

## **GOOD TEACHERS – their traits!**

When I was a student for the priesthood a school principal once said to me; *“In being a teacher there is no better profession to be in if you love the work and the people and also there is no worse profession to be involved in if you don’t love the work and the people before you.”* The point that this insightful principal make is that there is really no *middle ground*.

Some qualities of good teachers are that in the long term they are deeply focused on wanting to assist their students reach their potential. This does not mean that they will all necessarily become scholars or top corporate executives! In the short term the good teacher is able to consistently set work for their students that will appropriately challenge them yet not overwhelm them. I hope that we can all recall some people in our own lives who we consider to be good teachers and they are truly *that pearl beyond price!*

Jesus of Nazareth consistently revealed in his 3year public ministry that he was truly a master teacher. In the long term he only wanted what was good for the people he taught even when they could not sometimes see it. In the short term he consistently pitched his message in a way that people readily understood. Whether they abided by it is a different issue!

And like any great teacher he lived his own message with great integrity. *Fr Martin R Maunsell*