

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE – GOD'S HEARTBEAT IN THE WORLD

In a previous edition of the Principal's Bulletin this year I outlined a brief history and explanation of the Catholic Church's seven sacraments. One of these sacraments is at the centre of discussions in societies and their parliaments throughout the world, including here in Melbourne.

This is the sacrament of marriage. Traditionally in major religions, marriage is the official, sanctified union between a man and a woman exclusively. This view of marriage as an official union between a man and a woman has also been the view of Governments throughout the world. In recent times however, there have been movements established and certain people that argue the case for same-sex marriage and, in fact, certain countries have fully legislated for these same-sex unions to be another form of marriage. The Prime Minister, Hon Julia Gillard M.P., has stated that the current Federal Marriage Act will not be changed.

As a Catholic College, SMC believes that the heartbeat of God is manifested in the world through one marriage union only – between man and woman.

The Melbourne Archdiocese of the Catholic Church, through its 'Life, Marriage and Family Office', has produced recently a pamphlet that was distributed in parishes. Its argument is that same-sex unions should not be legislated as traditional marriage. I quote from the publication:

'Sexuality is a gift that reveals God's love in us - a love that is total, faithful and free. When a husband and wife sincerely give themselves to one another in marriage, their love is made visible by their care for one another and in their children.

At its core, marriage respects and affirms the distinct yet complimentary difference between a man and woman and its natural link to bearing children.

The Church insists that we respect the dignity of every person. This includes those who experience same-sex attraction. It is this same respect for human dignity that calls us to recognize that these relationships are not the same as that of a husband and wife.'

Through our public statements and in Religious Education classes, St Monica's College, Epping will hold firm to the Church teaching that the sacrament of marriage is between a man and a woman, not a same-sex couple. This must be protected in Government legislation. 'Marriage is a unique institution as traditionally understood and actually lived as the complimentary love between a man and woman'. ('Life, Marriage and Family Office' document).

For more information about this important issue visit the following website: www.cam.org.au/lifemarriagefamily

FROM THE STAFFROOM

1. Condolences are extended to Mrs Kellie Thomson on the death of her father and to Mrs Mary Devlin on the recent death of her father. Their families are in our thoughts at this sad time for them.
2. Congratulations to: Mr Matthew Goodridge - Kelly on the birth of Georgina Mary; Mrs Grace Mifsud on the birth of James Brian; Mr Chau Phan on the birth of Vincent during the holiday period.
3. Returning from long-term leave are: Ms Kathryn Hocking; Mrs Lesleigh Madden; Mrs Pina Dunne.
4. Commencing long term leave are: Mrs Grace Mifsud and Mrs Sonia George (maternity leave); Ms Lorna McLeod, Ms Paula Di Maria, Mrs Jolanta Kozlowski, Mr Douglas Beattie (Long Service Leave for Term 3).
5. We welcome: Dr Kate Richards (replacing Mrs George); Mrs Anne Hofman (replacing Mrs Mifsud).

6. Staff Member of the Month for June is Ms Maria Mezzatesta in recognition of her fine job in the role of Acting Faculty Coordinator of LOTE. Maria's work in managing the LOTE Faculty's colorful contribution to the opening ceremony of the LOTE Centre and her overseeing the Dante Alighieri Italian Poetry Competition are much appreciated.
7. I am pleased to announce that Miss Cathy Gentile has been appointed State Reviewer for VCE Legal Studies for 2011.

SEMESTER 2, 2011

I welcome all students, staff and Monican families to the second semester. This incorporates Terms 3 and 4. Even though electives and new subjects and units have already commenced across the six year levels, I still call on all students to use this new semester commencement as an opportunity to redouble their efforts and aspire to achieve the highest grades that they can in all subjects.

EDUCATIONAL MAINTENANCE ALLOWANCE – SECOND INSTALMENT, 2011

The Education Maintenance Allowance is paid to eligible parents/guardians of students under 16 years of age. The EMA is paid in two instalments, \$161 to both parent and school in April, 2011 and \$69 to the parent and school in August, 2011, being a total of \$460.

To be eligible the applicant must have:

- ** A valid Health Care Card/Pension Card or Veterans Affairs Card.
- ** Be a Foster Parent and apply for the Foster child only
- ** Card must be valid on Monday, 18 July, 2011 to be eligible for the second payment.

EMA forms are held at both DRC and DSC Receptions and need to be lodged at Davisson St Campus **only** no later than 5 August, 2011. If you applied for the first Instalment, there is no need to reapply for the second Instalment.

Please note: no late applications will be accepted after 5 August, 2011 as requested by DEET.

Any queries can be directed to Ms Andrea Moon on DSC Campus, Tel 9409 8800.

DIARY DATES

Tuesday, 19 July	Principal's Award for Public Speaking
24 – 26 July	Music Camp
Wednesday, 27 July	House Cross Country Carnival
Thursday, 28 July	VCE/VCAL Parent Teacher Conferences
Thursday, 4 August	University and TAFE Information Evening

SINCE THE LAST EDITION

Term 2 holidays; College Production of *Singin' in the Rain*; College Board meeting; Refugee Week (including afternoon tea); Parish Masses; Morning Tea with the Principal; Year 9 debate final; Plain English Speaking Award; World Vision conference and meetings; VET Music Industry concert; Electives changeover; Catholic Education Office meeting at SMC; MADD Night meeting; ERF morning teas; Interschool Chess Championship; Tutankhamen Exhibition excursion (HORIZONS); Harry Potter Trivia Competition; Year 8 premier league; Tennis Squad training; Senior AFL/Netball; SACCSS Futsal (girls); 10 Green at On the Edge; 9 White at Uniquely Year 9; South Fremantle (vs) SMC AFL match; Hockey game; Senior Netball Competition in Brisbane; Years 11 and 12 Class Masses

BEHIND THE ROSTRUM:

1. ROUND 4 DEBATING RESULTS

Round 4 of debating was held at Loyola College on Monday evening 20 June. Out of twelve debates SMC managed six victories, an excellent result in light of the fact that D grade students had the added pressure of exams. In seven of the debates SMC were awarded best speaker. The next and final round of debating is Monday, 25 July. Results were:

A grade

SMC 1 223 defeated Eltham HS 1 220 best speaker Adrian Muzzi

B grade

SMC 1 226 defeated Eltham HS 1 224 best speaker Jessica de Bont

SMC 2 219 lost to Eltham College of Education 222

C grade

SMC 1 224 defeated Mill Park SC 1 223

SMC 2 222 lost to Reservoir HS 1 223 best speaker Astrid Mayne

D grade

SMC 1 229 defeated St Helena SC 224 best speaker Amy Ruscigno and Anoop Gill

SMC 2 225 defeated Mill Park SC 1 224 best speaker Ramsen Kunda

SMC 3 221 lost to Loyola College 1 225

SMC 4 225 lost to St Helena SC 2 227

SMC 5 224 lost to Catholic Ladies College 1 225 best speaker Gheslaine Waters

SMC 6 227 defeated Marymede 4 223 best speaker Arshdeep Cheema and Michelle Kieu

SMC 7 222 lost to Parade College 1 225

2. YEAR 9 INTERCLASS DEBATING GRAND FINAL

The Year 9 interclass debating grand final was held on Wednesday, 30 June. Both 9 Gold and 9 Red debated the topic 'Space exploration is a waste of money'. Gold argued the affirmative side and Red argued on the negative side. In a closely contested and high quality debate 9 Gold were the winners, with best speaker being awarded to Lavinia De Marco of 9 Gold. Both teams must be congratulated for the efforts they have made to reach the grand final. Further thanks goes to Ms Kate Molony, Head of English, for adjudicating the debate.

ACROSS THE CHESS BOARD:

2011 INTERSCHOOL CHESS COMPETITION

Year 7

James Silver, Kon Anastasiou, Joshua Poto, Deyan Milevski, Christopher Hakem, Matthew Marinacci, Callan Hiho, Harry Pham, Ali Mostafa, Arjun Balasenthil

Year 8

Thomas Aitken, Shan Galappatthy, Mitchell Vihtelic, Matthew Jones, Liam Lowe, Jason Notaro, Armaan Gill, Christopher Pham

Year 9

Tony Huynh, Robert Candia, Jordan Hiho

Year 10

Matthew Mansour, Pany Misconi, Daniel Giusti

Year 11

Dylan Thomson, Alex O'Neill, Adolph Lekkas

Year 12

Steven Paladino, Luke Baldassini.

MIRACLES MILES PROGRAM

Through the generosity of the parents, staff and students present at the Principal's Dinner on Thursday, 16 June, an amazing \$1308 was raised towards bringing a child to Australia for medical treatment through the Children's First Foundation.

Thank you for your support.

PAKISTAN APPEAL UPDATE

Congratulations to all students who have brought a can of drink or healthy Zinger yoghurt icy pole from our Pakistan sales bins at lunchtime. You have raised \$14,583 since last St Monica's Day and an incredible \$96,253 since we commenced selling these items on 31 March, 2005.

It is fantastic to note the number of students from our College who support this fundraising activity and regularly make extra donations of small change to help the less fortunate children and their families in Pakistan.

Let us see if we can reach our \$15,000 target for this year. DRC students please remember that we sell from 1.03 p.m. outside the Hall Monday to Friday.

DANTE ALIGLIERI ITALIAN POETRY COMPETITION FINALISTS

It is with great pleasure I announce the following finalists for the Dante Competition. Best wishes to each finalist.

YEAR 9 ITALIAN

Matthew D'Amore, Lavinia De Marco, Melissa Monteleone, Adrian Sirianni, Joshua Traglia.

YEAR 9 NON

Melvyn Charan.

YEAR 10 ITALIAN

Kassandra Baldi.

YEAR 11 ITALIAN

Katia Caiazza, Jessica D'Amore, Sarah Maiolo, Stephanie Versaci.

YEAR 12 ITALIAN

Celeste Centioli, Ariana Magliozzi, Giulia Santamaria.

This year there are approximately 370 finalists from the 4,000 students who entered. We have done well again and I thank everyone for their support and encouragement.

REFUGEE WEEK AT SMC

St Monica's College Refugee Support Group reminds all staff and students that 20 June was World Refugee Day. The focus of this celebration was to ensure that communities all around the world recognised the challenges facing refugees and to create a culture of welcome, to enable refugees to live in a safe environment with equal rights. This year Refugee Week was celebrated on 19 – 20 June in Australia.

St Monica's has over 30 refugee students attending the College. Both DSC and DRC library staff put together great displays to raise students' awareness of refugees during that week. There are also many resources available for classroom use to raise student awareness of refugees. For more information please visit www.refugeeweek.org.au; www.foundationhouse.org.au

We celebrated the contribution to our nation of the hundreds of thousands of people forced, over the years, to flee their homelands to find a safe haven in Australia. In particular, we welcome the refugee families who have chosen to become part of the St Monica's College community, either as students or staff.

MONICANS OUT & ABOUT

- a. Year 9 St Peter's literacy program – Carla Di Domizio; Melissa Fogas; Anthony Giampa; Daniel Pennacchia; Lavinia De Marco; Celina Camilleri; Frank Porco; Brittany Adcock; Carly Ferro; Anthony Bradford; Penelope Proghios
- b. Year 10 community service with St Vincent de Paul – Jemma Dempsey; Ryan McKenzie; Ketina Leong; James Datoski; Matthew Mission; Mark Elyas; Julia Mamone; Kimberly Wright
- c. Year 11s at Collingwood Cottage – Bethany Higgins; Kerensa Fernandes; Stephanie Melhem; Samuel Nguyen; Rhys Antonio; Sara Shaba; Caitlin Cristallini; Pierette Kanaan
- d. World Vision Conference Delegates – Jessica de Bont; Kobi Bland; Jemma Dempsey; Jessica Contarin
- e. Interschool Chess Championship competition. On Tuesday, 28 June a group of twenty four students travelled to Glen Waverley Secondary College to compete in the Interschool Chess Competition. Eight of our students were from Year 7 so this was their first exposure to outside Chess Tournaments. St Monica's were placed 3rd in the competition – a great result. Congratulations to all competitors but especially to Alex O'Neill who came 5th in the overall competition. Thank you also to Mr Strantzen for escorting the students to the event. A comprehensive report and photos has been placed on the House notice board.
- f. Year 11 community service at Ozanam House – Edera El-Assaad; Nick Janeski; Kimberlin D'Souza.

OFF THE SHELVES

1. READING CLUB HARRY POTTER COMPETITION

The Harry Potter Competition will take place on Wednesday, 20 July at lunchtime in the Reading Room. Prizes will be awarded and these include movie tickets for each member of the winning team/House.

MELBOURNE WRITERS FESTIVAL – WRITE ACROSS VICTORIA COMPETITION

Write Across Victoria is a creative writing competition for Victorian students in Years 7, 8 and 9. Enter now for your chance to win some fantastic prizes. What's more, the winning stories will be published online and in Express Media's Voiceworks magazine.

Simply choose one of the story starters by Brian Falkner, Sally Rippin and Gabrielle Wang. These can be located on the competition website: <http://www.mwf.com.au>

Continue the narrative in a total of 500 works.

The winner and finalists will be awarded during MWF's Schools' Program on Thursday, 1 September, 1.45 p.m. in Why I Write + Write Across Victoria hosted by Express Media in BMW Edge with Tim Pegler and Alice Pung. All are welcome at this event. Entries close 5.00 p.m. Friday, 29 July.

PIZZA LUNCH WINNERS WHO KEEP SMC LITTER FREE

Congratulations to the following students for winning a pizza lunch last term. We would like to thank all staff and students for their support in keeping our school clean and ask for your continuing support.

Year 7

Johanna Triucio, Christopher Alessi, Jake Stagliano, Jacob Camilleri, Chantelle Porco, Karl Giacchi, Jibin Jijo.

Year 8

Aiden Commisso, Teena Andriopoulos, Simon Sleiman-Casal, Karla Conversano, Bianca Fiasco, Alex Nguyen, Adam Kyriakou, Tanya Vong.

CAREERS CORNER

Essential Reading for Year 10 Students

A goal without a plan is just a wish and to help with goal planning on Monday, 25 July the Victorian Tertiary Entrance Requirements Guide for entry into University and TAFE in 2014 is released and all Year 10 students at the College will be provided with a copy during their Discovery lesson on Tuesday, 26 July to assist in planning their future study.

The guide will provide students with information about every course, every institution and the entrance requirements for each. Students and parents are encouraged to look through the guide and to highlight possible future courses and institutions and in conjunction with attending the Course and Careers Expo at St Monica's College on Thursday, 4 August and the Year 10 Subject Fair on Tuesday, 9 August to use the guide to help with subject planning for Years 11 and 12.

WORLD OF SPORT

1. Senior AFL Results – Rounds 5 and 6

Listed below are the results from Round 5 SACCSS game against reigning premiers Salesian College.

SMC def Salesian
17.11.113 14.7.91

SMC goals: A. Ioannidis 5, J. Farrugia 2, J. Rizzolio 2, G. Sutton 2, S. Harraka, J. Short, R. Mercuri, J. Mercuri, J. Abdulhadi, J. Vaccaro 1.

SMC best players: A. Ioannidis, J. Short, S. Harraka, J. Beare, R. Mercuri, J. Rizzolio.

Results from Round 6 of the Senior SACCSS AFL competition are:

SMC def Antonine College
27.24.186 6.8.44

SMC goals: M. DiBattista, J. Beare, J. Abdulhadi 6, M. Padula, M. Camilleri, A. Pavli 4, J. Rizzolio, M. Vincitori 3, A. Stoikos, J. Cilia 2, J. Short, B. Romano 1.

SMC best players: M. DiBattista, J. Beare, M. Padula, M. Vincitorio, M. Camilleri, J. Short.

Our next game is the final home and away game against Penola College on 20 July prior to the SACCSS Grand Final against Salesian College on 10 August.

2. Year 8 Premier League Champions

Congratulations to all Year 8 participants in the Year 8 Premier League. All eight teams were contributors to winning the Aggregate Pennant in 2011.

SMC		Opponent
Netball v CRC Melton	38	33
Basketball (F) v Marymede	23	45
Volleyball (F) v CRC St Albans	3	0
Football (M) v CRC Nth Keilor	0	3

3. SACCSS Futsal Championships

The inaugural SACCSS Boys Futsal Competition was held Wednesday, 23 June. St Monica's entered all three age groups.

Junior Boys won the Championship scoring over 50 goals in 6 games and conceding 8. Final score: St Monica's 4 def CRC St Albans 2. The Intermediate Boys were knocked out after a penalty shootout in the Semi Final against Penola.

The Senior Boys were runners up losing to CRC Sydenham 7 - 6 in the Final.

4. SACCSS Futsal

Congratulations to the Girls Futsal Squads on their success at the SACCSS Futsal Championships. All three teams were crowned champions.

Senior Girls	St Monica's 11	Penola 3
Intermediate Girls	St Monica's 5	CRC Nth Keilor 4
Junior Girls	St Monica's 5	MacKillop 1

5. SMC Hockey Institute

The Hockey Institute is proud to announce their 2 – 0 win against Penola College, Broadmeadows on 27 June. Thank you to all those who helped out and thank you to those who came to support. Training will commence Monday, 25 July. Anyone interested in joining the Hockey Institute is welcome to come along.

Basketball Development Program – First Meeting

There was a meeting on 1 July for all interested students from Years 7 – 9 who wished to develop their Basketball skills. Mr Cincotta will be taking lunchtime training for Terms 3 and 4 beginning the second week of this term. All interested students need to register before admission to the Program will be granted. No basketball playing experience is necessary. So if you have never played basketball before and would like to get fit and have fun, all will be welcome.

MARVELLOUS MONICAN

Congratulations to Ryan Bolger (Year 8) who has been offered the opportunity of having his artwork titled "Tranquility" published in 'artbook'. 'artbook' is produced by Write4Fun and will contain many artistic pieces from students all over Australia. The book will be produced as a beautifully presented, full colour, hardbound volume that will literally last for generations.

Well done, Ryan, on being able to 'show your work off' in this fine publication.



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