

The Rite Journey Calling & Departure Ceremony- Friday 31st January (Re-scheduled Date)

Nazareth invites you to take part in your child's rescheduled Calling and Departure Ceremony as they begin their rite of passage. Please be aware that participation in this ceremony is compulsory for all Year 9 students.

On Friday 31st of January, all Year 9s and their families make their way to Harold and Cynthia Anderson Reserve, corner of Seaview Road and Burbridge Road, West Beach at 5:45am for a 6:00am start for the official Calling and Departure Ceremony, which signifies the beginning of their year-long journey.

Upon conclusion of the ceremony, students walk together with their families and teachers along the River Torrens to the College for a shared breakfast. Parents are encouraged to dress in attire suitable for the walk. Please note that students are asked to wear their PE uniform with college hat and bring a drink bottle and use sunscreen where applicable. We anticipate the students will return to the College by approximately 8:00am for breakfast, concluding by 9:30am. As this is an early start for these students, dismissal for the day will be at the conclusion of the breakfast, with all Year 9 students expected to be offsite by 10:00am. If you would prefer your child to be supervised on campus for the remainder of the day, please inform Sam Morgan via email (sam.morgan@nazareth.catholic.edu.au) by Thursday 30th January.

Parent/Carer's Role

If you haven't already done so last year, please write a letter and bring to The Calling and Departure Ceremony.

As part of the Calling and Departure Ceremony, parents and carers have a special task to fulfil. Your children will share a childish behaviour which they are letting go as a sign of their commitment to this transformation, as well as a letter of gratitude. In reply, you are invited to participate in this reflection process by way of writing a letter to your child expressing your gratitude to them. The letter is an opportunity for you to share your favourite memories of your child and what you appreciate about them. Please bring this letter with you to the Calling and Departure Ceremony as you will have an opportunity to personally present it to your child at the ceremony.

The success of this ceremony for our students relies on the involvement and support of parents and caregivers. The letter presentation is a central part of this ceremony. Please see below for some ideas to get you started on your letter.

Caregiver Gratitude Letter Sentence Starters

- My favourite childhood memory of you is...
- I really enjoyed it when...
- Thank you for all the times you...
- I really like it when you...
- Something that I like/appreciate about you...
- Something I'd like you to know is...
- I just wanted to tell you...
- I really appreciate it when you...
- I would really like to ... more often with you.

We will be offering a bus service that will shuttle parents back to their cars at Harold and Cynthia Anderson Reserve, West Beach, from Nazareth Flinders Park. The buses will be leaving from Hartley Road adjacent to the Flinders Park oval 8:45am and 9:15am. If you would like to use this service, please ensure you are waiting in the carpark area just prior to these times. We hope this assists by enabling families to fully participate in the Calling and Departure Ceremony and breakfast.

There is also an opportunity for several parents to be involved in sharing a prayer on behalf of all parents at the beginning of the ceremony. If parents are willing to participate in this element of the morning, please RSVP to Sam Morgan via email (sam.morgan@nazareth.catholic.edu.au).

Should there be any questions regarding involvement, please contact of the Year 9 Coordinators. We look forward to seeing you at the first of the Rite Journey ceremonies and trust that you and your child find this program to be a positive, rewarding and transformative process in 2025.

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