catherine's community promotes Living Faith through the values of the Presentation Sisters by:

- Nurturing a spirituality which is embedded in a relationship with Jesus Christ and the human concerns of our world
- Providing opportunities for prayer and for meaningful participation in liturgy
- Providing an environment in which faith is nurtured and in which priority is given to the Religious Education curriculum

The Presentation Sisters have been the guardians of Nano Nagle's dream to engage in the Mission of God. Their hopes, dreams, passion and stories live on in us at St Catherine's and in all the people around the world who have been inspired or touched by the Presentation charism.

The way Nano Nagle engaged in God's mission (her charism) was characterised by her passion for

the poor, fighting injustice, doing "all in her power", courage and trust in Divine Providence.

We continue to live this charism through "Justice with Compassion" (Nano Nagle) which is reflected in our school's motto "To Love and Serve" (To Love – compassion and Serve – Justice).

How do we Live our Faith at St Catherine's:

- Morning Prayer
- Weekly Class Mass
- Weekly Staff Prayer
- Prayer Celebrations at Assemblies
- Whole School Masses and Liturgies
- Holy Week Celebrations
- Caritas (Project Compassion)
- Easter Raffle for Sr Trish's orphanage in Vietnam
- Romero Centre Winter Appeal
- SVdP Christmas appeal





'For in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith. As many of you as were baptised into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ.

There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus.'

Galatians 3:26-28

Nurtured by the Holy Spirit we come together in 'love, joy, peace, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, humility and self-control' so that we will be living examples of God's word.

Galatians 5: 22

'In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.'

Matthew 5:16

'Look around. Who needs your help?'

Luke 8:47

'For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.' Whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.'

Matthew 25:35-36, 40

'When he saw the man, he felt compassion for him and went over to him. He treated his wounds with olive oil and wine and bandaged them. Then he put him on his own donkey and took him to an inn, where he took care of him. The next morning he gave the innkeeper two silver coins and said, "Please take care of the man. If you spend more than this on him, I will pay you when I return."'

Luke 10:33-35

'Act with Justice.'

Micah 6:8

'Deeds, not Words.'

Nano Nagle

'If I could be of any service in saving souls in any part of the globe, I would willingly do all in my power.'

Nano Nagle

'The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others.'

Mahatma Gandhi

'Only a life lived for others is a life worthwhile.'

Albert Einstein

Nano Nagle Prayer

Loving God,

*You raise up prophets in every age to
proclaim the Good News by how they live,
if not by their words. Such is Nano Nagle,
whose spirit-filled wisdom and
courage speak to us today.*

*Holy Spirit, teach us through
her faith, hope and love.*

*In our day, may the lanterns of
our faith and hope strengthen our
families and communities.*

*Lead, like Nano, to loving and
compassionate actions for justice for
people in need or oppressed.*

*We ask this through Jesus who
reveals Your love for all.*

Amen.

St Patrick's Prayer

'Christ with me,

Christ before me,

Christ behind me,

Christ in me,

Christ beneath me,

Christ above me,

Christ on my right,

Christ on my left,

Christ when I lie down,

Christ when I sit down,

Christ when I arise,

*Christ in the heart of every man
who thinks of me,*

*Christ in the mouth of everyone
who speaks of me,*

Christ in every eye that sees me,

Christ in every ear that hears me.'





Quality Relationships – Treat others with respect



Be proud of what you achieve during your time at St Catherine's and take time to thank those who help you become the person you will be. It is the relationships that you build around you that will ensure you are able to move forward in your journey of life and stay true to who you are. Be kind to yourself, laugh at yourself and appreciate yourself. When you are feeling unsure of your place in the world, turn to the special people around you.

The St Catherine's community promotes Quality Relationships through the values of the Presentation Sisters by:

- Acknowledging that we are made in the image of God, UNITED together as One Community blessed by our differences, uniqueness and diversity
- Providing a pastoral care context where all achieve growth through love, trust, responsible freedom and mutual respect
- Encouraging genuine acceptance and appreciation of all people regardless of gender, social status, ethnic origin or financial means
- Providing experiences of co-operative teamwork to develop the skills and attitudes necessary to work with others to achieve a common goal

At St Catherine's, we demonstrate quality relationships in the way we Unite together in empathy, trust, respect, laughter, positive communication and celebrations.

Respect is prominent in our school rules.



School Rule: Treat Others with Respect

Treat Others with Respect is based on the Golden Rule – Treat others as you would like them to treat you.

What is Respect?

Respect is an attitude of caring about people and treating everyone with dignity and fairness. Respect is valuing ourselves and others. We show respect by speaking and acting with courtesy. When we are respectful we treat others as we want to be treated.

Respect includes honouring the rules of our family or school, which make life more orderly and peaceful. It is knowing that every man, woman and child deserves respect, including yourself.

The students are encouraged to treat others with respect. This is evident in how the children in our school form positive relationships in and out of the classroom. Students are encouraged to communicate positively with one another by the example set by Jesus, Nano Nagle, staff and parents.

How do we build Quality Relationships at St Catherine's?

- We participate in Whole School Assemblies, Masses, Liturgies, Celebrations, Sporting, Cultural, Curriculum and Spiritual Days to unite in our differences and celebrate our uniqueness.
- Welcome Morning Tea
- Welcome BBQ
- Mother's and Father's Day celebrations
- Grandparent's Day
- Christmas Concert
- Harmony Day
- NAIDOC Week
- National Sorry Day

'Do for others what you want them to do for you.'

Matthew 7:12

'One of the teachers of the law came and heard them debating. Noticing that Jesus had given them a good answer, he asked him, "Of all the commandments, which is the most important?" "The most important one," answered Jesus, "is this: Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God, the Lord is one. Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength. The second is this: Love your neighbour as yourself. There is no commandment greater than these."'

Mark 12:28-31

"For the whole law is summed up in a single commandment, 'You shall love your neighbour as yourself'"

Galatians 5:14

'The body of Christ has many different parts, just as any other body does. Some of us are Jews and others are Gentiles. Some of us are slaves, and others are free. But God's Spirit baptized each of us and made us part of the body of Christ. Now we each drink from that same Spirit.'

1 Corinthians 12:12-13

'Love one another.'

Nano Nagle

'I think there is no greater happiness in the world than to be in union.'

Nano Nagle

'Wellbeing depends on Community.'

Thomas Groome

UBUNTU - 'I am, because we are.'

Archbishop Desmond Tutu

"UBUNTU is the essence of being human. UBUNTU speaks particularly about the fact that you cannot exist as a human being in isolation. It speaks about our interconnectedness. You can't be human all by yourself, and when you have this quality - UBUNTU - you are known for your generosity. We think of ourselves far too frequently as just individuals, separated from one another, whereas we are connected and what you do affects the whole world. When you do well, it spreads out, it is for the whole of humanity."

Archbishop Desmond Tutu

'We don't come to school to be better than others. We come to school to better ourselves by working with others.'

Wilson McCaskill

'May the spirit of unity and love reign amongst us.'

St Mary of the Cross MacKillop

Prayer of Thanksgiving

We give thanks for the gift of our people...

We give thanks for the gift of laughter...

We give thanks for the gift of learning...

We give thanks for the gift of those who guide us...

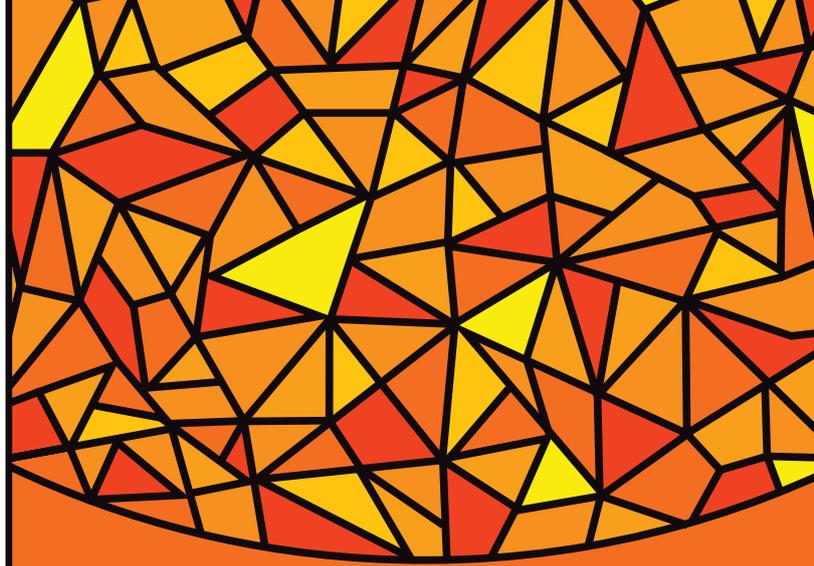
We give thanks for the gift of friendship...

We give thanks for the gift of sharing...

We give thanks for the gift of forgiveness...

We give thanks for community...

We give thanks for the gift of God in our lives...



**'Blessed are the poor in spirit,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.'**

**Blessed are those who mourn,
for they will be comforted.**

**Blessed are the meek,
for they will inherit the earth.**

**Blessed are those who hunger and thirst
for righteousness, for they will be filled.**

**Blessed are the merciful,
for they will be shown mercy.**

**Blessed are the pure in heart,
for they will see God.**

**Blessed are the peacemakers, for they
will be called children of God.**

**Blessed are those who are persecuted
because of righteousness,
for theirs is the Kingdom of Heaven.'**

The Beatitudes - Matthew 5:3-10

*Loving God, we entrust ourselves
to you. Guide our minds and hearts so
that we will work for the good of our school
community and be a help to all people.
Teach us to be generous in our outlook,
courageous in the face of difficulty
and wise in our decisions.*

We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.



Potential of the Individual – Pursue your personal best



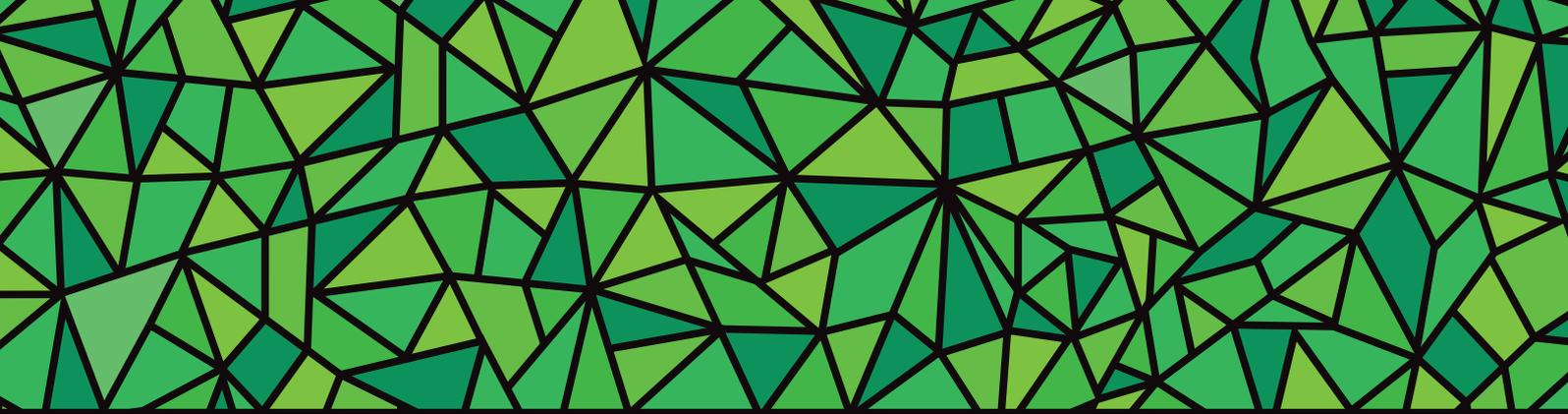
Throughout your life you will be provided with many ways to reach your potential. Be open to new experiences... say yes, even if it scares you. Know that failure is a path to knowledge and growth. Show humility by being open to ideas from other people who can help you become the best version of yourself.

The St Catherine's community promotes the Potential of the Individual through the values of the Presentation Sisters by:

- Encouraging and celebrating a love of learning where children are challenged, through teaching excellence, to pursue their personal best.
- Promoting the full potential of each person in the school community and a sense of personal worth.
- Encouraging students to develop critical thinking, self-motivation, intellectual enquiry, initiative, creativity and a sense of personal responsibility.
- Facilitating individual and co-operative effort to achieve one's full potential and to share this with others because we don't come to school to be better than others, but rather to better ourselves, by working with others.

- Promoting the uniqueness of each person.
- Striving to develop students artistic sense through the active encouragement of the creative spirit in art, dance, music, drama and literature.

We recognise that every person is created in the image and likeness of God and is in some respect like all others, like some others and like no other. We are challenged by the Church to reach out to all our brothers and sisters in love, acknowledging their diversity, immediate needs and specific situations (Deus Caritas Est, On Christian Love).



School Rule: Self-Respect

Self-Respect means that we give ourselves every opportunity to reach our full potential. This is only possible when children are able to be brave and participate to progress. It is only through participation and having a go that we can improve. School is about stepping bravely into the unknown. The unknown is often uncomfortable but the braver you are, the more you will learn.

Being brave can take many forms:

- Trying something new
- Learning something new
- Being persistent
- Having a go even though something is hard or challenging
- Having another go when we fail or make a mistake

Progress does not mean that we are the best at something nor does it mean that we are good at something. Progress means that we move towards achieving our personal best and becoming the best version of ourselves possible – Reaching our Individual Potential.

The students are encouraged to show self-respect because relationships have to start with yourself. This is evident when they work to the best of their ability and work towards educational and personal goals.



At St Catherine's students are given opportunities to shine through:

- Learning Goal Setting
- Senior Leadership Roles including School and House Captains
- Music and Band performances
- Sporting opportunities/running club
- Poetry Festival
- Weekly Student Awards
- Modified planning to cater for diverse learning needs
- Entrepreneurship project
- Dance Fever
- Harmony Day
- NAIDOC Week
- Speech and Drama
- Artwork displays
- Students are acknowledged on Assembly for various achievements

**'Put these abilities to work, throw yourself
into your tasks so that everyone may
notice your improvement and progress.'**

1 Timothy 4:15

**'I am the vine; you are the branches.
If you remain in me and I in you,
you will bear much fruit.'**

John 15:5

**'Today is a great day to
learn something new.'**

Nano Nagle

**'Be Brave – Participate to Progress.
School is about stepping bravely into
the unknown. The unknown is often
uncomfortable. The braver you are,
the more you learn.'**

Wilson McCaskill

**'Continuous effort – not strength
nor intelligence – is the key to
unlocking our potential.'**

Winston Churchill

Power Lines

*Father, I thank You that You created our
potential. In truth, You're the only One
who knows how much we can achieve or
who we can become. You know the plans
You have for us, plans for good and not for
evil, to give us a future filled with hope.*

*For the potential you have given us
For the possibilities that lie before us
We thank you, heavenly Father.*

*For our plans and their fulfilment
For your promises and their enjoyment
We thank you, heavenly Father.*

*In the problems that await us
In the perils that will meet us
Protect us, heavenly Father.*

*In the pains of our achievements
In the powers that would control us
Protect us, heavenly Father.*

*In our purposes and leisure
In our passions and our pleasure
Protect us, heavenly Father.*

(David Adam 'Power Lines')

Dear God,

*You have blessed me with
many gifts, God, but I know
it is my task to realise them.
May I never underestimate my
potential, may I never lose hope.
May I find the strength to strive
for better, the courage to
be different, the energy to give
all that I have to offer.*

Amen.





Global Stewardship – Care for the environment



We are set challenges as we move through our lives to make a promise to care for the wonder and brilliance that is our world. This begins with those around us, through to the great blue planet that we have been gifted as our home.

The St Catherine's community promotes Global Stewardship through the values of the Presentation Sisters by:

- Inspiring those who contribute to a socially just world we come with a grateful heart to embrace our call to action.
- Using the Gospel values to guide a responsible way of living in society that promotes caring for self, others and the world.
- Embedding the constant hope and commitment to work creatively for the transformation of our world.
- Encouraging courageous and concrete action for justice and peace.
- Building our relationship with others, especially those who are poor and powerless.
- Providing school structures that promote justice and personal responsibility.

School Rule: Care for the Environment

At St Catherine's, Global Stewards think beyond themselves, recognising the interconnectedness of all living and non-living things. We strive as a community to understand our connection with life and to recognise that our actions have an impact upon ourselves, others and the Earth. We recognise a lifestyle that encompasses caring for yourself, caring for others and caring for the world so that it is sustainable for all life, including future generations.

Humans have one planet to live on and it is our responsibility to be stewards of God's Creation. Being a steward means that we show care and concern for everything around us – All People, All Things. As we grow older, we are able to take care of more people and more of our environment. Our responsibility broadens.

At St Catherine's we have sustainability programs that help care for our great blue planet.

- No Plastic Fantastic Day (Nude Food)
- Caring for Country Awards at Assembly
- Compost Bins for Much Crunch waste
- Paper/Cardboard Recycling Program
- LED Lights to reduce our carbon footprint
- Air Con Policy that requires all A/C units to be switched off in Term 2 and 3
- Water Tanks connected to Toilet blocks
- Shutdown practices that see fridges and freezers turned off across the school during holiday periods
- Timers on Hot Water / ZIP heater Systems to save electricity



'Every worthwhile gift, every genuine benefit comes from above.' St James reminds us that true worship of God involves using our gifts of the Holy Spirit to benefit the less fortunate.

Good stewardship is not optional; it is the hallmark of our faith!

James 1:17

'Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms.'

1 Peter 4:10

'God blessed them; and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth, and subdue it; and rule over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the sky and over every living thing that moves on the earth.'

Genesis 1:28

St Francis of Assisi saw animals as his brothers and sisters because they were God's creatures, just like people. He prayed to God to work through him to help animals as well as people, and said of animals:

"Not to hurt our humble brethren is our first duty to them, but to stop there is not enough. We have a higher mission – to be of service to them wherever they require it."

'The culture of care is the antidote to a world rife with individualism and imprisoned by sadness. Let us learn to take care of others, of our cities, of our society, of creation so as to experience the joy of friendship and generosity.'

Pope Francis

*'Teach us to give and not
to count the cost.'*

St Ignatius

*'We have an obligation to care for
all that has been given out of love and
respect from the Creator who gave it,
and love and respect for those with
whom it is to be shared.'*

Pope Francis

*'Let us raise children to be
considerate of themselves, others and
the world in which they live with sound
reasons for the things they say and do.
From this, all else will follow.'*

Wilson McCaskill

Your Creation

*O Lord, grant us the grace to grow
deeper in our respect of
And care for your Creation.
Lord, hear our prayer.*

*O Lord, help us to recognise the
sacredness of all of your
creatures as signs of your wondrous love.
Lord, hear our prayer.*

*O Lord, help us turn from the
selfish consumption of
resources meant for all and to see
the impacts of our
choices on the poor and vulnerable.
Lord, hear our prayer.*



A Prayer for Our Earth Encyclical: Laudato Si': Care for Our Common Home

*All powerful God, You are present
in the whole universe and in the smallest
of Your creatures.*

*You embrace with Your tenderness
all that exists.*

*Pour out upon us the power of Your love,
that we may protect life and beauty.*

*Fill us with peace, that we may live
as brothers and sisters, harming no one.*

*O God of the poor,
help us to rescue the abandoned and
forgotten of this earth,
so precious in Your eyes.
Bring healing to our lives,
that we may protect the world
and not prey on it,
that we may sow beauty,
not pollution and destruction.
Touch the hearts of those who
look only for gain at the expense
of the poor and the earth.*

*Teach us to discover the
worth of each thing,
to be filled with awe and contemplation,
to recognise that we are profoundly
united with every creature as we
journey towards Your infinite light.*

*We thank You for being with us each day.
Encourage us, we pray, in our struggle for
justice, love and peace.*

Pope Francis



The Power of Hope – Create change for a better world



Make the most of every day and know that the love of God is with you always, filling you with Hope to Create Change for a Better World. A rainbow is a sign of hope and beauty after a storm. It is also a reminder of God's promise; God's Covenant to be by our side in times of struggle. We must always have hope that our challenges will pass.

The St Catherine's community promotes the Power of Hope through the values of the Presentation Sisters by:

- Empowering students to live the Word of God to create change for a better world, as disciples of Jesus, in a spirit of gentleness and simplicity
- Striving to bring students to an awareness of God's unconditional love so that they will find meaning in life and hope for the future
- Promoting faithfulness in commitments and a spirit of joy and enthusiasm in facing life's challenges
- Helping students to develop an understanding of their society, especially an awareness of injustice and oppression and a concern to transform the attitudes and structures that cause them

The St Catherine's community inspires hope through relationships:

- We believe that being in spirit with others empowers us to build a spirit of love and community
- We inspire hope through perseverance
- We create positive environments to build personal strength
- We know that empowering others brings self-love for everyone

Nano with her lantern:

The lantern Nano carried became, for the poor, a symbol of God's love touching and transforming the simple realities of their hard lives... A guiding light of HOPE

'I will trust and not be afraid.'

Isaiah 12:2

**'Have faith - God has the power
to work miracles in your life!'**

Luke 1:18-19

**'Those who hope in the LORD will find
their strength renewed. They will soar on wings
like eagles; they will run and not grow weary,
they will walk and not grow weak.'**

Isaiah 40:31

**'May the God of hope fill you with
all joy and peace as you trust in him,
so that you may overflow with hope
by the power of the Holy Spirit.'**

Romans 15:13

'You are the light of the world.

**A town built on a hill can't be hidden.
Also, people do not light a lamp and put it
under a bowl. Instead, they put it on its stand.
Then it gives light to everyone in the house.**

**In the same way, let your light shine so
others can see it. Then they will see the
good things you do. And they will bring
glory to your Father who is in heaven.'**

Matthew 5:14-16

**'There is no difference in the Lord's
plan between one day and a 1000 years.
His plan is large. All you need to do
is take the next step forward.'**

2 Peter 3:8-9

'Shine through the light of the Gospel.'

2 Corinthians 4: 4-6

**'I have set my rainbow in the clouds
and it will be the sign of the covenant
between me and the Earth.'**

Genesis 9

'If you can?' said Jesus.
'Everything is possible for one who believes.'

Mark 9:23

**'Yes,' said the Lord, 'You will find me'.
Each day holds new hope for our future.**

Jeremiah 29:14

*'If I try and succeed,
I will know that it is God's will.
So I am going to try.
I will leave the rest in his hands.'*

Nano Nagle

*'There is nothing like a dream
to create the future.'*

Nano Nagle

*'Our feet know the way,
our heart carries the light.'*

Nano Nagle

*'We know the Almighty permits
everything for the best.'*

Nano Nagle

*'Empowered to live the Word of God to
create change for a better world.'*

Nano Nagle

'Never see a need without doing something about it.'

St Mary of the Cross MacKillop

'At the service of the Word for one world.'

St Arnold Janssen

'Start by doing what's necessary; then do what's possible; and suddenly you are doing the impossible.'

St Francis of Assisi

'To live without hope is to cease to live.'

Fyodor Dostoevsky

'You cannot get through a single day without having an impact on the world around you. What you do makes a difference and you have to decide what kind of difference you want to make.'

Jane Goodall –
Anthropologist and
UN Messenger of Peace

'Stop waiting for the world to change. You have the power within to transform it.'

Anonymous

Let us not forget that Jesus asked his disciples to pay attention to details.

The little detail that wine was running out at a party.

The little detail that one sheep was missing.

The little detail of noticing the widow who offered her two small coins.

The little detail of having spare oil for the lamps, should the bridegroom delay.

The little detail of asking the disciples how many loaves of bread they had.

The little detail of having a fire burning and a fish cooking as he waited for the disciples at daybreak.

A community that cherishes the little details of love, whose members care for one another and create an open and evangelizing environment, is a place where the risen Lord is present, sanctifying it in accordance with the Father's plan.

GAUDETE ET EXULTATE #144
(Pope Francis)



Prayer of Saint Francis of Assisi

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace.

Where there is hatred, let me sow love;

where there is injury, pardon;

where there is doubt, faith;

where there is despair, hope;

where there is darkness, light;

and where there is sadness, joy.

O Divine Master, grant that

I may not so much seek

to be consoled as to console;

to be understood

as to understand; to be loved as to love.

For it is in giving that we receive;

it is in pardoning that we are pardoned;

and it is in dying that we are

born to eternal life.

Amen

St Teresa of Avila

*Christ has no body but yours, no hands,
no feet on earth but yours.*

*Yours are the eyes with which he looks
compassionately on this world.*

*Yours are the feet with which he walks
to do good.*

*Yours are the hands, with which he
blesses all the world.*

Yours are the hands.

Yours are the feet.

Yours are the eyes.

You are his body.

*Christ has no body now but yours,
no hands, no feet on earth but yours.*

Amen.

Prayer of Hope

Lord Jesus,

Hope overcomes

Hope heals

Hope restores

Hope inspires

Hope conquers

Hope frees

Hope is your gift to the world

Thank you

Amen.

Father, thank You for hope.

Thank You for its light in the darkness.

*Thank You that no matter how dark
the night, You are with me.*

*My situation and circumstances may look
dark, but I know You not only go before
me, but You also walk with me.*

*As I pray, please fill me with
even more hope.*

*I trust You, God, even in the midst
of this seemingly hopeless season.*

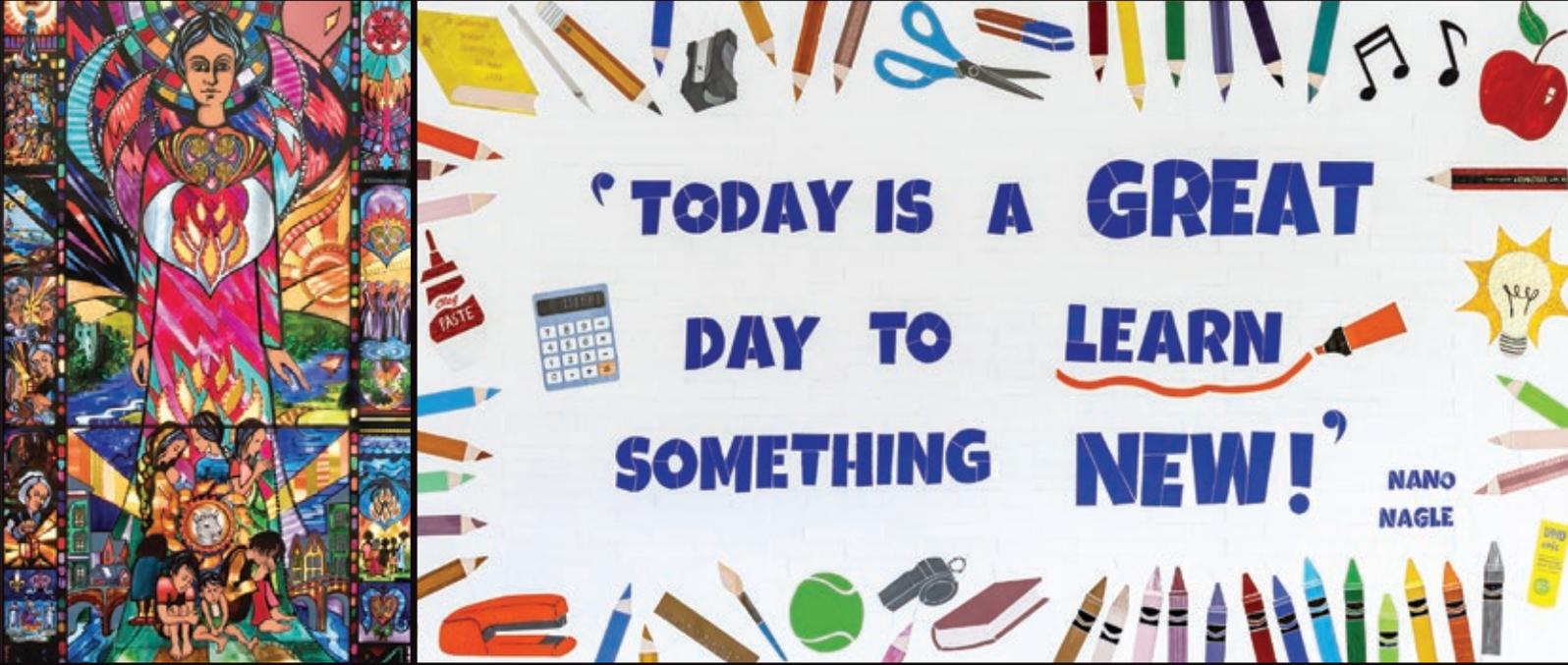
*I know my hope is in You and that
the victory is already Yours.*

In Jesus' name

Amen.



Icon of Nano Nagle



The icon must be viewed not only with the physical eye but also with the eye of the Spirit. The icon follows Nano’s story as it unfolds and explores through symbols the joy and pain, energy and stillness, success and failure, agony and ecstasy, all of which were present in her life.

St Catherine’s is proud to have beautiful mosaics around the school that bring the great love and service of Nano Nagle’s story to life. At the entrance to our school community members and visitors pass by a beautiful image of Nano Nagle, ‘Lady of the Lantern’. The Covenant Court rainbow mosaic reminds us of God’s promise to Noah, a Covenant to be by our side in times of struggle. We must always have hope that our challenges will pass. A rainbow is also a sign of hope and for the future. The rainbow mosaic also has a Celtic Cross to remind us of Nano Nagle’s Irish heritage. Our Nano Nagle Centre (Hall/OSHC/Sport/Music complex) is named in her honour. Inside, the Icon of Nano Nagle hangs complementing the banners of our House Patrons.

In 2016, the ‘Concrete Oval’ in front of the Nano Nagle Centre where children play each day was renamed ‘Cove Lane’ after the first school Nano courageously founded in Cork, Ireland. A beautiful mosaic depicts Nano taking the first children to her first school. Lantern Way, the area in and around the Tuckshop, is named in honour of Nano Nagle, the Lady of the Lantern. In the Prep learning area, a special 50 Years of St Catherine’s mosaic highlights Nano’s love of education with her famous quote, ‘Today is a Great Day to Learn Something New’. We hope all children take this positive disposition towards learning with them throughout their time at our school and into their future lives.

(Please see the School website for an in-depth explanation of the Icon)



Patron Saint – St Catherine Labouré



St Catherine Labouré, D.C.. (2 May 2 1806 – 31 December, 1876) was a French nun who was a member of the Daughters of Charity of Saint Vincent de Paul. She noticed the plight of the poor and decided to enter the nursing order of the Daughters of Charity to care for them. She spent forty years caring for the poor, elderly and sick, in a hospice just outside Paris. St Catherine also worked on the hospice farm, caring for the animals with kindness and humility. In honour of the Blessed Virgin Mary, she created the Miraculous Medal of Our Lady of Graces worn by millions of people around the world. St Catherine is known as a patron saint of the elderly. St Catherine had a special devotion to Mary, Mother of God and was a woman of compassion, charity and devotion.

**“Blessed are the merciful,
for they will receive mercy.”**

Matthew 5:7

**When Jesus disembarked and saw the
vast crowd, his heart was moved with pity
for them, and he cured their sick.**

Mathew 14:14

**“For the whole law is summed up in
a single commandment, ‘You shall love
your neighbour as yourself’.”**

Galatians 5:14

*True justice comes about in people’s lives
when they themselves are just in their
decisions; it is expressed in their pursuit
of justice for the poor and the weak.*

GAUDETE ET EXSULTATE #79
Pope Francis



St Catherine's School Song

Our School began in '73
 with the Presentation Sisters
 Our Motto was "To Love and Serve"
 and work together as one
 Now through the years we've grown
 into a great community
 Striving to achieve with our faith we believe
 as we gather in unity

Living, Loving, Learning let's all sing out
 Growing, Exploring, Belonging
 let's stand and shout

St Catherine's community,
 together we sing out strong
 St Catherine's community,
 together we belong

The Sisters have gone but
 Nano's spirit lives on
 with learning and fun through the days
 Our achievements and dreams, our belief to be
 United the St Catherine's Way

Living, Loving, Learning let's all sing out
 Growing, Exploring, Belonging let's stand and shout
 St Catherine's community,
 together we sing out strong
 St Catherine's community, together we belong

**(Music and lyrics by Catherine Parker
 with Year 7 Students, 2004)**

St Catherine's School Prayer

Loving God
 Jesus teaches us to love and serve.
 Bless everyone in St Catherine's Community.
 Lead us to understand and
 care for one another.
 Inspire us to use our talents and our learning
 to help people and our world.
 Holy Spirit, guide us in our choices and bless
 our families with peace.

(Leader)

Mary, the mother of Jesus
 Catherine Labouré
 Nano Nagle
 Mary MacKillop
 We pray through Christ our Lord.

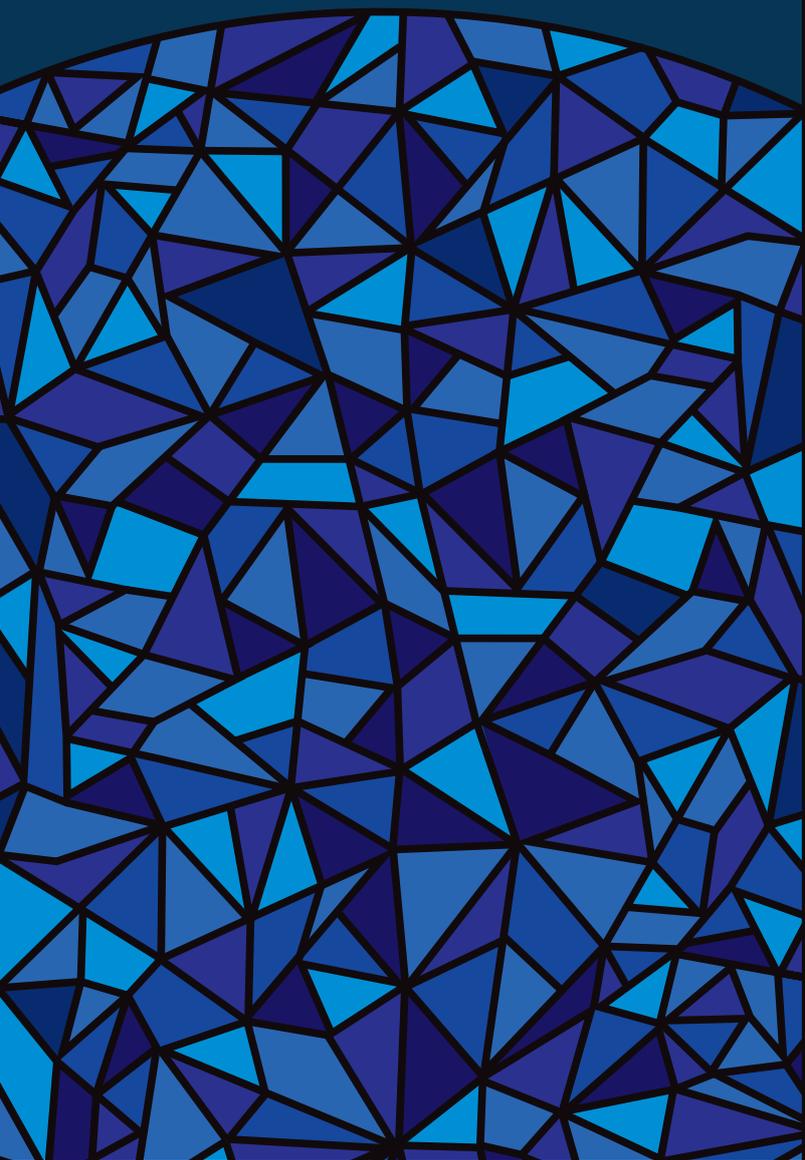
(All)

pray for us.
 pray for us.
 pray for us.
 pray for us.
 Amen

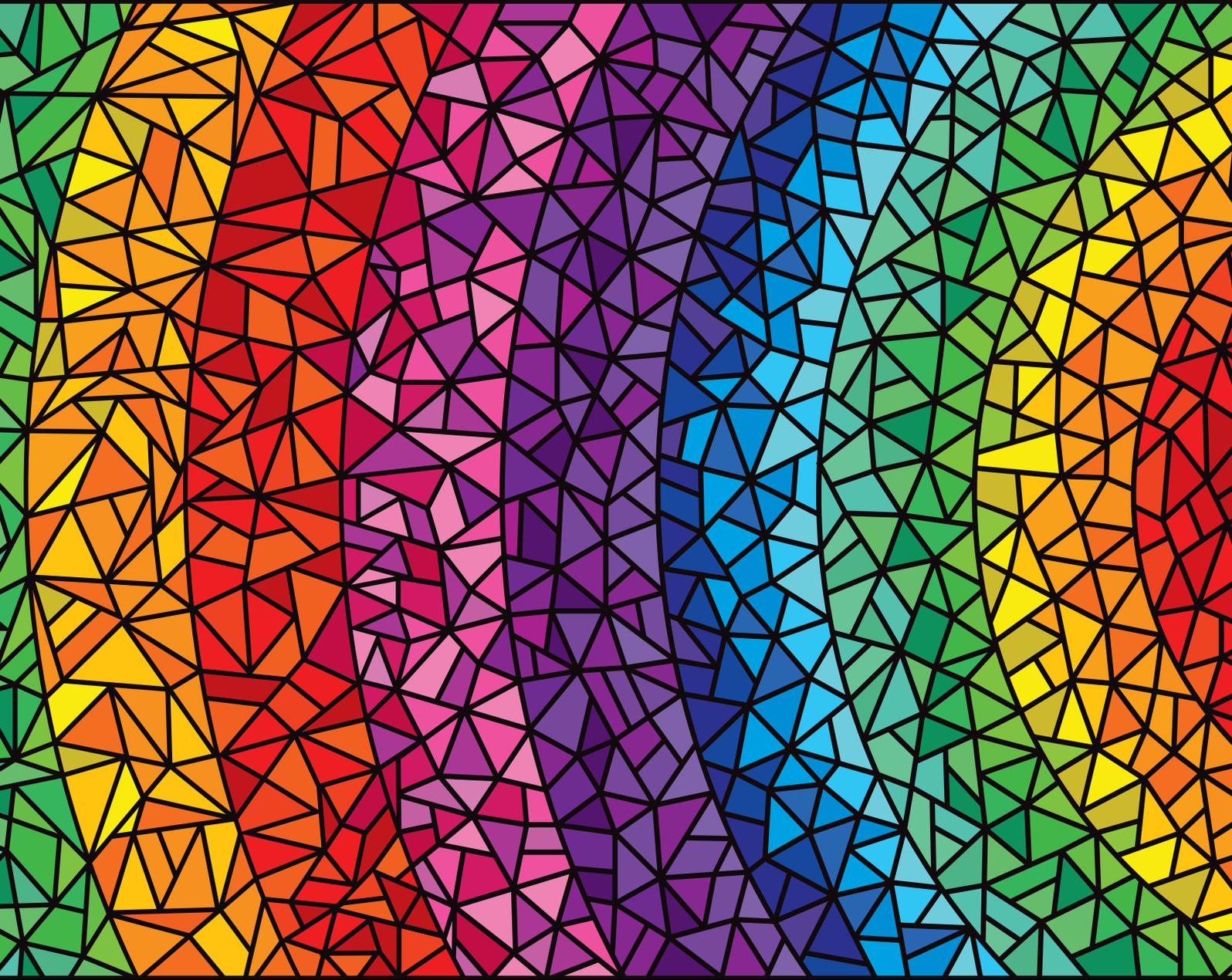
Since 1973, St Catherine's has nurtured the young people of Wishart. From humble beginnings when the Presentation Sisters were invited to open a Parish School, we now celebrate a united community that is called to Love and Serve, just like Nano Nagle. For each of us this is not only a call but a challenge, a privilege and a way of life at St Catherine's.

You are blessed to attend your primary schooling within the St Catherine's community and the community is blessed by having you in it. Know that you will always be UNITED through your St Catherine's family. Like Jesus and Nano, find your mission, work for justice and create change for a better world.

We pray for those who come after us as they continue to instill the power of HOPE in future generations.







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