



## FROM THE ASSISTANT CHAPLAIN - JUNIOR SCHOOL

**Last Sunday I was ambushed by a ghost, a vampire and a few tiny Super Heroes who would not leave my front door unless I gave them some lollies...**

That's right, it was Halloween.

I am sure that there are some who want nothing to do with Halloween; others who see it as a fun evening with the family, but I think all of us will be surprised by its origins.

The root word of Halloween - "hallow" - means "holy." The suffix "een" is an abbreviation of "evening." It refers to the Eve of All Hallows, the night before the Christian holy day that honours Christian people of the past.

Halloween was originally a Christian celebration where Christians who had passed away were remembered and honoured.

While children dress up as ghosts, vampires, and all things, scary we can remember and be assured that we have nothing to fear.

*1 Corinthians 15:20 says: 'But in fact, Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep.'*

We believe in the resurrection of our Lord and Saviour Jesus. Not only that Jesus was raised, but that we too are raised with him.

Perhaps the origin of such a day has been lost? Let me encourage you, whether you celebrate Halloween or not, to use Halloween next year as a day to remember our Lord and Saviour, Jesus, the one who has risen from the dead and in whom we too will rise. That is definitely something worth celebrating.

**Mr Matthew Richards**  
Assistant Chaplain

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