I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.' (Genesis 12:3, NRSV)

Welcome back to Term 4 - only 76 sleeps until Christmas! As we prepare for Christmas, our chapel services this term are focusing on the Old Testament prophecies about Jesus and how they were fulfilled. Biblical scholars cite up to 400 references to Jesus in the Hebrew Scriptures, but we can only focus on a handful of them. We begin this week in the very early stages of the Bible, in Genesis and the Book of Numbers.

In Genesis 12 we read of God's call to Abram, who was to have his name changed to Abraham. It was a call that came with a promise - if Abram followed God then he will be blessed with a large family and through that family all people would be blessed. Later in Genesis 17, after many years of not producing a son with Sarah, we hear God speak to Abraham again, 'your wife Sarah shall bear you a son, and you shall name him Isaac. I will establish my covenant with him as an everlasting covenant for his offspring after him.' (Genesis 17:19).

God's promise of blessing is repeated - and it will last forever. In the Book of Numbers, the fourth book of the Bible, Baalam reminds God's people not just of his promise, but that the promise was yet to be fulfilled, 'I see him, but not now; I behold him, but not near - a star shall come out of Jacob, and a sceptre shall rise out of Israel' (Numbers 24:17).

Three references to blessing, an everlasting covenant, and a star from Jacob. Prophecies that we see fulfilled in Jesus as attested to in the New Testament, especially by Matthew & Luke who both record genealogies of Jesus that trace his ancestry back to Abraham and beyond. What makes these prophecies important is Genesis and Numbers were written some 1500 years before Jesus was born and yet they talk about his coming.

With every blessing, Rev. Tony Card

Thought for the week: 'Abraham was the father of Isaac, and Isaac the father of Jacob, and Jacob the father of Judah and his brothers...and Matthew the father of Jacob, and Jacob the father of Joseph the husband of Mary, of whom Jesus was born, who is called the Messiah.' (Matthew 1:2, 15-16, NRSV)

Last chance for Confirmations this year

Preparation classes for confirmation at All Saints Cathedral will commence this Saturday, 11th October at 3pm. If you are planning for your child to make their confirmation at the Cathedral you need to contact Rev. Tony on 6332 7370 or tony.card@saints.nsw.edu.au no later than tomorrow, Friday, 10th October.

Book the date - Operation Christmas Child packing party

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FROM THE CHAPLAIN

Rev. Tony Card

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This Week's Sport Draws

**Basketball: Friday**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Game</th>
<th>Venue</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Bus departs</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NO GAMES</td>
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**Cricket: Saturday, 11 October 2014**

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<tr>
<td>ASC U15s/Opens v Blayney</td>
<td>ASC Watson Oval</td>
<td>8.45am</td>
<td>12.00pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>ASC U13s 1 v Bushrangers</td>
<td>ASC Stiles Oval</td>
<td>8.45am</td>
<td>12.00pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>ASC U13s 2 v Blayney</td>
<td>Blayney</td>
<td>8.45am</td>
<td>7.45am</td>
<td>12.30pm</td>
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**Tennis: Saturday, 11 October 2014**

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<tr>
<td>ASC Intermediate</td>
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<tr>
<td>ASC Juniors</td>
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**Touch Football: Monday & Saturday**

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<th>Returns</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>No Games</td>
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<tr>
<td>ASC Watson</td>
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<tr>
<td>ASC Red Mixed</td>
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<tr>
<td>WAS Senior Girls</td>
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<tr>
<td>WAS Junior Girls</td>
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**Spring Fair THANKS**

The Spring Fair held last term was a fantastic day. We had wonderful weather and a big crowd. A big thank you to all of the sponsors, the helpers, the stall coordinators and everyone who was involved. We really appreciate your help. It made the Spring Fair a fantastic day. We are already planning for next year!

Congratulations to the winners of the raffle prizes noted below:

**Spring Fair Raffle Winners**

1st - Melissa Hall
2nd - Alexia Pollet
3rd - Stephen Geyer
4th - Wally Kochanowski
5th - Bethanie Williams
6th - Tim Goodlet
7th - James Schumacher
8th - Longergan Family
9th - R Cox
10th - Sophie Morrissey
11th - Emery Family
12th - Abbey Family
13th - Hurley Family

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**Runner-Up Australian Junior Champion**

In September Madeline Sinderberry travelled to Werribee, Victoria for the Australian Showjumping Championships. It was her first ride at this level, and with 110 horses in the Juniors (12 to 18 years), she was hoping to make it to the final of just 30 horses.

Not only did Madeline make it to the finals, she won the AM5, won the Grand Prix and was sixth in the Table C without a single rail all weekend. Madeline’s time was just 1 second behind the eventual Champion in the Table C Speed class, and she was named the 2014 Runner-Up Australian Junior Champion.