



INTER-CHURCH COMMISSION  
ON RELIGIOUS EDUCATION  
IN SCHOOLS (NSW) Inc

## Order of Service 2015

### Celebrating local heroes

This week we are celebrating local heroes in our Public Schools and the opportunities our schools provide for us to expand our God given abilities as we learn and grow.

On May 7, 2014, the Commonwealth Solicitor General reinforced the 2008 Melbourne Declaration of Education Goals which states that students are to be developed socially, emotionally, morally and spiritually - as well as intellectually and physically.

Special Religious Education (SRE/Scripture) is a great contributor to all of these goals.

The theme for Education Week 2015 is *Celebrating Local Heroes*. We honour local heroes and also recognize that we can use our abilities to make positive changes, which will benefit ourselves and those around us. We can be someone else's hero.

At school everyone is encouraged to strive for their best, to accept challenges, reach new levels of achievement, and develop skills that will encourage creativity as we work towards contributing to our own local school and community.



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July 2015

### Education Week

27 July - 31 July  
2015

An inter-denominational  
Christian service for optional use  
by schools and churches prepared  
by ICCOREIS

# Program

## 1. WELCOME

## 2. SONG

## 3. INTRODUCTION

This week we are celebrating our local heroes. Those who have gone above and beyond to make a significant contribution to our community and our school.

We want to thank them for all they have done to make the world we live in a better place. We also want to learn from them, as we know that we too, can all be a hero to someone.

To all of our local heroes, we thank you. These words are from the bible:

*1 Thessalonians 3:9 NCV*

"We have so much joy before our God because of you. We cannot thank him enough for all the joy we feel."

## 4. PRAYER

Father God,

We thank you for today and that you are here with us. We thank you for the country we live in, the school we attend, our teachers, parents, and those who contribute to our community. We thank you for our local heroes: our police officers, firefighters, doctors and nurses, our military personnel, and those who work hard to make our community and world a better place. We thank you for their example, and we ask that you would help us and show us how we too, can make a significant contribution to the world that we live in. We ask that you would help us today to be ready to hear your Word and that we would learn

something new about you. We pray this in your name. Amen.

## 5. MEMORY VERSE

*Proverbs 3:27 (The Message)*

Never walk away from someone who deserves help; your hand is God's hand for that person.

## 6. NEW TESTAMENT READING

Jesus' followers were often poor, but they knew Jesus wanted them to help each other. Here is the story of a woman called Tabitha.

*Acts 9:36-43*

<sup>36</sup> In Joppa there was a follower named Tabitha. Her Greek name was Dorcas, which means "deer." She was always doing good things for people and had given much to the poor. <sup>37</sup> But she got sick and died, and her body was washed and placed in an upstairs room. <sup>38</sup> Joppa wasn't far from Lydda, and the followers heard that Peter was there. They sent two men to say to him, "Please come with us as quickly as you can!" <sup>39</sup> Right away, Peter went with them.

The men took Peter upstairs into the room. Many widows were there crying. They showed him the coats and clothes that Dorcas had made while she was still alive.

<sup>40</sup> After Peter had sent everyone out of the room, he knelt down and prayed. Then he turned to the body of Dorcas and said, "Tabitha, get up!" The woman opened her eyes, and when she saw Peter, she sat up. <sup>41</sup> He took her by the hand and helped her to her feet.

Peter called in the widows and the other followers and showed them that Dorcas had been raised from death. <sup>42</sup> Everyone in

Joppa heard what had happened, and many of them put their faith in the Lord. <sup>43</sup> Peter stayed on for a while in Joppa in the house of a man named Simon, who made leather.

## 7. MESSAGE/TALK

## 8. OLD TESTAMENT READING

In the Old Testament of the Bible we learn about how strong God is. God will help us everyday to serve Him and others and will help us to keep doing good, even when we get really tired.

*Reading from Isaiah 40: 28-31 (Contemporary English Version)*

Don't you know? Haven't you heard? The Lord is the eternal God, Creator of the earth.

He never gets weary or tired; his wisdom cannot be measured. The Lord gives strength to those who are weary.

Even young people get tired, then stumble and fall.

But those who trust the Lord will find new strength.

They will be strong like eagles soaring upward on wings; they will walk and run without getting tired.

## 9. SONG/S

## 10. STUDENT ITEM/ PARTICIPATION

## 11. PRAYERS

### STUDENT 1

Loving God,  
We thank you for the gift you gave us of Jesus. Thank you for your love and

care for each of us.

Thank you for the unique gifts and abilities you give each one of us. Thank you for the opportunities our school and our parents give us to learn and explore and discover our gifts and abilities. Help us to use our skills and the gifts you have given us to bless and help others in our school and to contribute to our community. Amen

### STUDENT 2

Mighty God,  
Help us to follow in the footsteps of Tabitha and other followers of Jesus who made a difference in the lives of the other people they lived with. Help us to help others who cannot do some of the things that we can. Amen

### STUDENT 3

Heavenly Father,  
We pray for all students across our school and all the schools in NSW as they celebrate Education Week. May we all respect and celebrate each other and encourage each other to achieve the best we can. We are grateful for all the heroes in our lives and for the way they have helped us. Help us to care for others. Amen

## 11. CLOSING

So as we leave today, help us to remember a very special message from the Bible.

*Never walk away from someone who deserves help; your hand is God's hand for that person.*

Proverbs 3:27 (The Message Bible)