



GIFTS ARE STILL ON THE TABLE



I intend to take a very positive and optimistic approach to this lead article in this edition. Indeed, we all know the troubles and crisis we encounter across the world, in our country, and on our doorsteps (both home and College). Regardless, there are good reasons for some positivity.

I present some gifts in our lives, not an exhaustive list, that make our 2020 College Theme still relevant and a cause for hope and thanksgiving.

Easter: Christian people have celebrated the Easter season with the Resurrection of Jesus Christ at the pinnacle. From the agony of the cross, to the gloom of the tomb, to the glory of His Resurrection, Jesus Christ overcomes evil and leads us to enter ultimately the Kingdom of God. It is a hope-filled feast, the most relevant in this period of time. Alleluia, the Lord is Risen.

Family: Isolation has meant that people have spent more time that is intimate and in close proximity with their family than ever before. Mums, Dads, children, grandparents, and the extended family have joined – in the home if immediate family, or through other media if just outside the close family ring. Parents have watched over their children, keeping them feeling safe and secure. Children have drawn closer to their parents and probably their siblings too. Each member of the family has had to make sacrifices for the other members of the household, and all have sought ways for entertainment, procurement of adequate food supplies, some approved exercise, and many have often spent time in prayer.



New Learning: Monicans certainly did not expect to be learning from home remotely at the start of the year and neither did teachers and staff predict that their duties and tasks would be so altered. However, we have all learnt and acquired new skills, we have adapted to the changes wrought upon us, we have had to increase our concentration skills, and our self-discipline has taken a huge jump. Maybe our technology skills have enhanced, our reading skills improved, our problem solving capabilities become stronger.

Appreciation: If we were a person who took simple, everyday matters and events for granted, our world has turned upside down and the gift of appreciation has come to the fore. A long list of examples presents itself from contacts with others, to good health, helping others in need, the beauty of nature as found all round us, our job, travel, the medical profession and associates, the value of enjoyable recreation. Too often, we expect life not to throw us challenges, but now I contend that this feeling will not return for a long time.

St Monica's College: Thank God we have each other and that we are here for each other, now and in the future.

Gifts of the Holy Spirit: We place the Gifts of the Holy Spirit on our Monican table to sustain and encourage us during these unique and troubled times: Wisdom, Understanding, Good Counsel, Fortitude, Knowledge, Piety and Fear of the Lord.



God bless our Monican community.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR CAMPS, SPORTS AND EXCURSIONS FUND (CSEF) 2020 \$225

Every Victorian child should have access to the world of learning opportunities that exist beyond the classroom. The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund will ensure that no student will miss out on the opportunity to join their classmates for important, educational and fun activities.

School **camp**s provide children with inspiring experiences in the great outdoors, **excursions** encourage a deeper understanding of how the world works and **sports** teach teamwork, discipline and leadership. All are part of a healthy curriculum.

CSEF will be provided by the Victorian Government to assist eligible families to cover the costs of school trips, camps and sporting activities.

If you hold a valid means-tested concession card, veterans affairs or pension card, or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible for CSEF. The allowance will be paid to the school to use towards expenses relating to camps, excursions, or sporting activities for the benefit of your child.

The annual CSEF amount per student will be:

\$125 for primary school students

\$225 for secondary school students.

How to Apply:

Contact the school office to obtain a CSEF application form or download from www.education.vic.gov.au/csef

Accepting applications:

Parents (including guardians) no longer need to submit a new application form each year in most cases.

Parents only need to submit an application form in 2020 if any of these changes have occurred.

- **New student enrolments:** students who have started or changed schools in 2020 or if the parent did not apply for CSEF at the school in 2019.
- **Changed family circumstances:** such as a change of custody, change of name, concession card number, or new siblings commencing at the school in 2020.

Eligibility Date:

For concession card holders CSEF eligibility will be subject to the parent/legal guardian's concession card being successfully validated with Centrelink on the first day of either term one (**28 January, 2020**) or term two (**14 April, 2020**).

Closing Date:

You should lodge a CSEF application form at the school by 26 June, 2020 for eligibility. For more information about the CSEF visit www.education.vic.gov.au/csef

For any further queries please contact Miss Andrea Moon 9409 8800.

All of these items have been kept out of landfill and their precious elements removed and reused. Well done SMC.

STAYING SAFE ONLINE

Our interaction online has grown dramatically over the recent years. All individuals and organisations have utilised the internet to meet the various needs of society. Education is no different. The internet (online world) has

proven to be a great tool in sharing and accessing resources, especially in the area of communication.

The College has always been committed to implementing and utilising online platforms and structures that promote student outcomes. Prior to implementation, the platforms have been deemed safe and suitable for use. We support and promote students engaging in the online landscape for these educational reasons. Yet the College too understands that our students also utilise this environment for a range of other reasons, such as and not confined to; gaming, social networking, viewing content, accessing information, purchases and much, much more.

Although we accept that the digital world has become a critical part of their lives, we too understand some of the negatives and dangers associated with it. The College provides many opportunities to learn about the risks in various areas whilst ensuring students are safe when they access the internet on College grounds.

Due to our current climate related to COVID-19 many young people and their families have become further reliant to access to the internet. The College believes there must be a balance, level of supervision and education when students are in an online landscape.

Therefore, I recommend all parents access information from the very reputable source '[eSafetyCommissioner](http://eSafetyCommissioner.gov.au)'.

This site offers much information, advice and learning to assist you in promoting a safe online environment by managing use and reducing the risks to your child when they are accessing the internet at home.

We know and understand that engaging online can enhance and is a requirement for many aspects of their learning. Yet we too know our students have access to and engage in other activities that could be either not appropriate or unsafe.

We hope that you find this material valuable to support you in reducing the risks to your children whilst they access the internet (at increased levels) and all of its features when at home, and potentially unsupervised.

The document below provides valuable information to assist you in this area.

[COVID-19: Global ONLINE SAFETY ADVICE for parents and carers \(Australian Edition\).](#)

ENROLMENTS



Enrol Now
For Year 7, 2022 And 2023
Limited Places Available For
Years 7 - 12 For 2021.

St Monica's College, Epping
www.stmonicas-epping.com
T: 9409 8800
Junior Campus Years 7 - 9
400 Dalton Road, Epping VIC 3076
Senior Campus Years 10 - 12
16 Davison Street, Epping VIC 3076



COEDUCATION AT SMC (as in 'Themes' Secondary Education')

ST MONICA'S College, Epping was established in 1964 as a girls' school. This served a specific purpose at that time. In the 1970's the Sisters of the Good Samaritan, local clergy and parishioners saw a real need for boys' Catholic Education thus in 1978 St Monica's College, Epping proudly became coeducational. Our school has flourished ever since.

In all of our local Primary schools (Government and Catholic) coeducation is offered. In all tertiary institutions, (universities and TAFES etc.) coeducation is the only way education is provided. I argue that all education is delivered at its best through coeducation.

WHY?

There are many reasons why I contend that the coeducation choice Monican parents have made for their children is the right one. Being together throughout the day, feelings of comradeship and friendships develop in a natural way between girls and boys. This mutual feeling and uplifting experiences are inherently valuable to the fully rounded person. These friendships emerge through shared experiences in classrooms, from participating in shared activities outside the formal curriculum, and through shared membership in clubs and teams.

Coeducation assists significantly in breaking down sexist attitudes in both genders. Boys and girls learn in a natural classroom environment, not sheltered away from each other, and in this normal way, appropriate respect ought to develop between the genders. In the coeducational classroom, both female and male perspectives are explored, thus greater understanding between the sexes, more consideration of points of view, and increased development of individuals both intellectually and socially.

Truly, coeducation reflects 100% the diversity of society. Coeducation, in other words, IS the real world. Accordingly, students are better prepared to enter the workforce, more capable of coping in post-secondary educational institutions, and more confident to involve themselves in discussions and activities with the opposite sex. Of course, they are because they have mixed and grown up with the opposite sex from kindergarten years.

"Coeducation at its Best"

I believe that girls are more confident to express their views on all manner of things in their daily life in a coeducational College and exactly the same applies to boys. Students feel comfortable in whom they are and the chances are many to develop healthy and positive attitudes and self-image. Let us hope that this in turn reduces harassment and bullying.

Coeducation is popular throughout the world and a chief reason for this is that it allows for greater socialisation, wider diversity of experiences and fewer gender stereotypes for young people. This can only be healthy, good, and most desirable. It could be stated that collaboration between the sexes, not separation, fosters equality. In a coeducational setting, students are exposed to both male and female role models, students learn to lead the opposite sex in all types of situations, and finding a group of friends to match up with is easier.

There are myths associated with coeducation just as there are with single sex education. These should all be dispelled as we come down to the one, most critical reality – humans live in a coeducational world and consequently enjoying the coeducation experience in school years should form a holistic person, confident and wise.

Brian E. Hanley,

B.A., Dip. Ed., Grad. Dip. Ed. Admin., M. Ed., MACE, FACEL
College Principal



EDUCATION WEBSITES

University Websites

Australian Catholic University:

www.acu.edu.au

Australian National University:

www.anu.edu.au

Deakin University:

www.deakin.edu.au

La Trobe University:

www.latrobe.edu.au

Federation University:

www.federation.edu.au

Monash University

www.monash.edu.au

RMIT University

www.rmit.edu.au

Swinburne University:

www.swinburne.edu.au

University of Melbourne

www.unimelb.edu.au

Victoria University:

www.vu.edu.au

TAFE Websites

Box Hill:

www.bhtafe.edu.au

Kangan Batman:

www.kangan.edu.au

Melbourne Polytechnic:

www.melbournepolytechnic.edu.au

RMIT University:

www.rmit.edu.au

Swinburne University

www.swinburne.edu.au

Victoria University:

www.vu.edu.au

William Angliss:

www.angliss.vic.edu.au

Tertiary Admission Centres:

Victoria:

www.vtac.edu.au

Northern Territory:

www.cdu.edu.au

Queensland Tertiary Admissions Centre:

www.qtac.edu.au

South Australian Tertiary Admissions Centre:

www.satac.edu.au

Universities Admissions Centre (NSW & ACT)

www.uac.edu.au

University of Tasmania :

www.utas.edu.au

Western Australia:

www.tisc.edu.au

Others:

Open Learning Australia:

www.ola.edu.au

Australian Defence Force Academy:

www.unsw.adfa.edu.au/adfa_defence/

Useful Websites:

www.myfuture.edu.au

www.jobsearch.gov.au/joboutlook

www.australia.gov.au/australianapprenticeships

www.grouptraining.com.au

www.myskills.gov.au

www.thegoodguides.com.au

www.goodcareersguide.com.au

STUDY TECHNIQUES – USING POSITIVE MOTIVATION



Motivation is what drives you towards a goal and keeps you working through a task with the determination to succeed when things get tough. Motivation falls into two categories: positive motivation, which means focusing on the positive things that will happen when you take action, and negative motivation, which means focusing on the negative backlash that might occur if you do not take action. Both negative and positive motivation can be effective, but you are likely to experience more success when you are doing something because you actually want to, rather than if you are acting to avoid a negative outcome. Using positive motivation strategies is much more effective when it comes to studying successfully.

CAREERS CORNER



Many of the Universities have now released their course guides for 2021. These guides are a valuable source of information for students who intend going to University after secondary school. To access some of the available guides, go to the St Monica's careers website at careersdept.stmonicas-epping.com and then go to the 'message board' on the home page.

You will find course guides to more universities if you go to the tab at the top of the page titled "Post School Options" then choose "University" then "Info. About Uni's and Course."

WORLD OF SPORT



With no sport available during Term 2 the Coaching team are busy preparing online material for students, including skills and training programs to perform during the isolation period. The team is determined to ensure that all students in the co-curricular program are offered the opportunity to stay active with programs to enable the College to continue its fantastic level of success when sport resumes.

OFF THE LIBRARY SHELVES

'Ten best reads' for Years 7 – 10.

Title	Author
The Face on the Milk Carton	Caroline B Cooney
Wonder	R.J. Palacio
Eleanor & Park	Rainbow Rowell
500 Minutes of Danger.	
Minutes of Danger: Book 03	Jack Heath
The Night She Disappeared	April Henry
Killer Game	Kirsty McKay
Risk	Fleur Ferris
Holes	Louis Sachar
The Florentine Bridge	Vanessa Carnevale
You Must Be Layla	Yassmin Abdel-Magied.

NEW REGULAR FEATURE: PROFILE

Bishop Terence Curtin, Northern Region of Melbourne

Born in Cremorne, Sydney on 20 July 1945, Terence Curtin was educated at St Kevin's College, Toorak.

Joining the Regional Seminary of Melbourne, he completed his priestly formation at the Pontifical Urban College, Rome.

Graduating with a Bachelor's Degree in Education from the University of Melbourne and later on a Doctorate of Theology from the Pontifical Gregorian University, Rome, he was ordained a priest for the Archdiocese of Melbourne on 28 August 1971.

From 1971 to 1974 Father Curtin served as Assistant Priest at Noble Park and from 1974 to 1975 he was Assistant Priest of Fawkner and Chaplain to the General Cemetery of Melbourne.

He was appointed Chaplain and Head of the Religious Education Department at the State College of Victoria, Mercy Campus in Ascot Vale from 1975 to 1982.

From 1983 to 1986 he undertook higher studies in Rome.

From 1987 to 1992 Father Curtin served as Chaplain and Head of the School of Religion and Philosophy at the Australian Catholic University in Oakleigh and in 1992 he studied at the Weston School of Theology in Boston, USA.



He was Head of the School of Religion and Philosophy at the Australian Catholic University, Father Curtin was Head of the School of Theology at the Australian Catholic University, Victoria, from 1996 to 2002.

From 2003-2010 he was Master of the Catholic Theological College, Melbourne, and since 2006 he has been Magistral Chaplain to the Sovereign Military and Hospitaller.

In 2008 Father Curtin was appointed Parish Priest of Greythorn.

From 2008 to 2009 he was Vice President of the Melbourne College of Divinity and President from 2010 to 2011, and in 2011 he was made Head of the Systematic Theology Department at the Catholic Theological College, Melbourne.

In 2012 he was made a Monsignor and appointed Diocesan Consultor and Episcopal Vicar of Melbourne for the Eastern Region.

On 17 December 2014, he was ordained an auxiliary bishop of Melbourne by Archbishop Denis Hart at St Patrick's Cathedral, East Melbourne.

Bishop Curtin is Episcopal Vicar for the Northern Region. He is also Episcopal Vicar for Evangelisation and Mission.



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