

Lavalla

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Marist Schools Australia

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Marist

MARIST SCHOOLS AUSTRALIA

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Lavalla

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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: Staff and Students from Marist College in Eastwood on the Champagnat Pilgrimage at La Rosey in Southern France.



From the Director

The Use of NAPLAN data in Catholic Schools



Recently I was given an old dog-eared book by a colleague. He was very pleased to be passing on this treasure, which was titled *The Story of the Marist Brothers in Australia 1872 – 1972*, by Brother Alban Doyle. I read it with great interest. Of particular note in this work was the recorded renown of the Marist Brothers as highly successful and innovative educators before their arrival and subsequent significant contributions to education in Australia. Evident in the letters by leading Australian clergy in the mid 19th Century, was the consistent desire for the Catholic Church to run quality schools. Figuring prominently in these plans and keenly sought were the Marist Brothers. The success of their schools in many Dioceses and countries in Europe, had fast built a reputation due to the efficacy of their methods. There was some local frustration that the Superior General of the time, Brother Louis-Marie, delayed the first Brothers' departure until he was confident they had undergone the necessary formation and training. Noteworthy in this history, are reports from two of Sydney's major daily newspapers on the success of Marist and other Catholic schools in the public exams of 1890. *The Daily Telegraph* cited the outstanding results as "directing attention to the life and energy of the Catholic Church". Some 128 years later, judgement of schools by their results is still making headlines, as can be seen in the current robust discussions surrounding Australia's first ever national testing regime in literacy and numeracy – NAPLAN.

This interest in school results has not waned in Australian society. School results and analysis still sell newspapers. Parents seek empiric evidence. Parents understand instinctively the precious opportunity education presents for their child. Every day counts. Every lesson counts. Every minute counts. Whilst formation in faith is the ultimate unquestionable priority for any Catholic school, parents are not willing to risk the future of their child in this world, to a school with a poor reputation in teaching and learning. Whilst NAPLAN has a part to play in forming that reputation, it is far from the full story of the success of a school.

Whatever one's philosophical leaning in regard to centralised testing, large cohort assessment, particularly in numeracy and literacy, is a feature of education in many developed nations throughout the world. It is important to remember that in Australia, before NAPLAN commenced in 2008, almost each State and Territory had its own literacy and numeracy tests. None of these assessments drew the same polarised vitriol as NAPLAN seems to elicit. The added dimensions the *My School* website

bring to the whole NAPLAN experience are cause for much of the dissent. Yet NAPLAN is a major investment by the Government and the data from NAPLAN provides credible, external and objective information for teachers, parents, and students. A challenge for us as Catholic educators is to ensure NAPLAN data resides at an appropriate level of importance in our overall assessment regime and is utilised in ways, which, enhance our broad holistic goals for each young person in our schools.

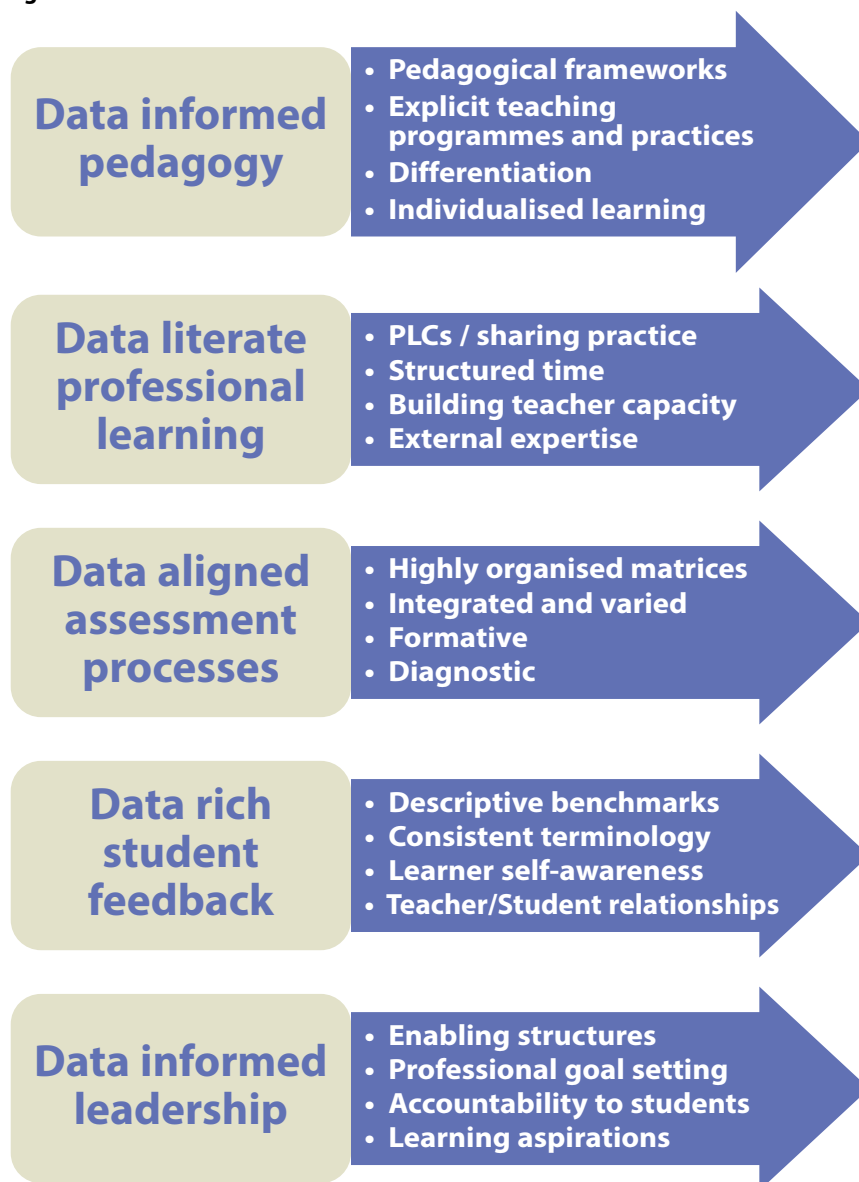
As the current debates around NAPLAN continue, I take this opportunity to share some findings from relevant research to the current questions and discussions. In 2010, the first year NAPLAN results were made public on the My School website, I commenced doctoral research to answer the question:

“How do teachers and school leaders working within the large-cohort centralised testing regime of NAPLAN in Australia use NAPLAN data to improve student learning outcomes as measured in NAPLAN performance?”

In its final form the Thesis was titled “The Use of NAPLAN Data in Catholic Schools.” This research was conducted across 38 Catholic schools. The success of each school was gauged by measuring and comparing consistency in above average learning gain over two years of schooling for three individual cohorts over a six year period of testing. Using the data on the My School website, learning gain for each school in reading and numeracy was compared with learning gain for schools serving students from statistically similar backgrounds and students from all Australian schools with the same starting score in the same first year of testing. It was clear from the research that the schools in which students consistently demonstrated greater *learning gain* utilised wide ranges of assessment data to *inform* rather than drive leadership and decision making in relation to five key areas of influence on student learning outcomes. Figure 1 illustrates a brief overview of the research findings.

Figure 1 Using NAPLAN data with school-initiated assessment data to improve student learning.

Figure 1



(The full text of the Thesis can be found at <http://researchbank.acu.edu.au/theses/599>)

Participants from participating Catholic schools described positive influences and experiences of NAPLAN data in school communities, *when the data was carefully and appropriately integrated and communicated as one source of data among many*, to enrich a school’s learning environment, along with the learning experiences for each student.

The publication of data on the My School website presents a significant challenge for schools in working to ensure parents understand and appreciate the range of reliable and authentic assessment measures undertaken at the school level. As Marist schools serving communities in 19 Dioceses across the country, it is important we continue to constructively contribute to the discourse surrounding

national testing in literacy and numeracy, as well as promoting the importance of other assessment and school performance data. Our Marist traditions and intuitions in regard to education are as important today as they were in the middle of the 19th Century.

In concluding, one would imagine those early Australian Church leaders who so eagerly desired excellent Catholic schools would be delighted that two of our colleagues have recently been recognised and honoured nationally for their leadership and influence in Australian education. Marists throughout the country join in warmly congratulating Kate Fogarty and Ross Tarlinton on receiving these important awards, the details of which are described below.

Dr Frank Malloy

Kate Fogarty recognised for outstanding leadership in professional learning and development

The John Laing Awards acknowledge outstanding Principals from every Australian State and Territory who demonstrate highly effective leadership in providing professional learning in government, Catholic and Independent schools. These peer nominated awards are highly respected among Australian educators from all sectors. They celebrate the contribution Principals make to support the professional learning and development of teachers and other school leaders. Paul Geyer, Chief Executive Officer for the Principals Australia Institute who manage the awards, emphasised the essential purpose and importance of such recognition.

"The principals recognised by the John Laing Awards exemplify the high standard of leadership that is required and expected of the contemporary school leader. Great school leadership equates to a great learning experience and inspires both staff and students to be the best they can be."

Late in 2017 Kate Fogarty quietly received this prestigious award with very little fan fare. After some persuasion, permission has been granted by Kate to share this wonderful news more widely with our Marist family. Below is the citation read at the awards ceremony.

Kathryn Fogarty, Principal of Assumption College, Kilmore, has been officially

recognised for her dedication to education and professional learning in the annual John Laing Awards for Professional Development, managed by the Principals Australia Institute.

In her time at the helm of Assumption College, Ms Fogarty has sought to significantly transform the teaching and learning focus of the College. She has led co-educational schools in rural Victoria over the last decade and is committed to building strong rural communities through the empowering of the school leaders and staff. She believes strongly in the need to ensure that young staff in particular are being appropriately formed to lead educational change.

Ms Fogarty is regarded by her peers as having significantly transformed the teaching and learning focus since she started at Assumption College in 2015. She has been able to transform the way staff view education. This has had a powerful impact on the way that staff engage with students, interact with peers and use evidence based practices aimed to raise the standard of teaching.

Ms Fogarty celebrates the leadership actions displayed by others and is particularly very affirming of those who show leadership skills without an official leadership 'title'. She encourages all of her staff to be aspirational, regardless of age, gender or years of service. This has had a significant impact on the mindset of staff. Just this year alone there are 15 teachers from the College undergoing further university study, most in the area of Educational Leadership.

We are indeed fortunate to have Kate among our leaders of Marist Schools in Australia, and congratulate her on this recognition for her outstanding, selfless leadership and service to students, families and staff of Assumption College Kilmore.

Ross Tarlinton OAM



Ross Tarlinton OAM

Congratulations to Mr Ross Tarlinton OAM, whose award of the Medal of the Order of Australia "for service to secondary education" has been announced in the Queen's Birthday 2018 Honours List.

This award acknowledges Ross's distinguished career in educational leadership and governance of Catholic schools over many years. Ross currently serves as the Regional Director (QLD, NT & Northern NSW) of Marist Schools Australia, following on from outstanding terms of leadership as Headmaster of St Joseph's College Hunters Hill (2006-17) and Marist College Canberra (2001-05). He has also made a significant contribution to Catholic education as a former Deputy Director of Schools and Principal of two schools in the Diocese of Lismore, as well as other significant governance and advisory roles including a Commissioner of NSW Catholic Education Commission and Member of the NSW Ministerial Committee for School Education Leaders.

This award is further recognition of Ross's exemplary leadership as a Marist educator and his continuing commitment to the educational advancement of young Australians and those who teach them.



The Rex Cambrey Education Scholarship



This year Marist College Bendigo was again very fortunate to be the recipient of "The Rex Cambrey Education

Scholarship". This scholarship is named in honour of long-serving Marist employee and affiliated member Rex Cambrey and is funded through the generosity of The Tony and Gwyneth Lennon Family Foundation of Perth Western Australia. This year the scholarship has been used to assist two students with their school fees.

Rex Cambrey, Anthony Lennon, son of Tony Lennon, a member of the Family

Foundation visited Marist again this year to catch up with the two students receiving this scholarship and to see the growth in our College.

Marist College Bendigo would again like to thank Rex Cambrey, Anthony Lennon and the Tony Lennon Family Foundation for their generous contribution to the students at Marist College Bendigo.

Pictured are Anthony Lennon, Darren McGregor (Marist Principal), and Rex Cambrey with the two students receiving the scholarship. They are pictured sitting with our recent sculpture of Marcellin Champagnat, which was commissioned by the Marist Brothers old Boys Association to celebrate 125 Years of the Marist Brothers in Bendigo.

BOOK REVIEW

Salenson, Christian (2012), *Christian de Chergé: A Theology of Hope*, Collegeville, Minnesota: Liturgical Press.

Christian de Chergé, prior of the Cistercian Community at Tibhirine, Algeria, was assassinated with six of his fellow monks in 1996. At the time I was at the Marist Brothers renewal course in Manziaria near Rome. We obtained almost daily reports from Algeria of the terrorist/civil war taking place in that country. Communities like the Cistercians, the Marists and other Christian groups were at risk of being murdered in those gruesome months (in fact, the Dominican Bishop of Algiers, Pierre Claverie, and our own Brother Henri Vergès, were murdered over the 1994-96 period. In all nineteen martyrs will be beatified later this year).

Christian and his community had the option of escaping to safety but decided to stay with their Muslim neighbors. For Christian and his community, they had a monastic vocation of prayer that included their Muslim friends and neighbors with

whom they shared daily life. de Chergé's recorded writings bear witness to an original thinker who insists on the value of interreligious dialogue for a more intelligent grasp of one's own faith.

Christian Salenson, is a priest of the diocese of Nîmes in France. He clearly formulates a wonderful account of de Chergé's personal, ecclesial, and theological foundations of his vocation and the originality of his life and thought. Salenson demonstrates that the experience of a small monastery lost in the Atlas Mountains of Algeria contributes to today's theological debates. As Salenson states, the monks could have packed up camp, and taken off for Europe. However, their vocation, and that of their leader, was embedded

in taking up the Cross and following Jesus. For them, this included living with the threats on their doorstep; it included dialogue with those around them.

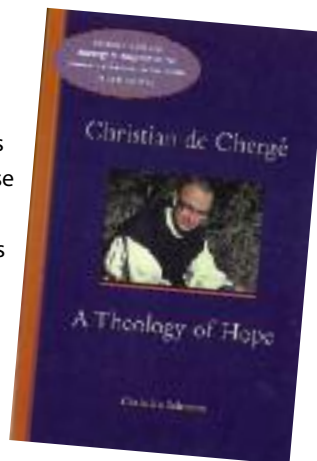
Dialogue, "presupposes a going out from one's own self in order to reach the other. It can be understood as an exodus towards the other, in faith that the other is being borne along by the same quest for God" (Salenson, Page 49).

As de Chergé writes: "Our paths converge when one and the same thirst draws us to the same well" (Christian de Chergé, *L'invincible espérance [Hope Unconquerable]*, ed, Bruno

Chenu, Paris Bayard, 1996, Page 74). This, for these martyrs, was their resurrection, their centre of meaning and fulfillment.

This book, or more to the point, its message is full of hope, as we seek the reality of Jesus in our lives. I am happy to lend it to anyone who wants to read it.

Tony Paterson



Opportunities at Cardijn College

Cardijn College is a co-educational Catholic college located 25kms south of Adelaide in the beautiful Southern Vales region.

The College motto "See, Judge, Act" is pivotal in the life of the College as a method which is focussed on seeing the full perspective of community, judging considering Christian principles and proactively acting to make a difference in the lives of families, friends, local community and the wider world.

Less than 3km away in Christie Downs is a second campus, Marcellin Technical, which offers specialised vocational and trade training leading to school-based apprenticeships and employment.

Marcellin provides opportunities to undertake an extensive range of training courses to students completing their SACE through an in-house Registered Training Organisation (RTO) and a range of other providers, depending on their trade focus.

Cardijn College has had a long tradition with the Marist Brothers with its founding principal, Br Walter Smith FMS leaving a wonderful legacy based on the five characteristics of Marist education. Marcellin Technical is one of three schools in Marist Schools Australia to carry the name of our founder and together with Cardijn College is proud to



be immersed in the spirituality of Marcellin Champagnat.

Ronan Jones is one student who has benefited greatly from the opportunities offered at Cardijn and the unique model of education and training available to him through the Marcellin campus.

The Year 12 student is completing his SACE as well as an Engineering Fabrication course through MTC training. He enjoys working in a hands-on environment and has a particular interest in custom fabrication.

"I attend Marcellin every Wednesday and I am enjoying every minute of my course," Ronan said.

"The teachers and students are very supportive of everyone as they all want

to see success in every student with their future ambitions."

"This makes for a fun and practical work environment when completing tasks in the workshop and classrooms."

Ronan feels fortunate to experience the best of both worlds as he works toward his ultimate goal of obtaining an apprenticeship in the engineering fabrication field once he completes Year 12.

"As I have access to both campuses, I have been able to continue with my regular school life at Cardijn College for the subjects and classes I attend, but still attend Marcellin for my course," Ronan said.

"I enjoy the campus culture at Cardijn with a range of days where different things are celebrated and the whole school gets involved."

In 2017, Cardijn celebrated some of the best SACE results in the history of the College. Students achieved 19 A+ merits and 29 students received an ATAR above 90+. 58% of students at Marcellin campus obtained an apprenticeship against a national average of 5%.

The Dux of the College, Anja Bancevic achieved an ATAR of 99.35 with A+ merits in Biology, English, Research Project and Integrated Learning (Religion). Nathaniel Gradisar was the Proxime Accessit with an ATAR of 98.65



and an A+ merit in Physics.

College Captain Sebastian Macaspac was awarded the Governor of South Australia Commendation for his outstanding leadership at Cardijn College and in the wider community.

For a relatively young school (Cardijn celebrates 35 years in 2018), Cardijn is not short on traditions that have lasted generations of students.

- A competitive sports exchange with Tenison Woods College, Mt Gambier
- Athon Day where students raise money for charity through a variety of challenges
- a deep, spiritual connection with adjacent St Luke's Church, and
- an attachment to symbolic spaces in the school such as the much-loved amphitheatre, are all at the core of the special memories held by our alumni cohort.

The staff watch on with admiration and celebrate as Cardijn graduates go on to excel in their chosen fields and become future leaders and influencers who make a difference in the world.

2019 will be a defining year as the College welcomes the first intake of Year 7 students and anticipates the opportunities and new perspective this will offer the school. The school will grow from 900 students to well over 1120 students on the Cardijn campus and 200 students on the Marcellin campus.

Under the leadership of Principal Dr Paul Rijken, Cardijn is about to embark on a new era of transformative change and development.

New student-centric learning spaces, advances in technology and upgrades to current facilities will provide future students the kind of education and skills required for the generation of tomorrow.

"Cardijn has seen immense growth over the last decade," Dr Rijken said.

"The unveiling of our state of the art music facilities, innovative learning spaces and specialist sports programs are just the beginning of an exciting development project."

"These facilities have enhanced the opportunities for our students to learn and grow in faith with a passion for life-long learning," he said.



European Tour 2018

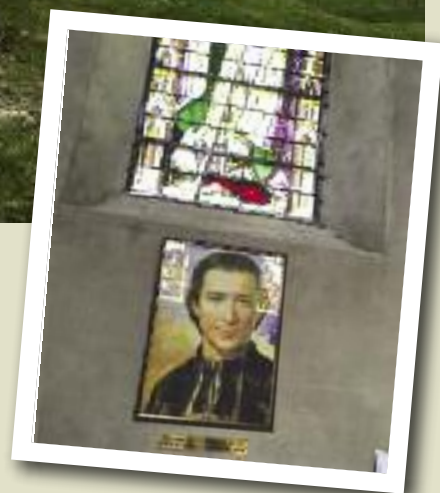
During the Term 1 holidays, 28 football players, 17 cultural students and 7 staff embarked on a trip of a lifetime to England and France as part of a Sporting and Cultural tour. They spent the first week in England with the football group having training sessions at Fulham, Chelsea and Liverpool. The facilities at each are amazing, especially at Chelsea where there are 34 pitches, one for each of their development teams. Whilst the facility at Liverpool was not as grand, a renovation in the near future costing fifty million pounds, will bring it up to a similar standard.

Whilst in London, they were lucky enough to attend two EPL games; Manchester City vs Tottenham Hotspurs at Wembley Stadium and a bottom of the draw fixture, West Ham vs Stoke City, both significant games that either determined the championship or who would be relegated from the top division. Meanwhile, the cultural group visited the Tate Modern Art Gallery, St Paul's Cathedral and the British museum. Other highlights of the London visit, included tours of Old Trafford and Anfield Stadiums and the other usual sightseeing in London and whilst in Liverpool, a visit to the Beatles museum.

From London, the group then travelled to Lyon in France for a weekend stay at the Hermitage, the home of the first Marist Brothers and Marcellin Champagnat. The group spent a day



celebrating Mass with the locals at the Hermitage Chapel followed by a visit to the first school of Champagnat at La Valla, a Water from the Rock walk where they traced Marcellin's steps and a trip to his birthplace at Le Rosey capped off a memorable weekend for the group. Time was also spent at the Fouvriere church to reflect on the origins of the Marist Brothers, where the twelve Marist aspirants, priests and seminarians pledged themselves to found the Society of Mary and shared Mass together for the first of many times. They then travelled into Paris and spent time visiting the Hotel Les Invalides museum, the Louvre and Notre Dame Cathedral. Another highlight of the tour, was attending the Anzac Day dawn service at



Villers – Bretonneux and following this, a tour of the battlefronts around Hamel and Pozieres. Cultural group leader Steve Mitchell said, " Being in this part of France, exactly one hundred years to the day since Australian forces relieved these towns from German occupation was an unique opportunity that is rarely afforded to such tour groups and it capped off a fabulous tour for the group".

Steven Mitchell



Feast of St Marcellin Champagnat 2018

It may be a little known fact that Fr Christian De Charge, the leader of the Cistercian monks of Tibhirine, that group of seven good Catholic men savagely slaughtered by terrorists in the Algerian civil war in 1996, was a friend of the French Marist Brother, Henri Verges. Br Henri was himself a victim of fundamentalist religious intolerance, shot dead in a library for young people he ran in a poor suburb of Algiers in 1994. Some months after Henri's death, Fr Christian delivered a homily in which he referred to Henri having the humble courage of the small gestures that assures life's victory, naming Henri and his colleague Sr Paul Helene who died alongside Henri, as "these obscure witnesses of hope" upon which the whole world depends. By their lives, Fr Christian reflected, these two people at their duty, open and defenceless, "re-invented the martyrdom of hope".

Br Henri's story was told in preparation for the celebration of the Feast of St Marcellin because Henri and the Students and Staff at Marist College Ashgrove share a set of experiences and a set of values. Henri grew up hearing about the Champagnat story, all the stories and inspiration he knew, we know – the childhood of Marcellin against the backdrop of the French Revolution; Marcellin being a struggler at school; Marcellin's shock at finding the dying boy ignorant of the spiritual, with no knowledge of God and his commitment to doing something practical about it; being lost in the snow; establishing a new and profound educational movement in the world; the three violets of simplicity, humility and modesty; deep devotion to Mary; a determination to do good by changing the world in small and unknown ways. Henri was inspired by the Champagnat story, as we might be.

The first reading at Mass (Jeremiah 29: 10-14) was delivered by Work and



Champagnat Award 2018 to Year 12 Student Jeremy Boyle with parents Melissa and Justin, Br Anthony Burrows, Headmaster Peter McLoughlin and College Chaplain, Fr Chris Ketsore sm

Welcome employee, Mr Joseph Ghazal, a Maronite Christian, who fled with his family from Aleppo in Syria with the help of Br Georges Sabe and the Marist Blues. Joseph and his family were cared for at the Marist school in Beirut, the College Champville, before making their way to Australia. The story of Br Henri to begin our celebration and the story of the Marist Blues to finish, stories of courage, generosity, sacrifice and Christian hope

were a wonderful introduction to the naming of the three Marist College Ashgrove Champagnat Award winners for 2018, themselves fine examples of the Marist virtues.

As our Feast Day Mass reminded us - we are each called to be witnesses of hope in our lives. We are privileged to do this as Marists.

Luke McMahon, Head of Mission

Letter to the Editor

In reading the current edition of LAVALLA (April 2018) I am reminded of the creativity and vitality of Marist schools in Australia.

Page after page describes teachers in a system of fifty plus schools, focussed clearly on high quality student development and academic achievement, very consistent with the dream of Marcellin and the early leaders of the Institute. And this is happening with an enhanced appreciation of the current educational processes we read about in many of the articles in LAVALLA.

I write these words for the Brothers as some of us, Kelvin included, when presented with the age profile of the

Province can readily have doubts about the future of Marist education.

The current issue of LAVALLA provided me, yet again, with evidence of a network of schools operating most effectively in a changing society with a volatile educational environment. Confidence and clear sense of purpose are the hallmarks of our schools today.

This publication reminded me where we have come from as well as the new frontiers for 2018, including outreach initiatives, needy kids, youth, leadership and the new pedagogies. We also read about spiritual formation with ongoing support, and a school system full of hope in the Marian tradition.

Br Kelvin Canavan, Drummoyn

Marist Pilgrimage 2018

A pilgrimage can be reflected upon on a variety of levels.

On one level the Pilgrimage is a form of prayer; a prayer pilgrims say with their feet. The 2018 Marist pilgrims prayed as they crossed sacred mountains, spent time in the Judean wilderness and walked to shrines of the holy. Jesus himself was often a pilgrim travelling from Galilee to Jerusalem and His footsteps illuminated our own. This encouraged and fostered our distinctive Marist Spirituality; something hard to avoid while at L'Hermitage walking for kilometres in the footsteps of Marcellin Champagnat. With this corporal dimension however, we were able, in our imaginations, to enter into the hopes and struggles of our founder and his early companions. And, it seemed to give these particular pilgrims a structure to their journey and an opportunity to move out of the ordinary into a dimension created by such a unique landscape.

Our Pilgrimage was certainly a journey into history, setting our feet in holy places. To the Wailing Wall of the Temple in Jerusalem, to the city of Rome and St. Peter's Basilica, to the Chapel of the Virgin in Fourviere in Lyon, where our Founder made his pledge to start a Church in the way of Mary, and to L'Hermitage in France which Marcellin and his Brothers built. Each place radiated its own energy; historical, emotional and spiritual which touched each of us in a unique and sometimes profound way.

On another level, by its very nature, our Pilgrimage was an adventure. We travelled from the familiar to the unfamiliar which called each of us to see with new eyes and hear with new ears. We touched ancient stones and relics and although we did not have to face bandits or highwaymen we risked a variety of local beers and an enormous amount of humus and French cheese. But with the risk came trust; trust that God was our shepherd protecting his flock, which He did.

As on any Pilgrimage, I imagine, we embraced the mystery. We left behind our families and colleagues and entered, with joy and a little healthy trepidation, the mystery of the journey and its destinations. A bit like *"By faith Abraham, when called to go to a place he would later receive as his inheritance, obeyed and went, even though he did not know where he was going."* (Heb 11:8) Even though we felt safe in our communion with each other we also travelled our own individual journeys; sometimes surprising and sometimes reassuring but always with a willingness to trust in the mystery. The pilgrims showed great trust in the Team to lead them to an encounter with God and for that I am grateful.

As pilgrims we were supported by the communal aspects of our Marist spirituality. Even though we were strangers in starting we became good friends. As companions on this journey

*Walking from
Lavalla to
L'Hermitage*



we looked after each other as mothers do: healing blisters and sore throats, waiting patiently for wayward walkers and providing clothes to those who lost their bags. There is really something about this spontaneous 'nurture' of Marists and the way we gravitate to comfort and protect others.

From a religious point of view our Pilgrimage was one of intentionality; one fully Christian and Marist. We made time for our encounters through prayer and contemplation. Personal reflection and journaling helped us to more fully tap into the simplicity of our faith and opened up opportunities for real change in ourselves. Being in the Old City of Jerusalem marked a shift in our personal geography moving God from sometimes being a small part of our peripheral lives to being at the very centre.

On yet another level, we experienced the theatre of scripture. The characters in our well known and loved bible passages were brought vividly to life. At the edge of the Sea of Galilee we could imagine ourselves breakfasting with Jesus and his disciples. We stood at Jacob's Well and overheard Jesus speak with the Samaritan woman and we drank of the living water from its depths. We had a sense of the Holy Spirit as we renewed our baptismal vows at the River Jordan



Brothers from Melanesia, Australia, New Zealand and France

and we sat a while with Jesus in personal reflection in the Garden of Gethsemane. We journeyed with our Lord along the Way of the Cross as dawn was breaking through the shadowy streets of Jerusalem. We stood near to the foot of the cross at Calvary and we celebrated Mass in Jesus' tomb with all its promise. Never will our experience of Holy Scripture be the same.

You know, we left our homes to go on a Pilgrimage because we believed in something. I think we all believed that we would be transformed in some way;

that we would be strengthened in our faith and learn more about the motivations of Marcellin Champagnat. And we have. But the funny thing about going on a pilgrimage is the importance of coming home. Coming home, different. Changed. It is as though we have been opened up inside, somehow. Opened up to the presence of God. And if we have not returned changed then we had a nice trip, but not a pilgrimage; and all the evidence is to the contrary.

Elizabeth Falconer
2018 Pilgrimage Coordinator



CHINA CALLING

Fifteen Year 9 students from Marcellin College, Bulleen will be travelling to China on Saturday 17 March 2018 to participate in the Victoria Young Leaders to China Program.

The Victorian Young Leaders to China (VYLC) is an immersion program for year 9 students in partnership with the Victorian Government. The program is a life-changing opportunity for students and teachers to live in and attend school in China. The primary focus of the VYLC program is on language and cultural learning with personal growth and the development of leadership skills.

Marcellin College has participated in this wonderful initiative by the Victorian Government for the past five years and the program has become an invaluable part of our Chinese language program.



The six-week in-country immersion program for Year 9 students is also designed to prepare them to live and work as citizens and future leaders in an inter-connected global community.

Mark Murphy, Principal stated, "This unique program has allowed many of our students to further develop their knowledge and

experience with Chinese language, people, history and culture." The College has seen a clear increase in students studying Chinese (Mandarin) at the College and a growth in their language proficiency as a direct result of our involvement in the VYLC program. The fifteen boys will be accompanied by three staff members.

DON'T KEEP HISTORY A MYSTERY

On Tuesday 22 May the Marcellin College community gathered to prepare for National Reconciliation Week, which officially ran from 27 May to 3 June. The

assembly was an opportunity for Carnie, Lavalla and Mannes Houses to promote this year's National Reconciliation Week theme: *Don't Keep History a Mystery*.

The National Reconciliation week is an initiative which promotes awareness of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures and histories, to share that



knowledge and help us grow as a nation. National Reconciliation Week is a time for all Australians to learn about our shared history, cultures, and achievements, and to explore how each of us can contribute to achieving reconciliation in Australia.

National Reconciliation Week directly relates to the current social justice issue, Indigenous disadvantage shared by Carnie, Lavalla and Mannes Houses who have been working to promote the cause and have developed a range of initiatives.

Throughout the week the three Houses shared prayers, images and social media messages within our community. The House Captains sold specially designed wristbands as a symbol of our desire to show solidarity with people of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander and their rich culture and history.

At the assembly the College's Deputy Principal, Adriano Di Prato addressed the community, "True reconciliation must live in the hearts, minds and actions of all Australians as we move forward to learn and celebrate Indigenous history, culture and achievements."

Year 12 student Vincent Torcasio worked with the Wurundjeri Tribe Land and Compensation Cultural Heritage Council to design and produce special playing tops for this week's round of AGSV and VSRU sport. The playing kits feature a motif of Bunjil the Wurundjeri spirit creator and the Yarra River passing through Bulleen, a site of great significance to local Aboriginal culture, especially with its proximity to the important gathering place of the Bolin Bolin Billabong. Additionally possum skin motifs feature in the maroon sections of the playing tops and draw reference from William Barak's famous artwork "Figures in possum-skin cloaks".

Deputy Principal Adriano added, "When each boy runs out on the playing field or track this weekend I wish for them to remember that you are not only representing our College in your chosen sport, but something far greater and more significant, the important voices of those past and present first peoples, the traditional custodians on which this school stands."

MARCELLIN STUDENT TO SCALE INTERNATIONAL HEIGHTS



Stephen wearing his Australia team blazer.

Marcellin College, Bulleen Year 11 VCE student Stephen Catsamas has been selected to represent Australia at the UNESCO-sanctioned International Science Olympiads in July. Stephen with sixteen other teenage Australians will compete in the world's toughest science competitions against some of the smartest kids in the world.

Stephen has outperformed thousands of older talented students in selection exams and training to represent Australia in physics. He recently received a bronze medal at the 2018 Asian Physics Olympiad in Hanoi, Vietnam (APHO). "At Marcellin we are very proud of Stephen's achievement. Stephen is a diligent student who has not only achieved at a very high level, he is also a fine young man who supports both his teachers and classmates in the science classrooms." Mark Murphy, Principal.

The Olympians received their Australian team blazers from the Assistant Minister for Science, Jobs and Innovation, Senator the Hon Zed Seselja, at an official team announcement ceremony at Parliament House in Canberra, on Monday 18 June.

The Year 10, 11 and 12 students picked to compete this year represent 11

schools from NSW, VIC, and the ACT with Marcellin College one of the Victorian schools. They have spent a year in exams and intensive training to make the cut. They outperformed more than 6,000 other students from more than 280 schools in the qualifying exams, making a shortlist of 91 to attend a two-week summer school at the Australian National University in preparation for the Olympiads.

Stephen will test his skills against the world's best in Portugal in the International Physics Olympiad competition from 21 July to 29 July. Stephen Catsamas stated "It is an honour to represent by country. [And] whilst it is a Physics competition, I am excited about the people I will meet to add to the experience. However, I cannot believe that I have been given this unique opportunity."

The Australian Science Olympiads program is run by non-profit Australian Science Innovations and funded through the Australian Government's National Innovation and Science Agenda, with support from the Australian National University.

Learn more about the Australian Science Olympiad Competition at: www.asi.edu.au

FROM THE ARCHIVES

A number of Marist schools are celebrating significant milestones this year. As reported in our April edition, both Marist College Bendigo and Assumption College Kilmore are celebrating 125 years of Marist presence and ministry. They were the first two Marist schools founded outside of the then Sydney Archdiocese.

The photographs on these pages of the “early days” tell us something of the story of both the North Shore and Canberra schools.

Marist College North Shore celebrates 130 years this year. The school opened on 2nd July 1880 with Brother Walter Moore as the first Principal. Since those early days the college has undergone many transformations, and now has in excess of 850 students.

Right: Third Grade at North shore in 1923.



Left: First Marist Brothers enrolment at North Sydney in 1880. The original staff are included in the photograph: Brothers Wilfred, Walter and Michael.

Below left: Part of the original St Mary's Boys School at North Sydney.

Below right: North Sydney Brothers House 1888-1923. It then became part of the Parish Primary School.



Marist College Canberra celebrates 50 years on its current site (having its early history prior to 1968 at St Mary's Cathedral in Sydney and the Marist High School in Darlinghurst). One of the first Headmasters in the early Sydney years was the famous Brother Augustine McDonald, one of the original four Brothers to come to Australia in 1872.



Marist High School Darlinghurst in 1910 – both St Mary's and the Darlinghurst sites are part of the Marist College Canberra connection.

St Mary's Cathedral School in Sydney: Fifth Class 1904.



Palmer Street Presbyterian Hall in Darlinghurst – the Brothers rented the hall from September 1910 to April 1911 when they had to vacate St Mary's and were waiting for the building in Darlinghurst to be completed. The photograph was taken in 1963. Note the VW parked in the street; and the fact that the Brothers were well into the ecumenical spirit of things in 1910, well before the Second Vatican Council!



The Official Blessing and Opening of Marist College Canberra in April 1968 by the Most Rev. T.V. Cahill, Archbishop of Canberra. Archbishop Cahill was educated by the Marist Brothers in Bendigo.



Further opening and blessing of Canberra buildings in April 1969.



Celebrating 50 Years, St Marcellin and book launch...

New Headmaster at the college, Matthew Hutchison at the Book Launch.

The Marist College Canberra community – students, parents, staff, ex-students and Marist Brothers gathered recently to celebrate the Feast of St Marcellin Champagnat, and to celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the commencement of Marist education in Canberra. The occasion also witnessed the launch of a book on the last ten years of the life of the college. The book titled “The Fifth Decade” was written by Garry McKeve, an English teacher at the college for 30 years.

The photographs that follow provide an insight into the celebrations.



Br Peter Carroll planning his next ministry?



Right: Marist Affiliate, Susanna Latukefu, with the Brothers for whom she was Housekeeper for over 20 years in Canberra. With her are: Brothers Lawrie McCane, Peter Carroll, Tony Shears and Gregory McDonald.



Left: Br Anthony Atkinson with Father Trenton Van Reesch, one of Anthony's ex-students from Canberra.



The College Eucharist to commence the celebrations

Darkness to Daylight

Staff and students at the end of their 411km overnight run

A dedicated group of seven Year 10 St Teresa's Catholic College students and three staff took on the challenge of raising awareness of Domestic Violence in the Darkness to Daylight overnight run. This annual event, held on Wednesday 23rd May, encompasses running a distance of 110km overnight (in a group or individually). Each year approximately 110 people die from domestic and family violence in Australia; each kilometre of the run represents a life lost.

As a group they smashed their 110km target, running 411km between them. Executive Director of Brisbane Catholic Education, Pam Betts, was full of praise for the entire team and impressed with the dedication and conduct of the students.

Layla Hutchinson, Alex Kinimaka, Caley Dwyer, Eliza Safe, Elise Sawatzki, Ocea Hopkins and Majayha Hamblin along with teachers Leigh Boggis, Jo Fellows and Business Manager Cathy Hunt had been in training for weeks for the event at local landmarks such as Doonella and Noosa National Park. It is wonderful to see young women participating in such an event



as they help raise local awareness of Domestic Violence. They arrived home on Thursday mid-morning extremely tired and sore and ready to sleep the rest of the day away. As a College community, we couldn't be prouder of the efforts of these staff and students.

STCC Drama Seniors

Drama Champions!

After many weeks of creative workshopping, collaborating, hard work and commitment to their artform, the St Teresa's Catholic College Drama Ensembles have been publicly recognised for their outstanding work. The Middle School (7-10) and Senior (11-12) Drama ensembles participated in the Sunshine Coast Drama Festival – a major 3 week cross-region (Pine Rivers to Gympie) Drama education event. Primary and Secondary schools from all systems (Government, Catholic and Independent) shared their most creative, polished and sophisticated work, from student-devised to scripted classics, and realism to physical theatre.

The Seniors entered a work developed from their in-class exploration of a new black comedy 600 Ways by Queensland theatre-maker Dan Evans. This piece explores the future direction of a society being technologically and genetically redesigned ('cropped, edited, filtered and repeated') into new 'improved' forms. The large Years 7-10 Ensemble performed Act 1 of a challenging mid 20th Century Pulitzer Prize-winning play *Our Town*, celebrating the importance of the simple things in everyday life.

The Festival, sponsored by the University of the Sunshine Coast's Schools of Communication and Creative Industries provides a terrific educational experience for students and provides an opportunity to see the creative efforts of others. It was an honour to have both of St Teresa's Catholic College



ensembles selected to perform at the Grande Finale event at Caloundra Events Centre. At the end of the evening, with minor awards presented, the two major recognition awards were announced with St Teresa's taking out both awards. The Middle School ensemble took out the Award for Aspiring Actors. The best of Festival Award for Most Outstanding Performance was presented to the Senior Ensemble.

Congratulations to the standout Seniors: Kane Hart, Huw Pritchard, Moet Vella, Cooper Wells, Emily Potts and Sarah Evans, and the magnificent Years 7-10 ensemble members: Ava Baker, Jenna Garrahy, Hannah Grehan, Marshall Hamburger, Iyana Hillier, Fleur Hussein, Max Maben, Liam Marcinkus, Ruby McIlroy, Celina Middleton, Ava Moroney, Penny-Lane Primmer, Kate Scordalides, Harriet Smith, and Zak Crozier. This is an outstanding effort of all students and staff involved in creating and performing such high quality pieces of work.

Founders' Day: Ex-students honoured

The recent Founders' Day marked a significant moment in our history as the students from all three campuses came together to celebrate our origins in liturgy, acknowledge five outstanding former students and then march in solidarity in aid of our Marist communities in the Asia-Pacific region.

One of the themes of the liturgy included symbols of 'family spirit' across Sacred Heart as expressed by the students. This 'family spirit' was also captured by the choir which consisted of students across Years 6 to 12 from each campus.

Included in the ceremony was the latest inductees to the Hall of Honour. The College has always recognised the achievements of current students in various ways but until last year, there was no formal program for publically recognising the achievements of old scholars.

In true family spirit, we remain just as proud of the achievements of our old scholars, as we do of our current scholars.

Following the Liturgy, the 2,000 strong contingent of staff and students marched to Seacliff in solidarity with our global Marist community. Over \$10,000 was raised for Marist projects in Sri Lanka, India, Fiji and the Philippines where a group of Year 11 students and staff will visit later in the year as part of the Marist Immersion Experience. The funds raised will rebuild classrooms in Southern India and the Philippines, upgrade living and working facilities for Marist Brothers in Fiji and the Philippines, and assist trainee Brothers in Sri Lanka. Furthermore, we will provide countless amounts of stationary, books and other educational material for primary and secondary students across

Marist schools in these four countries.

This year's inductees in the Sacred Heart College Hall of Honour are:

Henrique d'Assumpcao

Henrique d'Assumpcao was a Sacred Heart student between 1949 and 1951. After graduating from the University of Adelaide with Honours, Henrique joined the Weapons Research Establishment of South Australia to work on radar and sonar. He was a co-inventor of the "Barra" sonobuoy anti-submarine system which generated some \$500M of work in Australian industry over 3 decades. He rose to become the Chief Defence Scientist of Australia and head of the Defence Science and Technology Organisation (DSTO) with 4,400 staff. In 1991 he was appointed professor at UniSA and later CEO of the Cooperative Research Centre for Sensor Signal and Information Processing. He served part-time on a number of international and ministerially appointed committees and as Chief Scientific Adviser to the Australian Customs Service.

In recognition of his services to science and technology he was appointed an Officer of the Order of Australia (AO) in 1992, and has received other national and professional awards and medals.





Vincent Gauci

Born in Broken Hill, Vincent Patrick Gauci attended Sacred Heart between 1960 and 1961. The thirteenth child of sixteen, he was awarded a sporting scholarship to attend the College and became Head Prefect in his final year.

After leaving school he spent two years as a lay teacher at the Marist Brothers College in Broken Hill. He then joined local mining operations in Broken Hill and graduated with Honours in Mining Engineering from the University of NSW in 1968.

Vincent built an outstanding career in the mining industry which culminated in his appointment as Managing Director and CEO of Mount Isa Mines Limited (MIM) one of Australia's and the world's great mining companies.

Following his retirement in 2003, he worked on a number of public company boards. He was awarded the Centenary Medal for Distinguished Contribution to the Mining Industry in 2003 and won the Legend of the Mining Industry Award in 2008. He continues to Chair Foundation Broken Hill – a philanthropic organisation whose charter is to support new businesses in the Silver City. In light of this significant work, Vincent was awarded the Broken Hill Citizen of the Year Award for 2015.

He was an outstanding sportsman and won a number of awards in the Broken Hill AFL competition being awarded two Middleton Medals. Vincent reflects the Marist characteristic of presence through his ongoing contribution to community life.

Fran Tonkiss

Fran Tonkiss attended Sacred Heart College between 1983 and 1985. After completing a Bachelor of Arts at the University of Adelaide, and a Masters degree from the University of Lancaster

in the UK, Fran acquired a PhD from the prestigious University of London in 1995. Fran is an internationally renowned

figure in urban and economic sociology, and is a Professor of Sociology at The London School of Economics and Political Science.

Her research interests include urban inequalities, spatial divisions and public space, cities and social theory, urban development and design. Fran has written many publications in these fields in recent years. She is the co-author of *Market Society: Markets and Modern Social Theory* (Polity, 2001, with Don Slater), and co-editor of *Trust and Civil Society* (Macmillan, 2000, with Andrew Passey).

Currently, Fran is the managing editor of the *International Journal of Economy and Society*; and was previously an editor of the *British Journal of Sociology*.

Kathryn Turner

Graduating from the Sturt College of Advanced Education (now Flinders University) as a Registered Nurse, Kathryn commenced her profession at the Flinders Medical Centre.

Her career has included various Executive roles within the Central Adelaide Local Health Network, and being a Director at the Royal Adelaide Hospital and St Vincent's Hospital in Sydney. She is a Fellow of the Governors Leadership Program "Leadership Institute of South Australia".

Kathryn successfully completed her PhD thesis in clinical nursing at the University of Adelaide in 2003.

She is both an Adjunct Associate Professor with Flinders University and Clinical Associate Professor for The University of Adelaide.

She was a voluntary member of St John Ambulance Australia for 30 years and an

Officer of the Order of St John. Kathryn is the immediate past Chair of the Board of Directors for Variety SA - the Children's Charity, and is a Board Director for Variety Australia. Kathryn provided medical support to the first Variety Bash in 1989 and between her and her husband Chris, they have completed 25 Variety Bashes.

Shaun Micallef

(inducted in 2017, presented in 2018)

Shaun Micallef attended Sacred Heart College from 1972-1979 and is an Australian comedian, writer, producer, actor and TV presenter. He graduated from the University of Adelaide with a Law Degree in 1983, and worked as a solicitor and barrister for a decade. In 1994, he moved to Melbourne to pursue a full-time career in comedy.

Shaun has won many awards in his time including Logies for Most Outstanding Comedy in 1989, 2000 and 2016. In 2010 he was recognised in the categories of Most Outstanding Light Entertainment, Most Popular Presenter and Most Popular Entertainer. He also received an ARIA award for Best Comedy Release in 2008.

Shaun has always been generous with his time when it comes to all things Sacred Heart and demonstrates to us the importance of pursuing our passion in life.

Written by Steve Byrne and James Gill

MARIAN LECTURE 2018

The 2018 Marian Lecture, *A New Generation of Church*, was held at the Australian Catholic University in Sydney on 29th May and in Melbourne on 31st May. The lecture is a highlight annual event for the Australia-wide Marist Association of St Marcellin Champagnat, and is open to all. It offers an inclusive and dynamic point of encounter and dialogue with prophetic voices in the modern Church to explore what living as an authentic disciple of Christ, in the way of Mary, means in the 21st century. For the first time, the Melbourne lecture was also streamed live online around Australia.

The lecture was moderated in Sydney by Professor Br David Hall, Dean of the La Salle Academy at ACU, and in Melbourne by Marcelle Mogg, Group Director from St John of God Health Care. Speakers Bishop Vincent Long Van Nguyen OFM Conv, Bishop of the Diocese of Parramatta, Dr Bernadette Tobin, Director of the Plunkett Centre for Ethics at ACU, and Professor Greg Craven, Vice-Chancellor and President of ACU, captivated the diverse audience in their presentations on a Marian 'style' of evangelisation.

Each presenter focussed on the practical application of the interplay of justice and tenderness in their specific area of ministry in the complex landscape of the new century, especially as applied to the Australian context.



L to R: Br Peter Carroll – Provincial and Leader of the Marist Association of St Marcellin Champagnat; His Excellency Bishop Vincent Long, Diocese of Parramatta; Dr Bernadette Tobin, Director of the Plunkett Centre for Ethics; Professor Greg Craven, Vice-Chancellor of the Australian Catholic University

Bishop Long invoked the rich imagery of Pope Francis in envisaging a Church that is like a field hospital after battle, with the ability to heal wounds and warm hearts through compassionate accompaniment in close proximity to those in need. He called for the Church as a whole to reject the trappings of power and privilege and to engage simply and directly with the poor at the grassroots. Bishop Long called all leaders in the Australian Church to come home to the heart of the Gospel in the humble and contrite way of the *Prodigal Son*. He invited all to this ongoing spiritual conversion of mind and heart through the transformation of *metanoia*.

Dr Tobin called for those in health care to make their care of the sick an expression of God's loving care for all, especially in vital and often challenging end of life care. Professor Craven reminded all that Christians will ultimately be judged by their fruits, and that words must be matched with authentic and loving actions. He linked this especially to the compassionate treatment of LGBTI persons in the Church, as modelled by Pope Francis, and with the way Christians speak to and about each other.

Fiona Dyball, Mission and Life Formation Team, Marist Association of St Marcellin Champagnat



L to R: Cassie Wilmot, Br Dennis Cooper FMS, Daniel Nguyen



L to R: Kathleen McGrath, Mary Ivancic, Liza Adams

REMAR

Red Caravel Day

Year 10 Red Rowers from around Australia have been gathering to participate in their Red Caravel Days. The Rowers were involved in team building activities, allowing them to form a strong sense of community with their fellow Rowers. The Remar Ministry Team (RMT) challenged the Rowers to develop and shape their understanding of servant leadership. Social justice activities exposed the Rowers to the state of our world and inspired them to take action through their own ministry and service.

Blue Retreat

Five successful Blue Retreats have been conducted around Australia. This was an opportunity for our Year 11 Blue Rowers



*Remar Blue Retreat
in Brisbane*

to encounter God and explore their spirituality, allowing these students to discover different forms of prayer, regardless of where they were on their journey of faith. Through engaging activities aimed at building team work and leadership, the Blue Rowers were provided with a space where they could ask the questions necessary to explore

their sense of individuality and identity. The RMT gave insight into the life of St Marcellin Champagnat and our Marist legacy. The Rowers discussed and enriched their understanding of what it is to be a Marist and what it means to be a disciple of Christ today.

Edwin Bakker
National Remar Coordinator

Marist Youth Ministry Queensland

This term has seen Marist Youth Ministry host a Connect Night for Marist Schools in Brisbane as well as conduct school visits to Mt Maria College Petrie, Trinity College Beenleigh, St Peter Claver College Riverview, Carmel College Thornlands, St Augustine's College Cairns and Chanel College Gladstone. These visits have included Year 12 Retreats; Feast Day celebrations; meetings with student leadership groups and Immersion preparation meetings.

Something that struck me in my visits is how vastly different each of our school

communities is. In saying this, the beautiful character that is notably strong in each school I spent time in was the Marist welcome I was given. I was made to feel like I was part of the family whether I was visiting for an hour, a day or a week!

A real highlight for me was working with students from St Augustine's College in Cairns who are preparing for their immersion to Thailand. Hearing their reasons for wanting to go on immersion and their desire to push themselves out of their comfort zones was truly inspiring. One of the young men also said to me

that he wanted to understand a little more about how and why some of the communities that are seemingly so poor are so rich in joy. I am looking forward to meeting with this immersion group later in the year to hear about their experiences and their reflections!

So, to all the communities that showed me such great welcome and shared with me the significant work that is happening in their schools, as a part of Marcellin's legacy, I say a very humble and grateful thank you.

Caitlin Humphrys
MYM Queensland



Carmel College Thornlands



Brisbane Connect Night

Marist Youth Ministry

Southern

The MYM Team hit the road during the month of May and conducted three consecutive Marist Connect Nights with Year 11 and 12 students in Marist Schools. These were held across the three regions of Northern Victoria (hosted by Marist College Bendigo), Central Victoria (hosted by Marcellin College Bulleen) and Gippsland (hosted by Marist Sion College Warragul).

Using the 2018 theme of *Hope and a Future*, the students broke open the meaning of Christian Hope and explored stories of hope from various service and charity agencies. They completed the evening reflecting on their own sources of hope from their school before finishing with a prayer. The Connect evenings are great ways of linking schools across Victoria and strengthening their Marist identity. Thanks to the Principals and Staff from our schools for supporting these events. We look forward to touching base with student leaders during school visits in Term Three.

Similarly, in Adelaide, our MYM Connect Nights between Sacred Heart College and Cardijn Colleges continue to build Marist spirit and strengthen our shared identity among the senior students as we explore topics related to faith and life.

Br Greg McDonald
MYM Southern

Marist Youth Ministry: New South Wales and Australian Capital Territory

Year 11 Justice Forum

In the first weekend of June, 25 students and staff from 8 Marist schools in Sydney and Canberra gathered at The Hermitage in Mittagong to look at local and global social justice issues. They got a small taste of what it is like living in a slum through

a simulation game which highlights the desperate situations that the poor experience in developing countries. The students also explored the themes of mental illness, bullying and respect for peers in the Open Forum, as well as attended workshops on Human Trafficking, Fair Trade and anti-bullying. Each school prepared ideas to raise awareness of these problems back in their own school. Fun times were also had on the Saturday night where everyone participated in our own Marist 'Eurovision' contest.

Northern Connect 1



Cardijn Sacred Heart Connect



*SPMC Dundas
Champagnat Day*



Gippsland Connect



Yr 11 Forum Group

Year 12 Vocation Forum

Plenty of fun and new friendships have been made at the Year 12 Marist Vocations Weekend Forum held at The Hermitage, Mittagong in early May. The Vocations Forum provides students with a chance to take time out of their studies to discern their future. Highlights included the Vocations panel, and the chance for some reflective space on our

personal vocation and calling on the Sunday morning.

Champagnat Day Celebrations

The Sydney MYM Team celebrated our Champagnat Day with three wonderful schools. Starting with Mass and a morning tea at Trinity Catholic College, Auburn, followed by a Mass and lunch with St Patrick's Marist College Dundas on

Wednesday, 6 June. On Friday, 8 June, the team ran a photo booth and Jenga competition with the students at Mount Carmel Catholic College, Varroville. It was great to catch up with students and staff we see at our Marist Connects evenings and Student Leaders Gathering.

Jenifer Miller
MYM Sydney Regional Coordinator

MARIST COLLEGE BENDIGO

Celebrating 125 Years in Bendigo

In the April edition of *Lavalla*, we reported that the Marist Brothers were celebrating 125 years of presence and

ministry in Bendigo. The photos below capture something of the weekend long celebration – the Dinner and the

Blessing of the new cedar sculpture of St Marcellin Champagnat at the new Marist College campus.



Old Scholar, Father Peter Taylor with Br Mark Needham



Principal Darren McGregor with Gerry Pocock



Anna and Des Tuck at the celebratory dinner.

Right: At the blessing of the statue of St Marcellin Champagnat: Famous Old Scholars – a lot younger than Marcellin!

Left: Br Peter Carroll and Paul Desmond (Director of the CEO Sandhurst) look at memorabilia



Bishop Les Tomlinson blessing the new statue of St Marcellin Champagnat.

The Marist Solidarity Cambodia Community Village

Australian Marist Solidarity (AMS) works in partnership with Marist Solidarity Cambodia (MSC) to improve education outcomes for disadvantaged young people in Cambodia.

Marist Solidarity Cambodia (MSC), an international development NGO in Cambodia which governs the LaValla School, Villa Maria boarding house and soon the new Community Village. The Marist Community Village is now under construction with the workers on a tight schedule to beat the wet season, but they have the basic structures of three houses completed and foundations are being laid for two more. In all there will be 8 student houses for those attending the local Government High School after leaving LaValla Primary School. There will be also two staff houses and there will be communal areas for kitchen, dining, computers and library.

The standout feature of the houses constructed to date is the beautiful local tiles on a high roofing all designed to give maximum natural ventilation and long-lasting protection. The local site manager and MSC accountant, Pagna, remarked that "the high quality of the building materials and finish is a credit to the building company".

One feature of the site already functioning is the small scale agricultural training programme. There are three



The MSC Community Village from the Marist Brothers House

trainees at present learning from their trainers Pia and Lino, about care of chickens and ducks plus growing of chilli as a commercial crop and their plentiful banana crop which has just been harvested. Determined to get underway, the trainers have regular instruction in a section of the chicken coup until a purpose built agricultural centre is built in one of the final stages of the project this year.

The Marist Village gives another more definite pathway for those children in the provinces in Cambodia who are not allowed to access local schools because

of their physical disabilities. Many are young adults by the time they reach secondary school age and relish the independent living in shared houses. The support of AMS donors has been very significant in the finance plan of this project.

The continuing generosity of the Marist Schools Australia community provides vital funds towards the ongoing expenses of the Marist Brothers' Lavalla Primary School and the Inclusive Education Program.

To donate to the LaValla School in Cambodia or to find out more go to the project page on our website: www.australianmaristsolidarity.net.au/project/lavalla-school or contact AMS Cambodia Projects' Coordinator, Mr Ashley Bulgarelli, by email Ashley.Bulgarelli@marists.org.au or phone (07) 3354 0600.



Brother Terry Heinrich who is a Joey's Old Boy is inspecting the work on site

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Marist Novices in Central Australia

The tropical weather of Sri Lanka was exchanged for a cold desert winter, when Brothers Benjamin Corbafo, Gabryel Hornai, Jacinto Khletho and Melquiano Obe arrived in Central Australia. The Brothers, currently studying in the Marist Brothers International Novitiate in Tudella, Sri Lanka, have returned to Australia for three months for an apostolic and community experience in our two Marist communities in Central Australia, in Santa Teresa and Alice Springs.

In Alice Springs, Brothers Benjamin and Gabryel have brought much warmth with their *joie de vie*, enthusiasm, participation and humour. Spending time in Our Lady of the Sacred Heart (OLSH) Catholic College, the Brothers have been provided the opportunity to experience the educational journeys of students in Central Australia.

In the first weeks, Brothers Benjamin and Gabryel immersed themselves in the rhythms of life in the primary educational years, visiting Transition to Year 4 classes at the Bath Street Campus of OLSH Catholic College. They also entertained and informed many students through their gift of music, including a rendition of "Sub Tuum" and the beautiful Taize song, "Jesus, Remember Me." They also judged with interesting outcomes at the Junior Athletics Carnival, enjoying the warmth of an Alice Springs winter's day. The Brothers have also had the opportunity to explore the Traeger campus, with years 5 to 8. Exploring



religion, mathematics and other subjects, the Brothers got a taste of life in a middle school.

At the Sadadeen campus, the Brothers participated in elements of the Remar program. Their involvement at the Red Caravel Day and Blue Retreat, hosted by the Remar Ministry Team, added spiritual zeal and depth to the experience of the students and staff. In addition, they also cooked up a storm in the Hospitality and Food Technologies classes, learning and eating Australian cuisine and delicious desserts. Enjoying the energy and enthusiasm of PE classes, students were shown the flair of real soccer fans. Finally, they joined staff and students from the senior campus for the OLSH Bread Run, which delivers bread to our most marginalised Indigenous Brothers and sisters.

Life in community has been enhanced with the spirit and personalities of

Benjamin and Gabryel, sharing stories of life in Timor Leste and Sri Lanka. Prayers have been enriched with music and reflections from the richness of their lives and stories. Waistlines continue to expand under the culinary expertise of the Brothers. Rice is in ample supply, as meals are prepared and efforts made at cooking, all with a Timorese flavour. Often spotted through Alice Springs on their bikes, Gabryel and Benjamin have navigated and mapped the town on their many cycling journeys to school and other places.

One of the great events of Central Australian calendar is the Finke Desert race, and this year, it did not disappoint. Travelling down to Double Tanks, an area seventy kilometres from the Start/Finish line, the Brothers of both communities came together, with others from Santa Teresa and Alice Springs, for a BBQ lunch, as we watched the numerous cars, buggies, quad-bikes, utes and motorcycles tear up the dust of one of Australia's great desert races. Covered in dust and filled with memories, life in the heart of Australia is certainly a unique and precious experience.

Overall, the Brothers have loved Alice Springs and have made a significantly positive impact on the lives of students and staff. They will be missed when they return to Sri Lanka in August.

Br James Hodge FMS
Alice Springs



Brother Noel Hickey – 75 years a Marist Brother

Noel was born in 1925 at Fimiston on the Lake View Lease in the goldfields of WA, now disappeared into the Super Pit. The family moved to Perth soon after his birth and finally settled in McKenzie St, Wembley, in 1929.

The seeds of Noel's Marist vocation were nurtured during his five years as a boarder at St Ildephonsus' College, New Norcia where he had received the Lord Abbot Scholarship. He excelled as a student and sportsman. His under 16 880-yard WA record was set at the inaugural State Schoolboys' Athletic Carnival of 1940 and lasted for some years.

In January 1942, Noel took a 5 day train trip from Perth to Sydney. He received the Marist Brothers' religious habit 75 years ago at Mittagong in NSW. Australia was at war and Noel had already signed the papers for conscription. In July 1944 at Parramatta Marist, he began his long and distinguished teaching career, mainly teaching senior students, and including time as a school principal.

Noel gained most of his qualifications the hard way while in full time ministry. His B.A. from the University of Western

Australia included the Lady Hackett-Moulden prize of 3 guineas for Latin I.

Then in 1983 he began a very fruitful period of his life for the next 18 years in PNG and the Solomon Islands as a teacher and later as the District Secretary and Bursar. Finally, in 2002 Noel returned home to Churchlands, but not to retire.

Noel's interests are very eclectic. He faithfully completes the crossword in *The Australian* each day and he works on the Jumble Word in *The West Australian* each morning, not being content until he has discovered a large number of words including the often-obscure nine-letter word.

Until a little over a year ago, he could still be found riding his bicycle over large distances around the local area, but now, in acknowledgement of his 93 years, Noel has graduated to using a gopher. He is still working each Tuesday with the students in the Newman College Education Support. For 10 years he spent two hours each week visiting patients in the Head Trauma Unit at Shenton Park. He is a faithful supporter of religious and cultural events at Newman College and has a keen interest in classical music.

Noel is a very faithful recorder of events for our archives, which are an excellent record for future historians. He has also used his computer skills to record the lives of family members.

His first task each morning is to check the obituaries in *The West Australian* for the names of relations, friends and ex-students of New Norcia.

He has a great love for his family members and friends that is reciprocated. Now in his 94th year, Noel is moving a little more slowly with the aid of a walking stick or a walker for longer distances, and athletics records of his teenage years are a distant memory. Br Sean Sammon, the former superior general of the Marist Brothers, wrote of Saint Marcellin Champagnat, founder of the Marist Brothers: "Suffering tempered him, setbacks strengthened him, determination drove him, and grace helped him move beyond his circumstances. He was an apostle to youth and an example of a very practical Christianity." I believe we can also apply these words to Brother Noel Columban Hickey – 75 years a Marist Brother.

Br John Horgan



John Finneran (Principal), Br John Furlong, Br Terry Orrell, Archbishop Hickey, Br Noel Hickey, Archbishop Costello, Br John Horgan and Dan Lynch (Deputy Principal).



MARIST COLLEGE NORTH SHORE

North Sydney in 1888 was a very different place from today; it was a very poor community, with a workforce made up of workers, labourers and tradesmen, building up this side of the harbour.

Four years before, Father Kelly, a Jesuit priest recognised a need and invited the Marist Brothers to open a school, only the fourth school opened by the Marists in Australia.

On 2 July 1888 the school was opened with three Marist Brothers at the helm. From the outset, the school grew with the care of the Marist Brothers and by the end of 1888 there were over 100 students.

The Marist charism was ever present and the value of family spirit and their relationship with Jesus and his good Mother were reflected in everyday life. Marist College North Shore has had the honour of handing down these traditions and values from one generation to the next and will continue to do so.

The College today is dedicated to delivering a high quality, comprehensive and sustainable 21st century education within a caring, inclusive environment, reflecting the vision of Marcellin Champagnat that no child will go without. Our staff is dedicated to ongoing professional development to ensure the learning needs of all students are met.

Marist College North Shore is undergoing exciting times as we see the introduction of girls in 2021 and the expansion of our College community.



CELEBRATING 130 YEARS IN THE MARIST TRADITION

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www.maristcollege.com

Archdiocese of Adelaide

Cardijn College, Noarlunga
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

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

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