

# Message from the Archbishop of Melbourne to the Parish of Moonee Ponds on the Feast of St Monica

There would be very few suburban parishes in Australia whose name would be as well-known as Moonee Ponds. Thanks to the attention given to you by one of our great comedians, Moonee Ponds is a place of character (and caricature!) in the Australian psyche. In the midst of this notoriety has lived the real lives of individuals and families, in businesses and workplaces, among facilities and organisations, over the many generations. And at the heart of this lived reality has been the Catholic Church and Parish of St Monica's, truly a 'mother' parish in our local Church of Melbourne.

You have a long and honourable history to celebrate at St Monica's, and this is certainly a time for remembering the highs and lows, the joy and griefs, that mark the life of any family. But your family history – the story of Christian faith and life in and around Moonee Ponds – is also a part of the great history of salvation into which you have flowed and made your contribution.

St Monica, the mother of St Augustine, has been, I am sure, a constant source of witness to your faith family life, and a true intercessor to God for you, her daughter, as she was for her son. Faithfulness built on love; hope flowing from perseverance; tears that planted seeds of fruitfulness – these were the characteristics of your saintly namesake. They are characteristics well worth cultivating today, especially in this difficult period of COVID 'exile' that has come to all of us in our local neighbourhoods of grace.

While I cannot be with you in person on this year's feast day of St Monica, your heavenly patron, may I offer my own simple prayer of gratitude to God and of blessings to you!



Most Rev Peter a Comensoli Archbishop of Melbourne

27 August 2020



Dear Parents, Caregivers and Children,

Even though my assembly video was recorded at home, I'm actually sitting here today in my office, as usual, and I'm enjoying the various activities planned by our dedicated staff. Happy St Monica's Feast Day!

It hasn't been the same though...celebrating remotely. But we did our best!

We had a lovely pre-recorded Assembly (thanks to Ms McPherson) this morning and it was a special highlight at the very end to see some photos of us, back in 'normal times'. I shall never again take any of these times for granted. I can't tell you how much I miss the sounds of the children coming and going. Being here without the children is not how I intended to spend our Feast Day, but as each day passes, it is one day closer to when we all return.

Congratulations to all of our new SRC members who today saw their badges being blessed. I am sure you will all be able to proudly wear them soon. Thank you to Fr Tony and Fr Andrew for recording the Blessing for our Assembly.

On the cover of our Newsletter today, you will see a personal message from Archbishop Comensoli. I think this is the first time I have ever published an Archbishop's message to the Parish Community on our Feast Day. It is lovely that the Archbishop is thinking of us today.



#### **Parent/Teacher Interviews**

Today I'd like to also thank Ms McPherson (who organised the online disco), Mrs Evans (who organised the Magician) and Mrs Hodgetts (who organised the quiz). There were also various other activities that were facilitated through the work of Mrs Tulloch, Miss Diana and Ms Lo Giusto. Bravo to all the staff who tried to make today a fun day for all.

A special shout-out to Olivier and Hannah (our School Captains) who have been a constant presence in our online world since remote learning began. Both of our School Captains are doing a wonderful job. At the recent SRC Meeting, one of the children wanted to have a *Draw Mr Moore* Competition and I thank all of those who entered into the spirit of the drawing activity today. I shall look forward to seeing the many depictions of me.

Please keep any eye out for communication regrading Parent/Teacher Interviews which will be conducted on Monday and Tuesday of the final week of this term. In these unprecedented times of home-learning, it is vital that we take time to formally give you feedback on your child's learning progress.

Regards and best wishes,

Peter Moore

Principal



P.S. Before anyone rushes to order me an online Birthday Cake, please know that the disco man (Sam.I.Am) got rather confused and announced that it was my birthday. I can assure you that my birthday is in June.





This week some of the students met 'Pip Harry' author of the novel 'The Little Wave'. They are currently studying the text in their Reciprocal Reading group. Ms McPherson had selected the novel and was excited to read it alongside the students. Little did she know that one of her students, Willow, has a connection with the author. Ms McPherson soon receives an email from Pip who offered to join in on a reading session!

Below are some of the responses from the students following the wonderful opportunity to speak with the author first hand. Pip has kindly offered to join the group again for a post reading novel discussion. Mrs Poupounaki



to have were so Lucky Pip Harry Join our google meet. Some lograthe questions 1 asked were about what made Pip Start to write Gooks and where she got the Ideas For the characters. Felt exided and lucky to meet amazing author, PIP 91 Harn

Audrey 3M

4 always aus RODUTE OOA. 125 meet and talk UCRO 60.

Willow 3M



Being on a google meet with Pip Horry today was amazing! Probably better in real life. It was good asting questions to the author because they know the book from front to back. I'm hoping to her soon on another google meet because when you see the author you Know it's going to be Fun! By Finnegan

Today was an exciting day, we met Pip Harry, the author of the book we're reading in our reading group called "The Little Wave".I enjoyed the opportunity to chat with Pip and ask her about her style of writing and how long it took to write her book. Pip's style is "Free Verse" meaning that it's an open form of poetry, it does not follow the normal rules of poetry. It takes Pip a minimum of 2 years to write her book which is a lot of editing, drafting, revising and patience before it finally gets published. Pip published the little wave 2 years ago in 2018 and dedicated it to her daughter, Sophie. Her next book "Are you there Buddah?" will be released next year. Pip wrote her first book at the age of 20 but it didn't get published. Pip also worked for a newspaper and with homeless people. We hope to have a google meet with Pip again in a few weeks. Can't Wait!!!! Marcus



Tummy bread My mummy brought some sweet honey, but it cost alot of money. All she wanted to do she said was to make a crurchy bread.



### My Sandwich

- I want a big cheese sandwich now.
- I'll get the bread that is crunchy.
- Put the cheese onto the bread.
- Can't wait to eat it, very munchy.



starving. JUS love ham. JVe something else. needed And thick I gound the jam

I made a butter sandwich I spead the butter nice and thick I put it on a plate but I couldn't wait I bit the sandwich it did the trick

## SAMS SANDWICHES

I like sandwiches My name is Sam I eat mortadella But I don't eat ham

My mum says I'm fussy She is right I wont eat ham But one day I might

If I have to eat it I will not complain Even if that sandwich Gives me a tummy pain





SANDWICH

Ted'S Regret Ted Said he liked cruzchy break, So he set a bet for a delicious cheese baguelle. With a lady that liked to 00 Pilouette, that he would get the ball In the net, Then he felt regret, Because he lost That bet and didnot get the cheese baguette,

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> I woke up early, I got out of bed. I grabbed the honey, And spread it on my bread.

I looked at my sandwich and thought

I am so famished. I went to take a bite but then it vanished.

I looked under the table. I looked on the floor, A dog had my sandwich And ran out the door.



1 Looked at the fridge and I got some cheore 19 Valburd Some source and I grave it a squareze. I WENT to my Culboard. 1 got some Join, I said " lankt What some one ham.

SANDWICHES

Lunch time is here, Toastie time, ham and cheese. I go to Mum and ask her "toast this please!"

I like sandwiches, My brother has ham. They are delicious I like the jam.

Sandwich

Sandwiches are yum, They are lots of fun. 🥁 Then you eat them "There, all done!"