



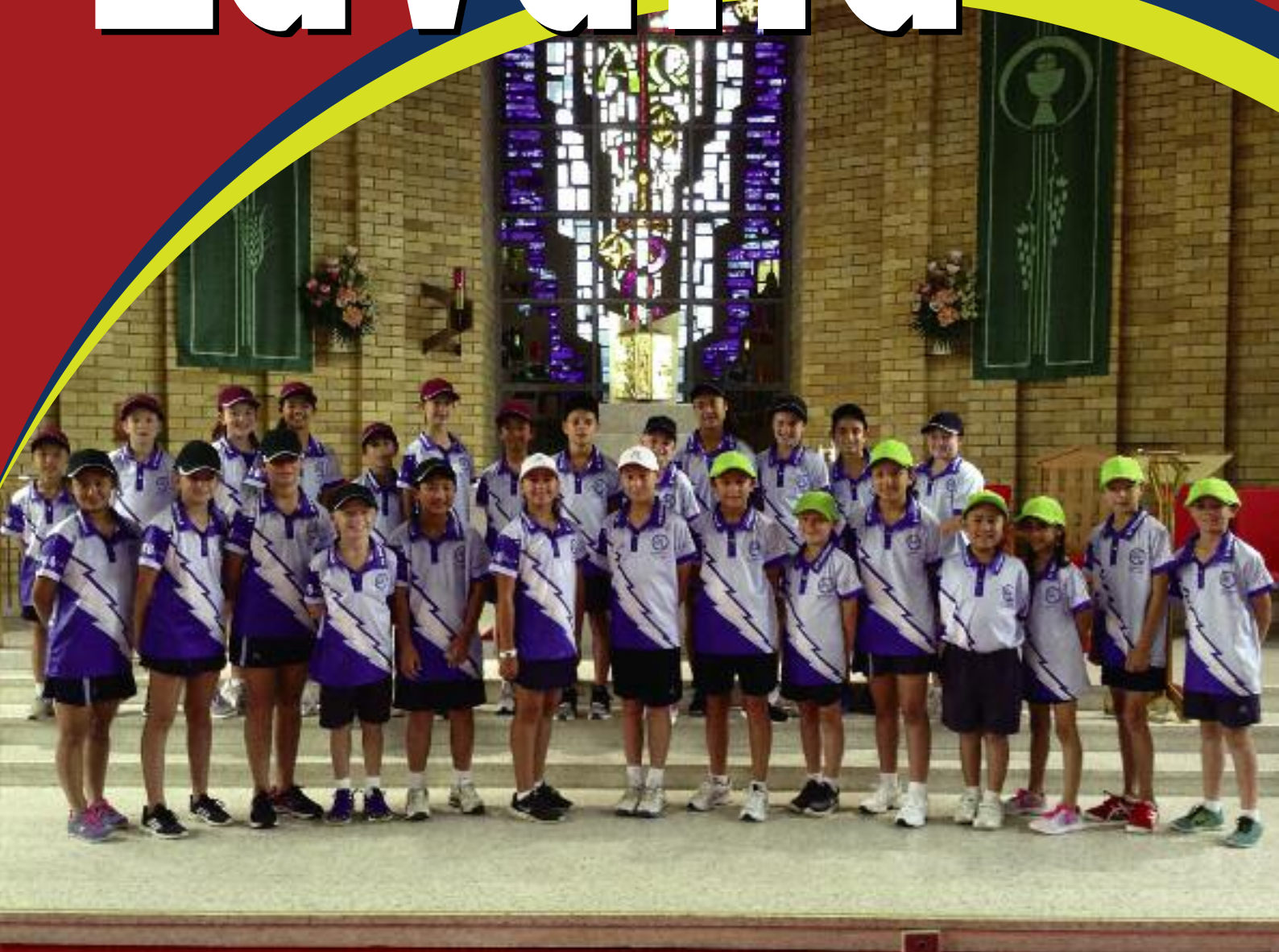
MARIST | SCHOOLS AUSTRALIA
Catholic education in the tradition of St Marcellin Champagnat

The staff journal of
Marist Schools Australia

Volume 24
Number 1

April 2018

Lavalla



INSIDE

Marists in Bendigo and Kilmore for 125 years: 1893-2018

New Marist Leaders

REMAR and Marist Youth Ministry

Contents

- 2 From the National Director
- 4 St Michael's Primary School Daceyville
- 5 Marist College Emerald
- 6 Marist College Bendigo
- 8 Marist Schools Australia New Regional Directors
- 9 Assumption College, Kilmore
- 10 Newman College, Perth
- 12 Marist Solidarity
- 14 New Marist Principals
- 17 Marist Mission and Life Formation
- 18 Parramatta Marist
- 19 St Joseph's School, Northam
- 20 Marist 180
- 20 News From Melanesia
- 21 Marist College, Kogarah
- 22 Aquinas College, North Adelaide
- 23 St Augustine's College, Cairns
- 24 Marist Youth Ministry
- 27 John Therry Catholic High School
- 27 Book Reviews
- 28 Marist Schools Australia

Editor: Br Tony Paterson

Contact details:

Marist Schools Australia
Marist Centre,
PO Box 1247, MASCOT, NSW, 1460 Australia
Email: tony.paterson@marists.org.au

Lavalla

Published by Marist Schools Australia

Design & Artwork

Sydney Design Studio Pty Ltd • 02 9452 1967

Lavalla, the name given to this magazine is taken from the village in France where St Marcellin Champagnat established the world's first Marist school in 1817.

There are now Marist schools in 80 countries.

Cover: The Senior Year 6 Leadership Team from St Michael's Primary School, Daceyville, in Sydney NSW. Courtesy of the Principal, Mrs Allana Vedder



From the National Director



Throughout the world there are 216 000 Catholic schools, educating 61 000 000 students, and 1260 Catholic universities with 11 000 000 students. There are 500 faculties and institutes of ecclesiastical studies. The work of the Church in education is staggering when we consider the global context. In early March 2018, the Australian Catholic University hosted a visit to Australia by the Secretary for the Vatican's Congregation for Catholic Education, Archbishop Angelo Vincenzo Zani and the Secretary General of the Gravissimum Educationis Foundation, Monsignor Guy-Real Thivierge, both direct appointees of Pope Francis. The Foundation was established by Pope Francis in 2015 to work in a variety of contexts to support innovative, high impact educational projects by investing in quality learning opportunities, which promote scientific studies and foster networking between educational institutions in developed and developing countries.

Pope Francis, himself once a secondary school teacher in a Jesuit College in Buenos Aires, continues to challenge Catholic educators and Catholic schools throughout the world to build "a civilization of love". In comments to a gathering of leaders of Australian Catholic Education authorities, hosted by the Dean of the La Salle Academy Brother David Hall fms, Archbishop Zani and Monsignor Guy-Real articulated Pope Francis' five key challenges.

1. Education is an **act of hope** because it builds the future. Educators are called upon to accompany the uncertain steps of young people towards adulthood by providing the tools necessary to navigate and enter society with security and responsibility, in a spirit of service. Essential in a holistic hope filled education is **risk taking**, because every risk is also an opportunity.
2. An **educational approach to solidarity** combines learning and community service, in an integrated and articulated manner, through which students learn to take care of the real needs in society with the aim of improving it. It develops the civic responsibility of students, links academic curricula with learning about human rights, solidarity, care for the poor and preservation of the environment.
3. There are three languages: **the language of the head, the language of the heart, the language of the hands**. Education must move on these three roads. Teaching to think, helping to feel right and accompanying in doing, so that the three languages are in harmony; so that the child, the youth, **thinks** about what they feel and do, **feels** what they think and do, and **does** what they think and feel.

4. The Church in the third millennium renews its educational passion to **reach the peripheries** that need to grow in humanity, in intelligence, in values, in habits, so that they can in turn go on and lead to other experiences that they do not know. Therefore, the walls must be demolished because **“the greatest failure that an educator can face, is to educate ‘within the walls.’** **Educating inside the walls: walls of a selective culture, walls of a culture of safety, walls of a social sector that is well-off and no longer moves forward”**
5. Christian education is about bringing up young people, children with human values in all realities, and one of these realities is **transcendence**. This dimension leads on paths of encounter, dialogue, building bridges towards everyone in respect, esteem, and reciprocal acceptance.

Significantly for Marist Schools Australia, whilst in Sydney Archbishop Zani and Monsignor Guy-Real were invited to experience two Marist schools, and spent time at The John Berne School and Saint Joseph’s College. Important to the nature of their visits was the request for the schools to operate as usual and for them to have the opportunity to simply speak with staff and students.

Both men commended the staff of The John Berne School for their dedication and commitment to the young people in that special setting, who have found themselves on the periphery of mainstream schooling. Archbishop Zani, through an interpreter expressed his admiration for the work there and simply said as he shook his head with raised brows, “Complex!” Monsignor Guy-Real who speaks a number of languages fluently, remarked with enthusiasm on the motto of the school, which is “Hope Always”. The visitors both undertook solemnly to communicate to Pope Francis the authentic expression of Catholic education in practice experienced at The John Berne School.

At Saint Joseph’s College, on International Women’s Day the Vatican visitors moved throughout the classrooms and playground, speaking casually with students from various metropolitan,



regional and remote locations throughout the country. They had the opportunity to meet a number of indigenous students and were particularly interested in the purposeful inclusivity of the College as a community. The highlight of the visit was their attendance and participation in the scheduled school assembly. The prayer was led by a senior student who compellingly urged his fellow students to understand the rights of women throughout the world as an issue for all men. 1100 boys listened intently and their expressions underscored the sincerity and importance of the message as a short film illustrated the injustice and prejudice experienced by millions of girls and women in regard to their rights to good health, a proper education, freedom from violence and sexual abuse, liberty, food and shelter. Two year 7 students then spoke of their experiences in their first month at Saint Joseph’s, and their earnest, nervous speeches sprinkled with the amusing anecdotes of 12 year old boys, were memorable for their appreciation and joy for the friends already made particularly among the staff and older boys. The assembly highlight was the commissioning of 40 Year 10 and Year 11 students who are heading to the Philippines and Tanzania for immersions in the next school holidays. The assembly concluded with an amazing solo violin performance by a Year 10 student, who was warmly applauded by his peers. Our visitors commended the College for the

holistic, explicitly Catholic education evident in the coherence of the assembly and the engagement of the students. Both were quite moved by the visit and appreciative of the staff and leaders of the College.

It is always helpful and provocative to have external eyes from a broader reality experience what we know and do on a daily basis. Our Vatican visitors consistently emphasized the importance of the Spirit evident in the Marist schools they visited. In our conversations there was great interest in the future for all of the 55 Marist schools in Australia. The developing role of the Marist Association of Saint Marcellin Champagnat was of particular interest and strongly affirmed. Clearly the Association was understood as our way of ensuring, with God’s help and Mary’s example, that our work is consistently driven by our mission in Catholic education, in which we share with our students the depths, beauty and reality of our transcendent relationship with Jesus.

As we farewelled our guests that afternoon, a shared reflection was that a visit to any of our Marist schools would have elicited similar responses from them. It was a reminder to never take for granted, and consistently work to flourish, our Marist way of living the Gospel through Catholic education.

Dr Frank Malloy
National Director

Primary School Staff Cultural Immersion in Timor Leste



Students were always smiling.

For the past two years, the student Mini Marist group has raised funds to support trainee teacher scholarships at ICEP. To gain a wider perspective of the situation in Timor Leste and to further ignite a passion for the project, we decided to send a number of staff members on a cultural immersion experience. As a result five staff members from St Michael's Catholic Primary School Daceyville travelled to Timor Leste during the September holidays. The group consisted of the Principal, Allana Vedder, Br Paul Bailey, the Assistant



Allana met these students who were off to play as their teacher hadn't arrived for the day!

Principal, Anna Novak, the Coordinator, Olivia Mulic and a first year teacher, Kate McDonald. Brother Peter Corr welcomed the team at Dili airport and then escorted them on the four hour, rough road trip, including a flat tyre, to Baucau. Not surprisingly the group was overwhelmed by the poverty and living circumstances of the people that is in stark contrast to Australian standards. Br Peter was a fountain of information about the country's history, people,

struggles and plans for future development.

At ICEP the staff shared a video with the pre-service teachers about St Michael's school and then engaged in a rotation of English language activities that could be used during their practicums. During a visit to a local Catholic school, Allana taught the Year 1 students a song and listened to the Kindergarten students recite the alphabet in English. All were humbled by the fact that students only



Our group and the pre-service teachers

MARIST COLLEGE EMERALD

"Care for the Soul" Retreat Day



Left to right: Olivia Mulic, Anna Novak, Kate McDonald, Br Paul Bailey, Allana Vedder Enjoying the beach in Baucau

had one exercise book, a small pencil and limited resources at their disposal.

Throughout the week the trusted guide, Sebastiao, took the group to places of interest, including the rural countryside, with crops of vegetables and rice, the pristine beaches, the tunnels dug by the Timorese during the Japanese occupation in World War 11 various markets and cathedrals.

However, despite three attempts, the visit to the Resistance museum was unsuccessful.

The group is most grateful to Br Peter for his warm welcome and hospitality and remains committed to supporting the scholarship program. Sharing the experience with the St Michael's community, will, no doubt, result in heightened awareness of the plight of the less fortunate and renewed fervour to support the Marist educational initiatives in Timor Leste.



Allana assisting a student teacher with an English activity.



On the 24th of February, a group of 13 members of the Association, staff from the school and parishioners met at Marist College Emerald for a "Care for the Soul" retreat day with Br Robert O'Connor. It was a very gentle experience for all involved and there was a general appreciation of having time to sit and contemplate, as well as of the fellowship which was enjoyed during the meal breaks. Those who were able to, regathered in the evening to share a meal together.

The following is some of the feedback received from the participants:

"I enjoyed the retreat on Saturday as Brother Robert gave many interesting alternative views on the life and faith of Mary and also on how we can find our own way to pray and be silent. The time out sessions were valuable as we do not take the time to be silent very often. Overall a thought provoking yet relaxing day."

"It was good to have some time to oneself. I thought it was a good day, Bro was easy to listen to and to follow."

"I enjoyed the day enormously. It was well paced and there was a balance

of quiet reflective time, input from Robert and scripture. The friendly social time was also integral to an enjoyable day (as was the food!)

The realistic presentation of Mary and Jesus in their humanity was especially valuable. Treating so much of scripture as metaphor to help discover Jesus in our own life, truly incarnated and manifesting himself today was affirming.

I really appreciated the recommendations Robert made regarding further stimulating reading. I have already ordered two books on Book Depository to follow up the day."

"I found the day a wonderful experience. It encouraged self-reflection and an invitation into mysticism with a solid explanation and outline of our deep mystic tradition.

There was a generous time for personal reflection and appropriate input for each of the sessions.

Overall it was a wonderful day and I am excited about future days like this."

From all at Emerald, we would like to express our appreciation to Br Robert for so generously offering his time and wisdom to us.

Student Leadership



Courtney Dodson

Marist College Bendigo is a new and very modern school. Although the school is still expanding rapidly, the first building was built in 2014. The Montagne learning centre was the building where we as a new and very small community of 220, bonded and started to begin a culture at the beautiful college.

Every year, the college grows filling with passionate staff and willing students. In terms of leadership, the college prides itself on getting insight from the students,



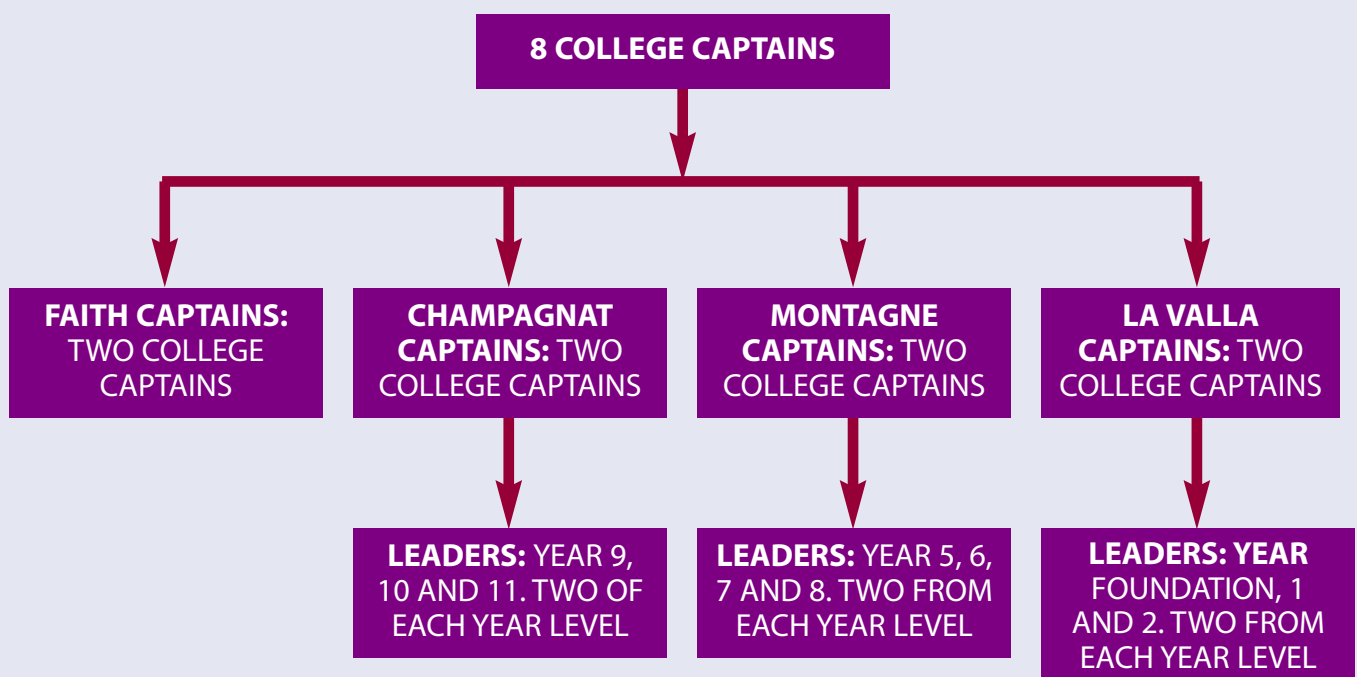
Ethan and Emma are in the Year 9-12 Champagnat Learning Experience

and brings all the ideas of the youth, into the picture. In 2017, there was a student leadership team of 10, as well as a staff leadership team. We, as the student leadership team, had a considerable amount of insight on what was happening in and around the school and, as a result, were included and made many decisions that have helped shape the culture at our college. Because students are so heavily involved and their opinions are seen as very valuable we, as a team

of 10, made a structure that would enable students of all ages to be heard and have a say in what happens at our school and Marist community as a whole.

As a collective, it was decided that we wouldn't be traditional, and we would have 8 equal college school leaders who all have their own responsibilities within the school as well as overall leadership with representing the college.

This is the leadership structure we decided to implant into our future:



Instead of having the standard two school leaders, everyone is equal and there is no segregation in our community, hence students of all ages, are able to express their opinions and ideas. The two Faith captains for the year of 2018 are Max Johnson and Courtney Dodson. Their responsibility within our school is to organize all activities involving our faith, such as Mass, prayers, liturgies and so on. Our Champagnat captains for this year are Emma Clayton and Ethan Harrison. They are responsible for the senior area of our college and the events within that learning experience. Another responsibility they have is regularly meeting with the Champagnat leaders of each year level to discuss and organize events that happen within that specific learning environment. This year's Montagne captains are myself, Danielle O'Toole, and James Nelson. Our responsibility is to connect with the leaders of our allocated learning environment and take on board all of their requests and opinions on what should occur in the year 5-8 area. Finally, our La Valla captains for 2018 are Annie Hockey and Jasmine Collins. Their learning experience includes foundation



Dani and James are connected with the Year 5 – 8 Montagne Learning Experience.

(prep) - year one.

Overall, the leadership structure we as a student leadership team collectively decided upon as of 2017, allows for maximal participation from the students of our Marist community. This is

effectively the best way to gain new and modern concepts that will allow our college to strive for success and ultimately make our community vibrant and, more importantly, united.

Danielle O'Toole



National Assembly

Tuesday 2nd to Thursday 4th October 2018

Adelaide

An open invitation to all people in the Association to gather to:

- discern future priorities of Marist life and mission in Australia
- shape meaning and purpose of personal membership and local life in the Association
- confirm the leadership, members and directions of the new Association Council
- celebrate socially and liturgically together

Book flights and accommodation now!

For full details on the Assembly, accommodation options, and to register, go to:

www.maristassociation.org.au



Lavalla

MARIST SCHOOLS AUSTRALIA NEW REGIONAL DIRECTORS

In January 2018 **Ms Julie Ryan** commenced in the position of Regional Director. Julie is based at the Marist Centre in Melbourne and replaces Mr Paul Herrick.

Julie has for many years been a highly successful, energetic and creative Catholic school leader. Well known in Marist circles for her outstanding leadership early in her career as Assistant Principal at Marcellin College Bulleen, Julie subsequently led St Columba's College Essendon, and then Our Lady of Mercy College Heidelberg, as Principal. Julie's work in these positions was characterised by a determined focus on achieving the very best learning outcomes for each individual student, in a faith filled, prayerful and supportive environment. Julie holds a Bachelor of Commerce from the University of Melbourne, Graduate Diplomas of Education and Curriculum from Melbourne State College, a Graduate Diploma of Religious Education from the Yarra Theological College, and a Masters in Educational Policy (International) from the University of Melbourne.

Julie is renowned for her leadership in the broader Catholic sector, particularly through her work with the Principal's Association of Victorian Catholic Secondary Schools (PAVCSS) over many years, and in recent times as President. Professional peer recognition for the quality of her leadership was evident in the 2014 Fellowship of Australia Council of Educational Leaders Award, the 2009 JD Laing Award, for contribution to Professional Learning, the 2010 Chartered Fellow of PAVCSS, and the 2011 School Libraries Association of Victoria, School Leaders Award.

We pray that her work with Marist Schools Australia is filled with much satisfaction and many blessings. Julie will also have a special focus on

promoting learning and teaching across all our MSA governed schools.

As previously communicated Brother Neville Solomon concluded as Regional Director in April 2018 and we welcomed **Mr Ross Tarlinton** to the Marist Schools Australia

Leadership team as the new Director for the Region which includes all of the Marist Schools in Queensland, the Northern Rivers area of New South Wales, and the Northern Territory. Responsibilities also will include work associated with governance, and policy development across all MSA governed schools, as well as strengthening the Network of Marist Education in Oceania with the Districts of the Pacific and Melanesia.

Ross brings to the position a wealth of leadership experience in Marist schools and Catholic education more broadly. Most recently Ross has made an enormous contribution to Marist life and work as a highly successful and effective Headmaster of Saint Joseph's College Hunters Hill, a position he held for 12 years, and before that as Headmaster of Marist College Canberra. Previous to those appointments Ross held a variety of leadership positions in schools and the Catholic Education Office in the Lismore Diocese. As the Deputy Director of Schools for Lismore, Ross brought his warm personal approach, clear strategic thinking, and passion for the Gospel to the many school communities and Parishes with whom he worked. Ross' many contributions to the development of education in Australia through invitations for advice and consultation from all education sectors and levels of government, and Church leaders, are testimony to the regard in which he is held.

Ross' membership of the Marist Schools Australia Leadership Team will ensure



Ms Julie Ryan



Mr Ross Tarlinton

ongoing success in working with our many partners in Catholic education in the Region.

In making this announcement, I again thank **Brother Neville** for his outstanding contributions to Marist Schools Australia over the past 5 years. The following testimony was read at the MSA Mass and Dinner in Brisbane last year and captures our collective appreciation for Neville's unique contribution to the leadership of Marist Schools Australia.

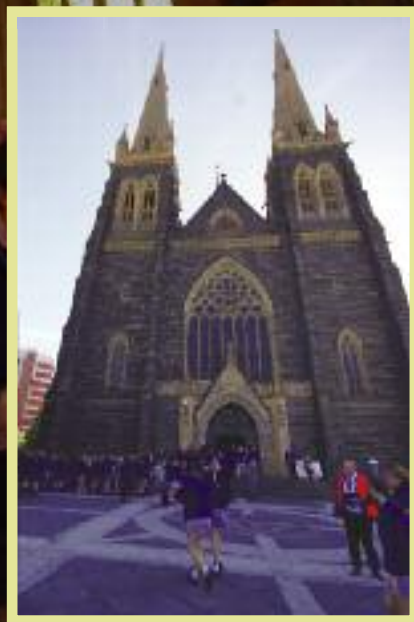
Brother Neville Solomon joined Marist Schools Australia in only its third year of existence. Neville's influence and leadership during the establishment phase of this new entity has profoundly shaped its emphases and priorities. Neville has been the spiritual leaven in the Marist Schools Australia Leadership team, ever challenging us to see the person of Jesus in our thoughts, plans and actions. Neville has a special affinity with Pope Francis and has been constant in sharing the inspiration and spirit of Francis in accessible and creative ways. Neville's leadership, passion, creativity, and sheer intellect, have been evident in all the schools and peak Catholic education authorities with which he has worked. It is with enormous gratitude and affection, that we recognise Brother Neville's immense contributions to our Marist Schools.

Happily, Neville has now joined the Mission and Life Formation Team with a particular focus in working with our Marist schools in regional Queensland.

ASSUMPTION COLLEGE, KILMORE

The vision of a future

CELEBRATING 125 YEARS OF MARIST MINISTRY



Just as all who walk through the halls of Assumption College today are reminded of the College motto *Quae Supra Quare* – seek the things that are above – it was the founding Marist Brothers in 1893 who looked above and beyond.

Opening the boys' day school in 1893 before enrolling the first boarder in 1901, the Marist Brothers had a vision to provide educational opportunity for the scattered and disadvantaged Catholic families of the region.

It was that vision that grew into what Assumption College is today, an inclusive and transformative Marist community that inspires its students to shape the future with audacity and hope.

The College became a fully co-educational day school by 1987 and co-educational boarding was introduced in 1995.

In 2018, Assumption College celebrates the 125th anniversary of Marist education in Kilmore. It is a year full of special events, including the recent 125th Celebratory

Mass at St Patrick's Cathedral in Melbourne on Tuesday, 27 February.

In a massive undertaking, all staff, students, and special guests, including selected alumni and friends of the college travelled to St Patrick's Cathedral in Melbourne from Kilmore and surrounds.

In a magnificent display of college spirit and respect for the anniversary celebration, the students were commended for their preparation and participation, were lauded for their behaviour and the public demonstration of how connected the Assumption College community is.

"I was so very proud of our students, and they were a credit to their families, the school and, of course, themselves. All those present will likely remember the event for many years to come. The extremely moving performance of the Sub Tuum was a special highlight," Principal Kate Fogarty said.

"The Mass itself was a beautiful celebration, and the organisation by our

staff (buses, food, student wellbeing) was professional and warm. We have had dozens of congratulatory messages passed on from Old Collegians, special guests, cathedral staff and members of the general public acclaiming us for how the College conducted the event, and the way the students presented and engaged."

The Mass is one of many events to come as the College celebrates its 125th year. The unveiling of the restored memorial chapel doors in April, that name former students who have paid the ultimate sacrifice for their country, as well as the highly anticipated hall of Excellence Gala Dinner in October at the Palladium, Crown are only highlights of what is a real time of celebration for the College community.

As all members of the Assumption community seek the things that are above, in this celebratory year, they remember the example set by those founding Brothers, who laid the groundwork for what we enjoy today and what we aim to achieve in the future.

NEWMAN COLLEGE, PERTH

Marist Youth Ministry (MYM) Perth Launch

On Friday 9 March, the Marist Youth Ministry (MYM) Perth held its inaugural launch with 42 young Marists gathering at Newman College to take part in a social outreach activity, prayer and fellowship.

It was wonderful to be able to hand over close to 200 meals to Br Russel (CFC) to take to Shop Front, a drop-in and referral centre that provides daily meals to those in need in the suburb of Maylands. Shop Front is an outreach service of the Archdiocese of Perth, and the MYM members will continue to build their collaboration with Shop Front through the MYM fortnightly presence on the volunteers roster.

The atmosphere, intent of the young people, during the afternoon and evening was a great momentum boost to the growing desire over the past 9 months, with the catalyst coming from the Perth students and ex-students gathered at the July 2017 Marist Youth Festival in Sydney, learning from those involved in MYM in Brisbane, Sydney, Melbourne and Adelaide. The

format was a great success and MYM Perth is already looking forward to its next gathering just after Easter.



Highlights from the 2017 Philippines Immersion

In its second year running, the 2017 Philippines Immersion provided a unique opportunity for the College to partner with one of our fellow Western Australian Marist communities; St Joseph's, Northam.

On Friday 24 November 2017, the Philippines Immersion group departed Perth and travelled to Olongopo City to work with PREDA (People's Recovery, Empowerment and Development Assistance). The group visited an indigenous community, a highlight for all, as the group lived alongside this community through billeted families in the village. The groups engaged in some manual labour to establish the foundations

for a new sanitation block for the village. The experience was a highlight in working alongside the community.

Following the time with PREDA, the staff and students visited a centre for youths back in Manila. The City of Marikina Youth Remand Centre has babies from 1 year of age, through to boys and girls in their late teens who have been in conflict with the law and have been detained, as well as street children who have been taken off the streets by law-enforcement as a means of curbing the issues caused by large numbers of disengaged homeless youths in the streets of Marikina City (a district of Manila City).

This second group of youths can be held for up to 12 months without any formal legal charges and have little access to advocacy or support to reintegrate with any family they may have.

Our Immersion

students witnessed first-hand the advocacy of the PREDA social workers who sought the removal of a number of boys and girls from this government funded remand centre so that they may continue their rehabilitation with their families, or be supported through their legal cases by PREDA. This was certainly an emotional day, as our group witnessed the lack of transparency of the government officials who administer these remand centres.

The next three days were spent at the Fatima Centre working alongside Sr Felicitas and the Daughters of St Augustine. Our group had the opportunity to come to know the work of the Fatima Centre and to connect with the Primary and Secondary aged students there.

The final days were spent working with the KUYA Centre (for street children) and the ERDA Foundation (for poor children to access education).

Throughout the Immersion, the group rose to every occasion, showing a remarkable degree of receptiveness of very new and challenging dynamics that they have been invited to consider first-hand.



PK-12 Family Mass

On Thursday 8 February, the Newman College community gathered in celebration of the Eucharist at the annual PK-12 Family Mass. In gathering with over 3000 people, the College celebrated publicly what it means to be an intentional community that is animated by the presence of the risen Jesus. In the Year of Youth, the College highlighted the significance of such an event for our young persons and invited them to seek faith-filled opportunities, especially in light of the national Marist theme for the year centred around hope in our future: *For I know the plans I have for you... to give you hope and a future* (Jeremiah 29:11).

This annual event commenced the school year and also launched the Newman College Ministry Plan and Vision for Learning *Shine Through Discovery – Let your light Shine* (Matthew 5:16). In his

homily, the Most Reverend Timothy Costelloe, Archbishop of Perth, affirmed and encouraged our dual moral purpose as a Catholic and Marist educational community. The College was fortunate to have eight priests from its neighbouring Parishes also concelebrate; Fr Joseph Tran, Fr Kazimierz Stuglick, Fr Mark Baumgartan, Fr Peter Hoang, Fr Joseph Walsh, Fr Truc Nguyen and Fr Richard Smith.

The College was pleased to also welcome Dr Debra Sayce, Acting Director of Catholic Education, Western Australia, Dr Frank Malloy, National Director, Marist Schools Australia, Br Mark Fordyce, Marist Volunteers Program Coordinator, Marist Centre Brisbane, Marist Brothers Br Terry Orrell, Br Noel Hickey, Br John Horgan, Br John Furlong, Mario and Jane Borg, Kim and Veronika Metcalf, College Council, 24:School Ministry and Martin



Firth, Sean Ratcliff, Chris Galea, Michael Honan, Meg Brennan, Ruth Dickinson, Lauren Bailey from Youth Mission.

The College looks forward to a great year ahead and for more occasions to gather as a community with Christ at its centre.

WA launch of Project Compassion

On Tuesday 13 February, several hundred staff and students from Catholic schools across Perth were present for the launch of the 2018 Project Compassion Lenten Appeal held at Newman College.

Project Compassion is Caritas Australia's annual Lenten appeal and is an ongoing demonstration of the faith, love and generosity of the Catholic and wider community to help end poverty, promote justice and uphold dignity for those living in the world's poorest communities. It is now our turn to reach out to help those who most need our help,

both in Australia and in many other countries.

The morning's activities included an address from Caritas Australia's Head of Mission, Sister Anne McGuire RSM, students from John XXIII College and Newman College, together with Servite College teacher Ryan Wiles, who shared their personal experiences from mission work and trips they have taken part in, in support of the appeal and an interactive music/movement performance by students from Mercy College.

Nicholas Perera, Kazimierz Stuglik and Joseph Tran, assisted by Deacon Paul Reid.

In his homily for the occasion, the Archbishop emphasised that mercy is 'not simply a nice idea', but an important task, challenge and invitation.

He added that it was essential to all who call themselves disciples of Jesus to keep their eyes and ears fixed on Jesus, listening to His words and watching His actions.

The Archbishop issued a challenge to staff and students present for their own particular College communities.

"By becoming involved in Project Compassion; by turning your eyes away from yourselves and on to those, both here in Australia, but, in a particular way those who do not have the advantages we in Australia have, can you show yourselves to be large-hearted people – generous, compassionate, encouraging and courageous?

"If you can then, just like Jesus himself, you together will also be the face of the Father's mercy," he concluded.

The event concluded with Mass celebrated by the Archbishop of Perth Timothy Costelloe SDB and concelebrated by Fathers Benedict Lee, Cyprian Shikokoti,



Supporting the tea garden families of the Moulovibazar District

Award winning photographer Connor Ashleigh takes us into St Marcellin School, Moulovibazar.

Since the days of British rule, tea companies in Bangladesh have been exempt from many labour regulations. Even after the overhaul of the garment industry in the wake of the 2013 Rana Plaza collapse that killed over 1,100 people, the tea gardens remain exploitative and damaging to the generations of workers who call them home. Tea companies control access to housing, medical facilities and education. Coupled with a paltry income, this serves to indenture families to the tea company as they live day-to-day without the resources to improve their lives.

St Marcellin School in Giasnagar, Moulovibazar opened in January 2017 and is providing secondary education to 192 grade six and seven children. Each year until 2021, the school will add a



A St Marcellin student (centre) stands inside his home in his village. In 2017 this student received a scholarship to board and study in class 6 at St Marcellin School, Moulovibazar. The student's father hopes his son can have more opportunities in the future as a result of studying at the Marist Brothers Secondary School. Picture by Connor Ashleigh



Students and their dormitory leader walk through the grounds of St Marcellin School to attend morning mass. The school opened at the beginning of 2017 and offers opportunities for children from poor tea plantation families most of whom are from religious minorities. The school is run by three Marist Brothers, two from Spain and another from India. Picture by Connor Ashleigh



In the Classroom

St Marcellin School Class 6 students complete their classwork. Picture by Conor Ashleigh

new year level until grade 10 and a maximum capacity of 480 students is achieved. This will include boarding facilities for 90 girls and 90 boys. The purpose of St Marcellin School is to provide free education and boarding to tea garden children that enables them to break the cycle of poverty and rise above the bonded life that they were born into.

In 2018 Australian Marist Solidarity is focused on the story of the Marists' first school in Bangladesh and a student's family who can see a brighter future for their children, free of modern slavery in the tea gardens. This school is located in the Moulovibazar District which is home to 90 out of the 163 tea plantations in Bangladesh.

The school represents a long-held dream of the Marists who have worked in Bangladesh. Conor Ashleigh (award winning visual story teller) recently visited the school and remarked "There is undoubtedly a lot of work that needs to be done in the region, it's incredibly poor, the communities the school is serving are absolutely among the most vulnerable and in need in rural Bangladesh. I am certain the Marist Association should be proud of the fact it's truly working on the peripheries by supporting this school."

Much more needs to be done for the many families of the tea gardens and your continued support will allow the school to offer more grades of education, increasing the school's cohort by 96 students per annum.

More details are available on www.australianmaristsolidarity.org.au

Media Enquiries: Tony Skinner, AMS Communications Coordinator
W: www.australianmaristsolidarity.net.au
E: Tony.Skinner@marists.org.au
P: +617 3354 0600



HPE and break time

One of the favourite activities of most students is sports. St Marcellin School has a newly finished cement basketball court and is full of students during break times and after school who are eager to play. Picture by Conor Ashleigh

New Marist Principals

In recent months several new leaders have been appointed to Marist schools in New South Wales and the Australian Capital Territory. As we read in *In the Footsteps of Marcellin Champagnat (1998)*: In a special way, our school administrators are challenged to be people of vision: to articulate and live by our core Marist values and lead others in living by them (164).

We welcome these new school leaders and assure them of our support. In providing a brief introduction to these new school leaders, we recognise and celebrate their predecessors and commend each school community to your prayers and support.

Marist College Canberra – Matthew Hutchison

Matthew Hutchison was previously Head of School at St Augustine's College, Sydney, and has also held the positions of Deputy Head at St Kevin's College, Toorak, and Waverley College, in Sydney. In these roles, he has been known for the vision, passion, creativity, and the notable success he has brought to teaching and learning, specifically in the context of an all-boys school. Mr Hutchison is also someone who has been actively involved in the co-curricular programmes of the schools in which he has taught, particularly in the areas of social justice and sport. He himself is an accomplished sportsman, having played rugby at province and international level. A life-long learner, Mr



Matthew Hutchison

Hutchison is currently pursuing post-graduate studies in Theology at the Australia Catholic University. He also has a Masters in Education from the University of Sydney. We welcome Matthew and his wife, Anna, and family to Marist College Canberra.

Marist College, Eastwood – Anthony Boys



Anthony Boys

Anthony Boys is well known to Marists having held several leadership positions in Marist schools. Anthony was most recently the Assistant Principal at Marist College Kogarah (2012-2017). Prior to this, Anthony was Religious Education Coordinator at Marcellin College Randwick. He was also a member of the School Executive Teams at Marcellin College Randwick and St Patrick's College Strathfield. Anthony is a former student and College Captain of Marist College Eastwood and we welcome Anthony to the leadership of this fine Marist school.

St Joseph's College, Hunters Hill – Dr Chris Hayes

Chris is a renowned, highly successful, and experienced Catholic educational leader in Australia. Chris commences the



Dr Chris Hayes

leadership of St Joseph's College following his tenure as Principal of Xavier College in Melbourne and prior to that, as Headmaster at St Edmund's College, Canberra. At St Ignatius College Riverview, Chris held the positions of Director of Senior Schooling, and Director of Boarding. Chris' passion for providing a rich and nurturing Catholic education is evident in his Doctoral studies with the Australian Catholic University, which explored how Christian values can be authentically incorporated in pedagogy and the daily interactions between teachers and students in the classroom. Chris is no stranger to the Joeys family. His father attended the College and the Hayes family have long been great friends of the Marist Brothers. Welcome Chris!

The John Berne School, Lewisham – Richard Sidorko

Following twelve years as Head of Marist College Canberra, Rick Sidorko commences his role as Principal of the John Berne School, Lewisham in 2018. Rick has also been Principal of Saint Joseph's College Tweed Heads, Mount Saint Patrick's



Richard Sidorko

College Murwillumbah, Head of the International Academy (Secondary) Kuwait, and Assistant Principal at Saint Joseph's College Hunters Hill, and Trinity Catholic College Lismore. Rick also worked at Marist College Ashgrove as Head of Boarding and the Religious Education Coordinator, Saint Joseph's High School Tenaru as a Curriculum Head, and at Marcellin College, Enoggera as a Year Coordinator. Rick has always been a teacher noted for his clarity of purpose, humility, and trust in God. Rick will bring all his rich and highly successful leadership experiences to the important work of The John Berne School and the strategic provision of Catholic education for marginalised young people by Marist Schools Australia.

All Saints College – St Peter's Campus, Maitland – Tim Cleary

Mr Tim Cleary has been appointed the Principal All Saints' College, Maitland. All Saints' combines and strengthens the contemporary expression of two great Spiritual families in our Church recognising 175 years of the Marist tradition at St Peter's and 150 years of the Dominican charism at St Mary's. All Saints College becomes the largest Catholic College in



Tim Cleary

the Maitland-Newcastle Diocese with over 1,445 students from Years 7 to 12. From 2002 to 2016, Tim was the Principal at St Augustine's College in Sydney and in January 2017, he was appointed as CEO to the Manly Warringah Sea Eagles. Tim will lead All Saints' College under a new leadership structure which will include two Heads of Campus, including Mr Bernard Burgess at the St Peter's Campus and three Assistant Principals – Welfare, Faith/Mission and Learning – that will lead across the College.

The Marist Learning Zone, Mount Druitt – Graeme Atkins

Graeme Atkins was appointed the Senior Project Officer for the Marist Learning Zone, Mount Druitt in 2017. Graeme works alongside the Lavalla 200+ community which comprises Argelia Hernández Mendoza and Rodrigo Gris Castro, a married couple from the Province of Mexico Occidental, Br Jonnel Sisneros from the East Asia Province and Br Lawrie McCane from the Province of Australia.



Graeme Atkins

The Marist Learning Zone, a partnership with the Catholic Education Office in the Diocese of Parramatta and Marist Schools Australia, seeks to establish a new pathway for disengaged youth to re-connect them with education, other forms of training, or employment. Graeme first attended Marist Brothers Parramatta in the 1960s and also attended classes at St Vincent's Boys Home, Westmead. He graduated in the early 70s, completing his Bachelor's Degree at Macquarie University before commencing at Patrician Brothers College Blacktown. In 2000 he worked in the transition of McCarthy Catholic College Emu Plains from a Senior College to a Year 7 to 12 precinct. We welcome Graeme to this new role and continue to assure all those working in this new Marist venture of our ongoing support.

Mount Carmel Catholic College, Varroville – Stephen Lo Cascio

Stephen Lo Cascio has been appointed as the Principal of Mount Carmel Catholic College, Varroville following the leadership of Wayne Marshall (2011-2017). Prior to his appointment as Principal



Stephen Lo Cascio

of Mount Carmel Catholic College, Varroville, Stephen was the Foundation Assistant Principal at St Benedict's Catholic College, Oran Park. Stephen is also a former student of St Gregory's College, Campbelltown. He holds qualifications including a Master of Religious Education from the Australian Catholic University, a Diploma in Continuing Legal Education, a Bachelor of Arts and a Diploma in Education from the University of Sydney. Welcome Stephen!

John Therry Catholic High School, Rosemeadow – Wayne Marshall

Wayne Marshall moves from Mount Carmel Catholic College, to lead John Therry Catholic High School Varroville as its seventh Principal. Wayne has served Catholic Education for 38 years in the Sydney and Wollongong Dioceses. His extensive leadership capacities include Year Coordinator, Sports Coordinator, Religious Education Coordinator, Campus



Wayne Marshall

Director, Assistant Principal (in three Catholic schools - Christian Brothers Burwood, Holy Spirit College, Lakemba and Patrician Brothers College, Fairfield), and most recently as Principal at Mount Carmel Catholic College. His formative years were served at Benedict Senior College (now Trinity Catholic College) Auburn. This strongly Marist community helped to form his passion for those less fortunate and reach out to students of lesser ability. Wayne's qualifications include a Master of Education in Administration (Charles Sturt University) and Masters of Education in Educational Leadership (Australian Catholic University). Well known to many in Marist communities, we are thrilled to welcome Wayne to the leadership of John Therry Catholic High School.

Paramatta Marist High School, Westmead – Mark Pauschmann

Mark was appointed in 2018 as Principal Leader of Parramatta Marist High School after seven years as the Principal at James Sheahan Catholic High School in Orange. He previously served as



Mark Pauschmann

Assistant Principal in Sydney at both Marist Sisters Woolwich and Marist Brothers in Pagewood. His qualifications include a Certificate IV in Assessment and Workplace Training; Graduate Diploma in Religious Education; Bachelor of Education and Masters in Education. He has taught students from Kindergarten through to Year 12 and spent one year in Japan as Head of a language school in Iwata. Through his training in the United States, he has developed expertise in Project Based Learning which presents authentic learning to students in an integrated and meaningful way. We welcome Mark to the leadership of Paramatta Marist High School.

Pete's Place, Blacktown – Michael Whitton

Pete's Place is a registered and accredited school in Blacktown for girls and boys in Years 7–10. It offers an alternative learning environment for young people with unique needs from mainstream schools. A work of Marist180 and a member of



Michael Whitton

Marist Schools Australia, Pete's Place adopts a trauma-informed, therapeutic and holistic approach to help students complete their Year 10 Record of School Achievement (RoSA) or gain a Life Skills RoSA. In 2017, Mr. Michael Whitton was appointed the Principal of Pete's Place. Michael was Assistant Head of Campus, St Mary's Flexible Learning Centre (Youth plus - Edmund Rice Education Australia) and from 2008-2016 Assistant Principal at St Clare's Catholic High School, Hassall Grove. We welcome Michael to the leadership of this Marist school.

Holy Family Parish School, Parkes – Mr Nick Baird (Acting Principal)

Following the secondment of Denise Gersbach, the long-standing Principal of Holy Family Parish School, Parkes to the Catholic Education Office Diocese of Wilcannia-Forbes, Mr Nick Baird has recently been appointed the Acting Principal of Holy Family Parish School,



Nick Baird

Parkes, commencing at the beginning of Term 2, 2018. Prior to fulfilling the role of Principal at St Mary's, Hay since 2016, Nick taught at Holy Trinity, Inverell where he also held leadership roles including that of Religious Education Coordinator, Assistant Principal and Acting Principal. Nick holds the qualifications of Bachelor of Teaching/Bachelor of Arts (Primary) with Honours from the University of Newcastle, a Certificate of Religious Education from the Diocese of Broken Bay, and a Graduate Certificate in Theology from the University of Newcastle. In welcoming Nick, we extend our thanks and warm best wishes to Denise who continues to serve Catholic education in the far west of NSW!

Marist Mission and Life Formation

FOOTSTEPS 1 – MAKING JESUS CHRIST KNOWN & LOVED 25–28 FEBRUARY, 2018



Participants: Owen Flanagan, Greg Cameron, Karen Nicolai, Penny Reid, Judy Jones, Lucia Del Vecchio, Matt Collins, Shannon Anderson, Laura Azzopardi, Nathan Kelly, Brittney Pimm, Jono McGrath, Sue Hunter, Elijah Carlin, Tim Williams, Fiona Weight, Connie Iddles, Darren June, Talia Mortimer, Kylie Watson, Lloyd Reidy, Rebecca Clarke, Deb Streater, Margot Lloyd, Ricayla George, Selena Fisk, Amanda Pynenburg, Daniel Luck, Ann Roffe, Tim Davis, Jeremy Holgate, Michael Evison, Filipe Gama e Silva **Team:** Ryan Gato, Paul Harris, Br Hubert Williams, Nehme Khattar, Sarah Nowlan

The end of February saw 33 participants gather from various parts of the country to partake in the first Footsteps program for 2018 at The Hermitage, Mittagong. These three days together involved exploring our Marist identity, spirituality, and pedagogy, whilst deepening their own appreciation of their personal call to faith. Gaining deeper insights into the life of Marcellin Champagnat, they embraced Jesus' message of being agents of change and creatively discussed ways of bridging our faith within a contemporary world.

An Audacious Hope

*Owen Phillips, Zach Pizzigrilli,
Yanna Jephson, Gerard Pirie*



Adrienne Suckling, Monique Hollett, Ben Hewitt, Laura Connolly, Jessica Morris



An Audacious Hope addresses the possibilities audacious hope offers in enabling us to respond to the challenges life presents. This program aims to investigate how Australians view the Christian faith in today's contemporary culture whilst exploring how hope plays an integral part in our lives.

Vocational Education and Training

"The best classroom and the richest cupboard is roofed only by the sky"

– Margaret McMillan, (1860-1931; pioneer of early childhood and play-centred approach in education)

In late 2017, Parramatta Marist sought to expand its Vocational Education and Training (VET) curriculum to accommodate the wider interests of its students. With an already vibrant VET program that includes Hospitality, Business Services, Information and Digital Technology, Fitness and Construction, there was an opportunity to introduce Primary Industries (Certificate II in Agriculture) for the 2018 academic year; and, to do so in partnership with Br Anthony Robertson at the Marist Farm, Mittagong.

Such an experiential learning opportunity was immediately embraced by school staff and Br Anthony who had spent several years teaching at Parramatta Marist. This was hardly surprising given the entire curriculum at PMH is delivered within the framework of Project Based Learning and Problem Based Learning across all disciplines in years 7 to 11. Additionally, there is significant emphasis within these constructivist approaches to provide authentic and real world experiences – where better than on a working farm!

The course is delivered online through the school's learning management system (Canvas) with a long standing teacher and local coordinator of the Marist Association, Mr James Sullivan, providing the face to face contact with the students. For the assessment of competencies, students board a bus and head to Mittagong for day trips, weekends and at least two weeks of work placement. Whilst on the farm, students handle livestock, learn how to fence and safely apply chemicals (among other things) all the while being assessed by Br Anthony in the most dynamic learning space they have ever



entered (as alluded to in the quote from Margaret McMillan).

Br Anthony Robertson, the Marist Farm and Limousin stud manager, believes that:

"the benefit of this course as it is delivered is more than just the improvements that can be made to the Marist Farm, the acquisition of certifications or for city-dwellers to understand where their food comes from, it is also an opportunity for students to engage more deeply with the Marist Charism – especially the love of (hard) work - at the spiritual home of the Marists in Australia."

Looking to the future, Br Anthony is hopeful too that:

"once established there will hopefully be greater scope for VET Construction students to work on the farm and with the retreat centre at Mittagong to further improve the facilities and put into practice their building skills. And, if students do both VET subjects, they can have both sets of competencies ticked off during the same work placement -



they just need to bring their construction teacher with them!"

Upon commencing as school Principal of Parramatta Marist in 2018, Mr Mark Pauschmann, was also excited to see Primary Industries established having spent the 7 previous years as Principal of James Sheahan Catholic College, Orange:

"I'm very excited about the introduction of this course into the school. Not only will it give our boys a greater understanding of the paddock-to-plate process, it will also provide them with skills that can be applied in many other areas".

**Adam Hendry – Ass. Principal
Parramatta Marist High School**

First Year 12's yields great results

St Joseph's School is celebrating the results of the first cohort of Year 12 students. School Principal, Carmen Cox, said they were thrilled with the results and on the whole the ATAR students did extremely well and the school is proud of their achievements.

"We are especially pleased that for the first cohort of Year 12 students, we have the majority of students achieve their first choice of university. Our Dux, Ms Meg Lawrence has achieved a place in the UWA Direct Pathway to the Doctor of Medical, and other students are studying such courses as Law, Marine Science, Business, and Science, Arts and Education in a variety of universities" Mrs Cox said.

The school had a small group of 20 students who undertook a range of courses, some General and some ATAR. With small classes and a WACE attainment record of 95%, it shows that students were monitored closely to do well. The General students all achieved

their WACE and completed their certificates successfully.

"We are proud of the fact that our staff undertook the teaching of Year 11 and 12 with a commitment to ensure that our students received all the attention they needed. The proof is in the pudding as we talk to the students who graduated last year".

Meg Lawrence completed all her thirteen years of schooling at St Joseph's School. Ms Lawrence said that being a part of the first graduating class of St Joseph's was both nerve racking and exciting. "I felt a sense of pride in being able to say I was a member of the first graduating class. I felt privileged to be a

part of such a historical time for the school".

"I made the decision to stay at the school despite being offered a scholarship to a school in Perth, because I knew that if I put in the work, I would be able to excel anywhere. From the beginning of year 11, I knew staying at St Joe's was the right decision. The school was so supportive and worked so hard to make sure we had everything we needed to achieve what we aimed for".

Ms Lawrence's hard work and support from the school paid off and she achieved an ATAR score of 95.5 and a place in the direct pathway to the doctor of medicine at the University of Western Australia.

"I definitely believe my education experience was different because I stayed in Northam. By no means do I think I missed out on anything. However, I think being able to graduate school at St Joseph's enabled me to complete my schooling in a familiar and friendly environment. I was able to maintain a presence in the community, but still complete a quality education" Ms Lawrence said.

The addition of Year 12 to St Joseph's School gives families in the Wheatbelt the option to have a of quality catholic education in Northam meaning there is no need for students to move to a metropolitan school. So much so, now that boarding facilities for St Joseph's School students are available at the Northam Residential College.

The school is now full steam ahead as they work with the current students to achieve of their best in 2018.



Meg Lawrence with Carmen Cox

MARIST 180



Marist180 is committed to the training and development of young people. We run a short term construction traineeship program out of our Queensland office through funding from the Queensland Government's "Skilling Queenslanders for Work" initiative.

Last month 30 new trainees commenced work with Marist180 undertaking their Certificate I in Construction at either

Samford or Redbank Plains. The trainees spent a week in our Brisbane office completing induction programs, attaining their White Cards and Asbestos Awareness certificate with training partner HIA. Both groups have now commenced practical work on site. We are looking forward to seeing their progress over the coming months at both sites, building community infrastructure.



News From Melanesia - Final Profession

On Saturday 20th January, Br Blaise Jai made his final profession in his home village, Marangis, on the border of Madang and East Sepik Province.

Upon arriving by boat at the beach, we were given a cultural welcome by the village community. After that we were taken again by boat following the river up to where we were welcomed by the dragon dance. We all moved in procession

following the cultural dragon dance to the newly built chapel where the profession ceremony took place.

Before the Eucharistic celebration of the final profession, Bishop Stephen blessed and cut the ribbon of the newly built chapel called the "immaculate Heart of Mary".

It was a simple and meaningful Eucharistic celebration because the final profession mass of Br Blaise is the first

mass celebrated in the new chapel. For many people this was their first time to participate in such a celebration.

The all day celebration was coloured by the beautiful cultural dances. It is indeed a memorable celebration for all those who have been there and took part in it.

Thank you Br Blaise for the wonderful ceremony and for the witness you bring to the people in your village.



Br Blaise

Br Blaise with his Dad & Mum

Working together, making a difference



Ben Mason, ranked 1st in the State in Studies of Religion 2 Unit, achieved an ATAR of 99.40



College Dux, Kshaunish Chaplot, achieved an ATAR of 99.75.

As Marist College Kogarah celebrated the success of the Year 12 Class of 2017, two students who played an integral part in the success of the cohort, were rewarded with their own personal success. Students, Kshaunish Chaplot and Ben Mason, faced adversity, not only throughout their HSC year, but their entire schooling and yet were able to be ranked as the top two performers of the Class of 2017 achieving ATARs of 99.75 and 99.40 respectively.

Both Kshaunish and Ben attribute a significant part of their success to the support of their teachers and peers. Recognising that the HSC is not only a challenge of one's individual ability but also relies on the contribution of the entire cohort, the generosity and kindness displayed by both boys ensured that the Class of 2017 would achieve success.

Ben was ranked first in the State in Studies of Religion 2 Unit and ranked fourth in the State in Mathematics General 2 and was acknowledged as being the top ranked student in both these subjects amongst all the Sydney Archdiocesan Catholic systemic schools.

College Dux, Kshaunish Chaplot, was ranked first in Mathematics Extension 2 across all the Sydney Archdiocesan Catholic systemic schools.

Both students were also recipients of an All Round Achiever Award which means they gained a Band 6 or E4 in 10 or more units of courses in their pattern of study.

Ben and Kshaunish believe the supportive atmosphere established at the College during their HSC year was of great benefit to their own personal success and that of their peers. "I found doing group work and working with others was

an amazing help in contributing to what we all achieved. We all supported each other, whether it was bouncing ideas off each other, essays or any questions we had," Ben said. Kshaunish believed "Working in small groups during morning classes and sharing our knowledge and understanding of the course content ensured that we would be competitive as a group."

Each student is now working towards helping others. Ben is undertaking a degree in Speech Pathology whilst Kshaunish is undertaking a double degree in Science/Advanced Studies (Dalwell Scholar). Marist College Kogarah, just like all Marist schools, is founded on the five Marist pillars, and graduates such as Ben and Kshaunish are wonderful examples of students educated in the Marist way.

Ben Mason Year 12 2017

New directions at Aquinas College

The Marists have been formally associated with Aquinas College in North Adelaide for over a decade now. This year Brother Michael Green has become the third Marist to take up the position of Rector, succeeding Brother Paul Gilchrist who has been appointed as Director of the Marist-run teachers' College in Baucau, East Timor.

Brother Michael was recently commissioned in the role by the Leader of the Marist Association, Brother Peter Carroll. The Commencement Mass and Commissioning was celebrated by Archbishop Philip Wilson (also a member of the Marist Association) who, in the name of the local Church of Adelaide, prayed God's blessing on the new Rector.

Many Marists were able to be present for the Mass and Dinner which marked the start of the new academic year.

It is a significant but welcome change of direction for Brother Michael who told Lavalla that, of several options that had been put to him by Brother Peter, the opportunity to go to Aquinas was the one that he was keen to take on.

"After the last eight years in a role that was largely administrative, it is wonderful to be working again in the midst of young people," he said.



Br Peter Carroll, Br Mark Paul, Br Michael Green and Br Gregory McDonald.

Also new to the College is Brother Mark Paul who has been appointed as full-time Chaplain.

Brother Mark said that the College, which was established and led by the Jesuits for its first half-century, is now a major locus of Marist Youth Ministry

"We have over two hundred young adults here, attending Adelaide's three universities," he explained. "They are wonderful young people, and it is a privilege to be able to accompany them and influence them at a critical phase of their lives."

The new Brothers were high in their praise

of the confreres who have been at the College before him, particularly Brothers John Furlong and Jordan Redden who each spent twelve years at Aquinas.

"It is so clear that those Brothers, along with a very dedicated staff, have created such a friendly and achievement-oriented culture at Aquinas, one that offers young adults an environment that is safe, welcoming and supportive. It's home for them," said Brother Michael

Asked about the recent adverse attention given to some university colleges, Brother Michael said that the students of Aquinas were quite disturbed by what they read and saw in the media reports.

"All of that is so foreign to their experience of Aquinas," he said, "that they were genuinely incredulous that such things could go on. We have spoken openly with the students about the issues that the reports raised, and it has helped them to be conscious of the kind of place they want Aquinas to be."

Aquinas College's 200 residents are mainly from regional areas across South Australia and western Victoria, with others from the Northern Territory and western New South Wales, as well as a handful from overseas.



Archbishop Philip Wilson celebrating the Opening Mass at Aquinas College.

Saints Recognises Scholastic Success

On 1 February 2018, St Augustine's College commended the school's academic high achievers at the first of its biannual academic awards assemblies. The primary focus of the assembly reflects its namesake - to award those students who achieved highly during last year's final semester. 152 awardees received no less than five Bs and 2 As on their report card which roughly corresponds to a GPA of 4.3. Staff member, Dr Danielle Lynch, noted sagely that scholastic success requires "hard work" and considerable resilience.

Our College Principal, Brother Darren Burge, was the first speaker of the morning. He spoke of two students with whom he had shared time, on their birthdays, in 2017. He was particularly proud of these two students who, although not awardees at the academic assembly, had nevertheless displayed attributes that all can aspire to, including determination, commitment and pride in their personal achievements. The first was a junior student who had tried hard but fallen short of his goal (an academic award) but remained undeterred in his quest to achieve one next time. The second was a senior student who was pleasantly surprised by a series of passing grades (through hard work) against a scholastic history of underachievement. In each student, Brother Darren warmly and happily related to the audience "Hope was alive and operating."

After an uplifting religious address by College Liturgy Captain, Adam Takai, Director of Studies, Mr Lance Helms was called to the stage to present the awards. As I watched the continuous stream of awardees proudly shake Brother Darren's hand, I was really inspired by just how many hard-working students call St Augustine's their school.

Alexi Dermedgoglou gave up time from a busy day as a doctor at the Cairns Base Hospital to give an old boy's address to the audience. He described his life after school and gave two pieces of excellent advice being: "take the opportunity now to learn what you can", and "seek a career in what you love and success will come".



OP 1 Students 2017: Dean Ramsay, Jesse Hyden, Br Darren Burge – Principal, Joseph Krebs, Rhys Thomas, William Spencer

After a series of deafening applause for the awardees, Head of Year 12, Mr Andrew Dorahy took his place at the podium. He had the honour of naming and calling to the stage, a group of 25 of last year's graduates of Year 12 who had received an OP 1-5. Five of these successful graduates were acknowledged for receiving the prestigious award of an OP 1. A significant message became prominent in Mr Dorahy's well-crafted speech – that "talent is a gift but character is a choice."

The final speech was given by Jesse Hyden, the College Dux of 2017. His path to Dux and OP 1 did not follow the usual path by choosing stock standard

subjects, like math and physics. He had the courage to study and excel in the arts and social sciences. A commendable choice that resulted in "studies of genuine interest." Indeed, sticking to what he loved "guided him through it" and ultimately ended in exemplary results.

In summary, the first Academic Awards Ceremony was a morning of advice and recognition. If there's one thing I took away, it's the need for hard work. Whether that be hard work as a result of choosing what you love or persistence with subjects you might not like, it's the singular trait that results in any success whatsoever.

Jack Miller, Year 10 student
St Augustine's College, Cairns

MARIST YOUTH MINISTRY

One of the major highlights on the Marist Youth Ministry (MYM) calendar is the annual 3-day Marist Student Leaders' Gathering, held across the respective regions of Australia.

The aims of the Student Leaders' Gathering are (i) the preparation of students as leaders in the way of the Gospel of Jesus Christ; (2) an appreciation for authentic Christian leadership and witnessing to compassion and solidarity within the school community; (3) the growth and formation in Marist identity in our student leaders, based on the five characteristics of our Marist spirituality and the charism of St Marcellin Champagnat.

During Term Four 2017, student leaders from Marist schools across New South Wales gathered at the Hermitage, Mittagong. At the same time, student leaders from Victoria, South Australia, Western Australia and the Northern Territory gathered at the Edmund Rice Centre in Amberley. In January 2018,

student leaders from Queensland assembled at Marist College Ashgrove. Across the three venues, a total of 155 students attended from 36 Marist Schools, including Cerdon College Merrylands (Marist Sisters) in Sydney and Carmel College Thornlands in Brisbane.

The theme of this year's gathering was *'Hope and a Future'* (Jeremiah 29:11), encouraging the students to recognise leadership as one of many calls God has for their lives, and how they can respond generously through the gift of their lives within their school communities.

Several workshops were conducted throughout the three days including: "principles of effective student leadership"; *"What would Mary and Marcellin do? Leadership in the Marist way"*; "Balancing leadership with studies and personal life"; and "School Visioning – creating a plan of priorities for the year".

Highlights from the gathering included

the sharing of each school's story and mission, proudly presented by students; the Commissioning Eucharist and the formal student leaders' dinner attended by many Principals or school representatives. During the formal dinner, students heard from former Marist student leaders as they reflected on their own year of leaders and encouraged the audience to lead with authenticity and integrity.

Our sincere thanks to our Marist Principals and representative staff for supporting their student leaders in attending the annual gathering, and to our MSA Regional Directors for their leadership of the event and support of the MYM Team.

In this Year of Youth we look forward to touching base with our Marist Student Leaders across the country during school visits in 2018.

Jeni Miller, Caitlin Humphrys and Br Greg McDonald, MYM Regional Coordinators

EXCHANGE – Marist Youth Ministry (MYM) Young Adult monthly gathering



MYM Sydney held their very first Pub Forum at West Ryde Hotel on Sunday, 11 March. The theme, 'Being Marist in a today's secular world' was one that was requested by the young adults themselves. Our young adults were given an opportunity to listen to life journeys, thus far, of three young Marists, as well as battle it out in a small game of Trivia and Lip Sync battle to songs from Queen.

The three young Marists on the panel outlined the ways they have lived out their Marist/Christian values through school, uni, professional life and



marriage. Cameron Menzies (St Greg's Campbelltown, 2014) is in the fourth year of a Secondary Education Degree at the University of Sydney. He emphasised the characteristic of 'Presence' as being one of the guiding characteristics in his life. Cam always tries to be fully present in 'mind, body and soul' to those he meets so that he can truly know how best to 'serve' their needs. Lucy Murrie is part of the Marist Young Professional group, as she is now working after completing her degree in International Studies. Lucy spoke of the Marist characteristic of 'Love of work' as a guiding light helping her navigate her career as she serves people on the margins. Marita Cuomo



(Mount Carmel Catholic College) is now happily married. She was a founding member of the Exchange gatherings at Randwick back in 2013. She defines herself as very 'Marist' as all 5 Marist

characteristics feature as guide in her life. All present gained a good insight into ways they can live their life more confidently in the Marist way!

Macarthur Local Connect Night

The Marist Youth Ministry (MYM) team met with the schools in the Macarthur region on Friday, 9 March, for the first 'Connect' of the year. The theme for this Connect gathering was taken from the scripture of Jeremiah on 'Hope and future.' The



MYM team guided the Yr 11 and 12 students through the Christian meaning of 'Hope.' Students through a craft activity, made their own symbols to represent 'hope' for the year. MYM is grateful to Mount Carmel Catholic College for hosting the event. Great to see students from St Gregory's College Campbelltown and the John Therry High School, Rosemeadow. The MYM team looks forward to the next two local Connect gatherings in the Eastwood and Randwick regions over the following two weeks.



Student Leader school visits

As a way to foster 'family' and give support, the Marist Youth Ministry team keeps connected to the Student Leaders, whom they met and mentored at the Marist Student Leader's Gathering, by visiting them in their school environment. It is a great way to follow up on the goals the Leaders set for themselves back in November, 2017 and congratulate them on achieving some wonderful initiatives within their school. The MYM team has been so amazed at what the Student Leaders have achieved since returning from the Gathering. A few initiatives include forming Social Justice groups, providing support and guidance with homework as well as building confidence and leadership skills in the student body from Years 7 to 11! The MYM team is so proud to be associated with these fine young Marist Leaders!



NESA Visit

It was a wonderful occasion on Wednesday 21st February when Mr David De Carvahlo, CEO of NESA attended John Terry Catholic High School. NESA (NSW Education Standards Authority) is the peak education authority that has replaced the Board of Studies that oversees and regulates education in New South Wales. Joining Mr De Carvahlo was Mrs Cathy Munro, NESA South Coast Liaison Officer.

The visit was centred on the work of our indigenous support unit. John Terry has the highest indigenous student population in the Wollongong Diocese with 105 students or 11% of the school population.

A welcome to country in language by Yr 12 student Hamani Tanginoa was followed by a stirring version of the Australian National Anthem in Dharawal, accompanied by Tyrone Harding and Travis Bilben on the 'didg'.



A tour of the indigenous support unit and the Aboriginal garden was a highlight before attending several classes, including Yr 12 Aboriginal Studies. Mr De Carvahlo addressed the assembled Staff and was very keen to hear feedback from 'real' practitioners as to how NESA can best support learning and teaching. Robust discussion and suggestions were presented.

BOOK REVIEWS

Howard Thurman, *Jesus and the Disinherited*, Beacon Press, Boston, reprinted 1996, and available through Amazon Books.

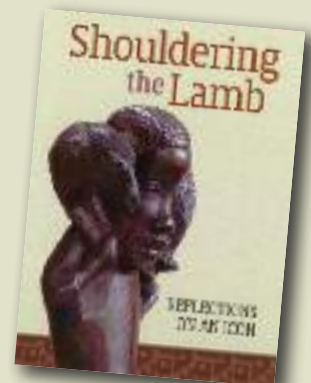
This is a 'gem' of a book that keeps appearing on my radar in those times when I know that my commitment, my honesty with myself is always about the presence of God in my life, and the ongoing call to 'put on Christ' as I seek to serve the people that I live and work with.



Howard Thurman (1900–1981) was a Saint in the Protestant tradition and wrote a wonderful book titled "Jesus and the Disinherited". First published in 1949, it is a brilliant and compassionate look at God's work in our lives. As we struggle today with issues of poverty, racism, homelessness and spiritual disengagement, Thurman's message of renewal through the Gospel of Jesus Christ resonates powerfully once again. Challenging our submersion into individual and social isolation, Thurman suggests a reading of the Gospel that recovers a manual resistance for the poor and disenfranchised. He argues that within Jesus' life of suffering, pain, and overwhelming love is the solution that will prevent our descent into moral nihilism. This is a message that the world needs today, and as Christians, and as educators in the Marist tradition, it is our only way forward if we wish to remain

credible witnesses to the resurrection. It is a book that all teachers should read; it challenges me to be someone who does more than just give 'lip-service' to my faith or to simply put my 'loose change' on the collection plate.

Richard Clarke, *Shouldering the Lamb*, Dominican Press, Dublin, 2017.



Shouldering the Lamb offers eleven meditations revolving around the ancient figure of the shepherd carrying the lamb across his shoulders. Viewing this image from many angles enables Church of Ireland Archbishop Richard Clarke to reflect on how any carrying of another in the loving service of God and humankind is an echo of the God who is love. It is also directly related to the practice that Howard Thurman suggests many people who call themselves 'Christian' have trouble doing. One of the important messages of the book is the suggestion by Clarke that such 'shouldering' can never be undertaken from a safe distance and it will involve occasions when the care-giver must accept being carried, without succumbing to a sense of being, in any way, a burden.

Eamon Martin, the Roman Catholic Archbishop of Armagh, writes: "Prepare yourself to be taken on an unexpected journey" with this book. For those of us who fit the 'busy people syndrome' this is a book that one can read in small but very rewarding doses.

Br Tony Paterson

Archdiocese of Adelaide

Marcellin Technical College, Christies Downs
Sacred Heart College, Adelaide

Archdiocese of Brisbane

Marist College, Ashgrove
Mount Maria College, Mitchelton
Mt Maria College, Petrie
St Joseph's School, Murgon
St Peter Claver College, Riverview
St Teresa's College, Noosaville
St Thomas More School, Sunshine Beach
Trinity College, Beenleigh

Diocese of Darwin

Ltyentye Apurte, Santa Teresa
Our Lady of the Sacred Heart College,
Alice Springs

Archdiocese of Melbourne

Assumption College, Kilmore
Marcellin College, Bulleen

Archdiocese of Perth

Newman College, Churchlands
St Joseph's School, Northam

Archdiocese of Sydney

Champagnat Catholic College, Pagewood
Marcellin College, Randwick
Marist College, Eastwood
Marist College, Kogarah
Marist College, North Shore
Marist Catholic College, Penshurst
St Joseph's College, Hunters Hill



MARIST | SCHOOLS AUSTRALIA

Catholic education in the tradition of St Marcellin Champagnat

St Michael's Primary School, Daceyville
The John Berne School, Lewisham
Trinity Catholic College,
Auburn/Regents Park

Diocese of Bunbury

Bunbury Catholic College

Diocese of Cairns

St Augustine's College, Cairns
Good Counsel College, Innisfail

Archdiocese of Canberra/Goulburn

Marist College, Canberra

Diocese of Lismore

Trinity Catholic College, Lismore

Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle

St Francis Xavier's College, Hamilton
St Peter's Campus (All Saints College)
Maitland

Diocese of Parramatta

Marist Learning Zone, Mt Druitt
Parramatta Marist High School,
Westmead
Pete's Place, Blacktown
St Patrick's Marist College, Dundas

Diocese of Rockhampton

Chanel College, Gladstone
Marist College, Emerald

Diocese of Sale

Catholic College, Sale
Lavalla Catholic College, Traralgon
Marist-Sion College, Warragul

Diocese of Sandhurst

Galen Catholic College, Wangaratta
Marist College, Bendigo
Notre Dame College, Shepparton

Diocese of Townsville

Burdekin Catholic High School, Ayr
St Francis Xavier School, Ayr

Diocese of Wagga Wagga

Marian Catholic College, Griffith
St Francis de Sales College, Leeton

Diocese of Wilcannia-Forbes

Red Bend Catholic College, Forbes
Holy Family School, Parkes

Diocese of Wollongong

John Therry High School, Rosemeadow
Mount Carmel Catholic College, Varroville
St Gregory's College, Campbelltown

ESTD **BOB STEWART** 1925

Our family serving you since 1925

SCHOOL UNIFORM SPECIALISTS

Francis Stewart - francis.stewart@bobstewart.com.au

Nick Ryan - nick.ryan@bobstewart.com.au

Ossie Gauci - ossie.gauci@bobstewart.com.au

201 - 211 High St Kew Ph (03) 9853 8429 www.bobstewart.com.au