



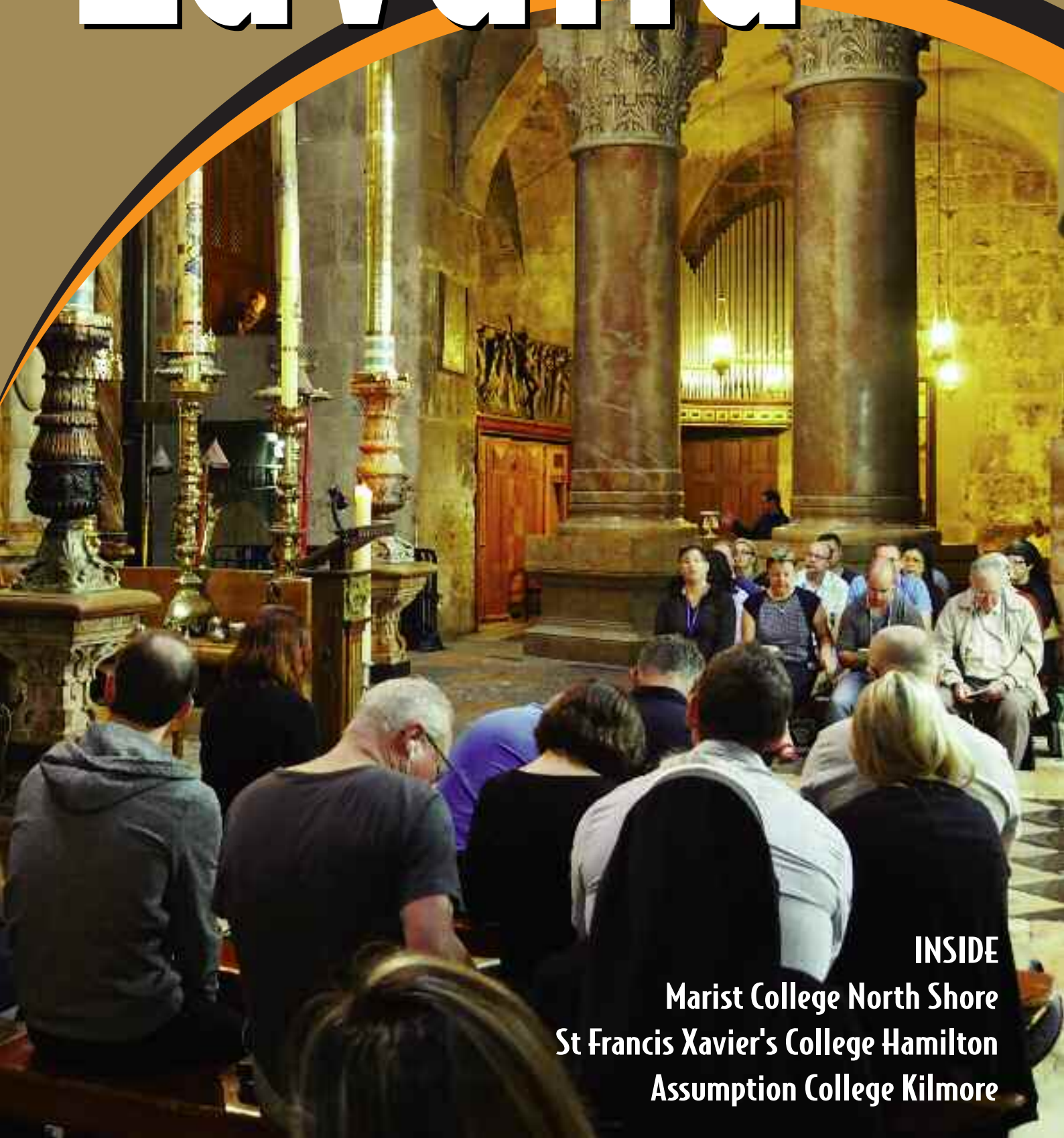
MARIST SCHOOLS AUSTRALIA  
Catholic education in the tradition of St Marcellin Champagnat

The staff journal of  
Marist Schools Australia

Volume 22  
Number 2

July 2016

# Lavalla



**INSIDE**  
Marist College North Shore  
St Francis Xavier's College Hamilton  
Assumption College Kilmore

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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:** Participants on the recent Australian Marist Pilgrimage praying at the Church of the Holy Sepulchre in Jerusalem- the site where Jesus was crucified and placed in the tomb prior to the Resurrection. The pilgrimage was to the Holy Land, Rome, and the Hermitage in France.



## CORRECTION

In the April 2016 edition on Page 14 the table at the bottom of the page has a heading: "Is there something more?" Please disregard the first word that is repeated five times in the dot points that follow this question. Our apologies to Sacred Heart College for this error.

**The Editor**

# Editorial



Dear Brothers, colleagues and friends

"Is there a teacher on board?"

Did you catch the story on social media a couple of months ago about the special needs teacher who responded to an announcement on a Jetstar flight between Sydney and Melbourne?

It was late at night on the packed discount flight. The plane was in a holding pattern. Tempers were fraying. Fuel was low. The pilots couldn't proceed with a landing because a 14-year old boy with Down syndrome was refusing to take his seat. He was sick and afraid and resistant to all entreaties to move.

Sophie Murphy later recalled how proud she was to be able to help, although all she did was what she did every day of her life as a teacher: she set about forming a relationship with the lad, communicating with him, winning his trust, and leading him to feel safe and confident.

First, she lay down on the floor of the aircraft, because that is where the boy was. "I needed to introduce myself, find out his name, connect, let him speak, listen, and not panic him or be punitive," Sophie later said. "I knew I needed to lock onto his eyes and show empathy. I learnt his favourite books, not as an ice-breaker or an introduction, but to construct a real relationship, however brief."

She found out his name was Shamran, that he came from New Zealand, and that he liked Winnie the Pooh. So they talked about Piglet and Eeyore, and then they shifted to SpongeBob SquarePants. She held his hand, then held the sick-bags while he vomited, and gently cleaned his face with wipes. "It's okay", she told him. "I'm your friend. We're okay. We're going to do this together."

I don't know Sophie Murphy, but I feel confident she would be at home in any Marist school she might be attracted to join. She would value being among colleagues with the same dispositions as hers: a readiness to enter the world of the young, to inhabit their space; an ability to speak their language; a belief in their goodness and the possibilities of their growth. Once again, this issue of *Lavalla* is replete with evidence of Marist educators who do just that, day-in and day out. It's what teachers do.

They would agree with Sophie that, "Teachers know that the relationships they develop with their students are the most important foundation for learning. Connecting, knowing their name, showing you care, believing in them, being mindful and smiling are not just good behaviours to display; they are integral."

Thankfully, we have plenty of teachers on board.

*Nisi Dominus*

**Brother Michael Green FMS**  
**National Director**



## MARIST YOUTH CARE

# Celebrating Refugee Week

Recently we celebrated Refugee week with staff hosting the screening of Freedom Stories and reflecting on the experiences of people whose lives have been dogged by war, conflict and persecution.

Marist Youth Care's *Settlement Support Services (SSS)* led by Claire Bloor, the Executive Manager, recently introduced Mustafa Karimi, one of her staff members who was a refugee. Mustafa currently works in the SSS program in Canberra. Mustafa, a Shiite Muslim, fled his homeland on the Afghanistan-Pakistan border, to escape the Taliban atrocities. He spent some time in the North-West region of Pakistan where the ongoing unrest and relentless horrors of the Taliban and al Qaeda forced him to take huge risks to escape to Australia – on

foot initially through Thailand, Malaysia, and Indonesia, eventually being picked up in a refugee boat with many others by the Australian Royal Navy.

After significant time on Christmas Island and in Darwin, Mustafa obtained permanent residency and completed Year 12 at Dickson College in Canberra. In June 2016 Mustafa became an Australian Citizen.

Congratulations Mustafa and Welcome to the Marist network.



Mustafa Karimi



Claire Bloor

## THE NATIONAL MARIST BUSINESS MANAGERS CONFERENCE

# Hermitage in Mittagong

The National Marist Business Managers gathered at The Hermitage in Mittagong from 1– 4 June for the biennial conference. The theme for this year was 'Mission: Our Pledge – a New Beginning' with a focus on international Marist community and the Fourvière Anniversary. Over 37 Business

Managers attended the conference from Perth in the west to Port Moresby in the north.

The key note speaker for our conference Br Libardo Garzón, the Econome General (Marist Institute Rome) spoke on the International Mission for the Marist Brothers. Professor Br David Hall provided a thought

provoking presentation on Discerning and Deciding: becoming more God-conscious decision makers.

Our Provincial Br Peter Carroll provided greater insight into the wider Marist Community and the Marist Association of St Marcellin Champagnat. This then flowed into Joe McCarthy's fire side chat where Joe expanded the conversation on the Marist Association of St Marcellin Champagnat.

Dr Craig Hassed, Associate Professor at Monash University returned to speak to the group on Mindfulness – Life's most important skill.

Mr Damien Millar, the Headmaster of St Gregory's College Campbelltown provided the group with a tour of the college which gave the group some insight into this boarding college in South West Sydney which continues to have a country feel.



# Marist schools embrace solidarity through

Marist Solidarity is pleased to offer its support to Marist Schools Australia to prepare students for upcoming solidarity immersion experiences.



In recent months, Marist Solidarity Volunteers' Coordinator, Brother Mark Fordyce, has been meeting with young people from Marist school communities in New South Wales and Victoria to help

them prepare for their school solidarity immersion experiences and Marist Volunteers Australia (MVA) placements.

In the first week of June, Brother Mark spent the weekend with eight students and two staff members from Mount Carmel Catholic College (MCCC) Varroville at Gerroa in NSW, helping them prepare for their 12-day pilgrimage to the Marist Centre for Migrants at Samut Sakhon in Thailand. This is the first group from MCCC to go on a solidarity immersion to Thailand, where they have spent their mid-year semester break working with Burmese refugees.

The preparation weekend gave staff and

students the opportunity to develop a deeper understanding of the impact their immersion brings, especially in terms of building stronger relationships between the Marist Brothers' community in Thailand and the Marists' network in Australia.

Brother Mark has also been involved in helping former Marist College Canberra students, Patrick McCulloch and Hugo Webster, prepare for their two-month volunteer placements.

On June 9, as part of their preparation, Patrick and Hugo travelled from Canberra to Mittagong to join Brother Mark and the Brothers' community for an evening meal. The following day, they worked with



*Staff and students from Mount Carmel Catholic College Varroville, Campbelltown in NSW prepare for their solidarity immersion to Samut Sakhon during the June-July holidays.*

# volunteering and immersions

Brother Mark to make final preparations for their departure on June 16.

Patrick is currently a guest of the Marist Brothers' community at the Lavalla School in Cambodia and Hugo is working in Vietnam to support the Marist Brothers' work at the Training and Rehabilitation Centre for the Blind in Hanoi.

Also volunteering in Vietnam is Mr Peter Pichler from Newcastle in NSW, who is currently undertaking his third two-month volunteer placement at TRCB in Hanoi.

Marist Solidarity maintains regular contact with in-country volunteers and is pleased to report that all three volunteers have arrived safely in their host communities and are eagerly undertaking their ministry tasks.

Preparation programs are an important aspect of the MVA experience. They focus

on understanding in-country cultural sensitivities and traditions, community living, ministry strategies, Marist spirituality, and a commissioning ceremony.

A recent audit of MSA solidarity immersions being undertaken across the 51 network schools shows that 32 schools currently offer immersion experiences to their students. This year, 155 staff and 617 students will be involved in immersion experiences, visiting both Marist and non-Marist host communities.

Four of these host communities are: Santa Teresa in Alice Springs, the Lavalla School in Cambodia, Saint Joseph's Primary School in Murgon, and the Brothers' community in Timor-Leste will host 23 Marist schools and a number of non-Marist school communities over the course of this year.

To find out more about the Marist Solidarity volunteer and immersion program visit [www.maristvolunteersaustralia.com](http://www.maristvolunteersaustralia.com) or email [mva@marists.org.au](mailto:mva@marists.org.au).

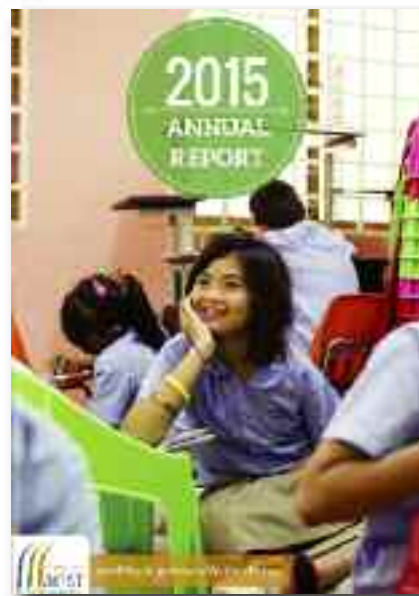
## Marist Solidarity releases latest Annual Report

Marist Solidarity has recently released its latest 2015 Annual Report.

It outlines the work of the Marist international aid agency to offer young people living in disadvantaged communities in Asia and the Pacific better access to education and job training.

The report includes a comprehensive financial summary of activity undertaken by the three entities working under the auspices of Marist Solidarity, including Australian Marist Solidarity (AMS)—the registered charity focussing on overseas development; Marist Asia Pacific Solidarity (MAPS), which supports Marist ministry, welfare, and faith formation in developing countries in our region; and Marist Volunteers Australia.

Copies of our annual report can be downloaded via our website: [australianmaristsolidarity.net.au](http://australianmaristsolidarity.net.au) or



alternatively email [msol@marists.org.au](mailto:msol@marists.org.au) to request a printed or digital copy.

To connect to our network of supporters that make education possible in Asia and the Pacific please contact the Marist Solidarity Team in Brisbane on (07) 3354 0600.





REMAR

# Creating places and spaces to share in our Marist Mission



**'We share our faith in many different ways: the witness of our lives, our prayers and rituals, the choices we make, and prophetic stands that we take on behalf of the voiceless. We support and nurture each other by sharing our faith in conversations that help us to name together those things that are vital for our common life'. WFR, p51**

One of the privileges of my role as National Remar Coordinator is witnessing the growth of students who commit to being part of the Remar journey. The Blue Retreat very much creates a space where our students are able to share, pray, sing and are challenged to step up

to live in solidarity with others as Young Marists. The voices and reflections of the students after this retreat speak of going deeper in their understanding of God's love for them and in their relationships with others, of healing and gratitude and

of connection and action. These are Young Marists growing as people of justice, service and faith!

**Liz Wake**

National Remar Coordinator, Marist Youth Ministry Coordinator – Melbourne

**Q: Were your hopes met in attending the Blue Retreat? Why/why not?**

'They were. I was expecting "deep" sessions but in a more exciting and less intimidating way, which is exactly what I got. I was also really impressed with the incorporation of the stories from the Golds, V-Teamer's and MYM Team, and those were not what I was expecting on such a deep level.'

**Katherine, Yr 11 (Notre Dame, Shepparton)**

**Q: Were your hopes met in attending the Blue Retreat? Why/why not?**

'My hopes were exceeded by seeing my students really be 100% themselves, completely raw and not caring about what anyone else thought of them. This response was a very powerful thing to witness.'

**Tara, Helm (Notre Dame College, Shepparton)**

**Q: Were your hopes met in attending the Blue Retreat? Why/why not?**

'Yes! This was way more than expected, it helped me deepen my faith, take a step closer to finding my true relationship with God, I met some awesome people and just had great fun in general! The team and volunteers worked extremely hard to put this all together for us and we appreciate it so much!'

**Sian, Yr 11 (Sacred Heart College, Adelaide)**

**Q: What sessions did you most connect with and why?**

'The night ones are always really good, in particular Sat night. The atmosphere of the session always sets in a spiritual mood, and I got a chance to connect with God on a level I hadn't experienced before.'

**David, Yr 11 (Sacred Heart College, Adelaide)**

**Q: What sessions did you most connect with and why?**


'The praying session on the Friday night. I got the chance to be more involved with different types of prayers, and the emotional atmosphere where everyone was supporting everyone in front of the candles.'

**Cheng, Yr 11 (Trinity College, Beenleigh)**

**Q: What sessions did you most connect with and why?**

'The "healing session", it changed my view on how faith can be conveyed and felt'

**Danielle, Yr 11 (Marist Sion College, Warragul)**



**Q: What sessions did you most connect with and why?**

'The Sessions I connected with most and enjoyed the most were the ones on love and relationships, the one on The Image of God, and also the T-shirt one as they all allowed me to gain a better understanding and allowed me to explore my faith and relationships a lot deeper than I ever have before. It will definitely be a retreat that I will never forget.'

**Cait, Yr II (SFX, Beaconsfield)**

**Q: What sessions did you most connect with and why?**

'I liked the Saturday night prayer session the most as it was a very solemn experience and I just felt at peace during this session.'

**Mary, Yr II (SFX, Beaconsfield)**

**Q: How will you live out the motto 'Living as Christ's Disciples'?**

'To continue serving for others who need help and to walk the talk.'

**Olive, Yr. II (Lavalla Catholic College, Traralgon)**

**Q: How will you live out the motto 'Living as Christ's Disciples'?**

'I am going to live out what I have learnt about my relationship with God everyday by knowing the presence of his love in my life and sharing that with everyone. I am also going to live out the values of Remar, in particular the blue crossing, everyday instead of just on camps and at meetings.'

**Cara, Yr II (Sacred Heart College, Adelaide)**

**Q: How will you live out the motto 'Living as Christ's Disciples'?**

'I will live out the values of the Blue Crossing by being humble in all that I do and to walk instead of talk. I want to be truly conscious in everyday life in how my actions will affect other people and I will do everything I can to be a servant to others by telling them they are loved and appreciated.'

**Samuel, Yr II (Marcellin College Bulleen)**

**Q: How will you live out the motto 'Living as Christ's Disciples'?**

'Making righteous decisions in my everyday life and redeem my mistakes by taking the time to speak/connect with God more through prayer. Living my life dedicating everything to God through his qualities and giving back to society (ministry work) to become the 1% of the world that makes a difference.'

**Leo, Yr II (Trinity Catholic College, Auburn)**

**Q: How will you live out the motto 'Living as Christ's Disciples'?**

'I will go out into the local community and not just say I'll do something but actually do it, and to also ask myself 'What Would Jesus Do'.'

**Byron, Yr II (Trinity College, Beenleigh)**

**Q: How will you live out the motto 'Living as Christ's Disciples'?**

'I wanna be able to just reach out more, and when I do see someone who looks like they could use help, that I'm not hesitant about going up to them. I think a lot of people have trouble of approaching others to ask if they're okay, so if I can do that, that would be a big step for me, because it's a "challenge" for me, and to overcome that would be a massive "joy".'

**David, Yr II (Sacred Heart College, Adelaide)**

# MARIST FORMATION PROGRAMMES

## Footsteps 1 – Making Jesus Christ Known and Loved 1-4 May 2016



**Participants:** Alia White, Bec Jones, Ben Toohey, Cale Fisher, Catherine Mills, Chris Behan, Chris Haasz, Damian Hatton, Daniel Saaghy, Dave Riddington, David Campbell, David Watts, Deborah Muscat, Elissa Ferenc, Evelina Blanco, Gerard Galvin, Heather Lind, Jared Hornby, Jason Dam, Joanna Dalton, John Watkins, Josh Grinter, Justin Caruso, Kate Harris, Katie Bertram, Keira Favale, Laura Campagna, Loren Keir, Maree O'Donnell, Matt Webb, Megan Wright, Mel Blanco, Nicky Burgess, Pete Morris, Ryan Cullen, Sonja Brownridge, Therese Ledesma, Tracey Doublet

**Team:** Elizabeth Falconer (Coordinator), Ryan Gato, Br Hubert Williams, Br Greg McDonald, Janelle Doohan

## Footsteps 2 – Making Jesus Christ Known and Loved May 29- June 1



**Participants:** Steve Byrne & Bianca Pittman (Sacred Heart College Senior Adelaide), Brett Gillett & Julie Ward (Marist College Ashgrove), Luci Milanes & Maria Tipaldo (Trinity Catholic College Auburn/Regents Park), Louise Oliphant (Sacred Heart College Auckland), Josie Boffa & Laura Duncan (Marcellin College Bulleen), Shane McMenamin & Tania Bellerby (St. Augustine's College Cairns), Kieran Wakeling (John Therry Catholic High School Campbelltown), Rebecca Lawrence (St Patrick's Marist College), Romina Wills & Cara Angeloni (St. Joseph's College Hunters Hills), Dominic Wan (The John Berne School Lewisham), Bernard Burgess & Paul Venables (All Saints College St Peter's Campus Maitland), Jenny Anderson & Luisa Marinelli (Mt Maria College Mitchelton), Carl Tapp (CPC District of Pacific), Meegan Ford & Todd Massingham (St Teresa's Catholic College Noosaville), Terry Urquhart (Marist Catholic College Penshurst), Michael Connolly (Mt Maria College Petrie), Pete Bourke & Trish Kratochvil (Marcellin College Randwick), Jessica Bulger (John Therry Catholic High School Rosemeadow), John Cortese & Les Billings (Notre Dame College Shepparton), Wayne Marshall & Emily Davis (Mount Carmel Catholic College Varroville), Fiona MacRae & Jess Scarton (Marist-Sion College Warragul)

**Team:** Br Michael Akers (Coordinator), Br Bill Sullivan, Ryan Gato, Paul Harris, & Elizabeth Falconer.

## 375 NEW MARIST STAFF PARTICIPATE 'IN THE MARIST WAY – NEW STAFF INDUCTION' PROGRAMME

### In The Marist Way – Sydney Western Region – March 8

This year, in 20 locations across the country staff new to Marist Schools gathered to reflect on their experience of being a new member of a Marist school community, and to deepen their understanding of the Marist charism and spirituality. The programme allowed participants to grow in a spirit of co-responsibility and come to a greater appreciation of our Marist story and that of shared mission.



*Felicity Ryan, Clare Martin & Edward Morgan (St Joseph College, Hunters Hill), Tony Flint (Trinity Catholic College, Auburn) Jenny Westerbrink (St Patrick's Marist College, Dundas)*



### A SENSE OF SACREDNESS!

Footsteps participants gather around the labyrinth to pray amidst the elements and serene beauty of The Hermitage, Mittagong.

### OUR DAILY BREAD – ACTIVE FAITH FORMATORS

#### Our Daily Bread, St Joseph's College, Hunters Hill, June 10

One of the significant parts of the National Marist Formation Program for 2016 'Our Daily Bread' is the opportunity for staff to facilitate programme workshops. The workshops, which are designed to develop an understanding of the significance and nature of prayer, enable staff to be active faith formators in their own school communities. The Mission and Life Formation team work with these presenters, going through each of the sessions, whilst encouraging a personal connection with the content.



*Emma Fielding and John Watkins presenting "Art as Prayer".*



*Jo Rule, Nicole McLean, Rebecca Wong, Gabriella Di Lorenzo*

## MARIST CATHOLIC COLLEGE, PENSURST

# Blessing & Opening of the La Valla Centre and Administration Building

On Friday 13 May, Marist Catholic College Penshurst blessed the newly constructed La Valla Centre and Administration Building. Fr John Crothers Parish Priest St Declan's Penshurst and Our Lady of Fatima Peakhurst presided at the blessing with Fr Paul Smithers Parish Administrator Regina Coeli Beverly Hills. Dr Dan White Executive Director of Sydney Catholic Schools, Mrs Elizabeth O'Carrigan Eastern Region Director Sydney Catholic Schools and Dr Frank Malloy Sydney Regional Director Marist Schools Australia were present at the blessing as part of the official party. The College appreciates very much the support of both Sydney Catholic Schools and Marist Schools Australia in ensuring the development of our coeducational Catholic College. The La Valla Centre has already become a showcase for contemporary learning and was recently visited by Mr Chris Bowen, Shadow Federal Treasurer, with local candidate and old boy Mr Chris Gambian. Both commented on the welcoming and inviting nature of the learning spaces.

The College continues to grow and develop with the first Year 12 class to sit the HSC this year. The College now provides coeducation in Years 7 & 8 with gender balance in Year 7 2017 already assured. It is a very exciting time in the life of the College first established by the Marist Brothers in 1953. A significant part

of the development of the College is a multi-million dollar capital works program. The scope of works for the Master Plan includes:

### Stage 1A

The La Valla Learning and Ministry Centre – completed.

### Stage 1B

Administration and Student Services – completed.

### Stage 2

Science, General Learning Areas, Staff Common/Study, Creative Arts, Drama – estimated completion end of 2016.

### Stage 3

Music, Dance, Commercial Kitchen,

General Learning Areas and Cafeteria – estimated completion end of 2017.

As with any major project of this size considerable thought has gone into the design, functionality and ongoing development of the site, all aimed at achieving one overarching goal – what best supports and improves student learning. It is this focus that has led to the creation of wonderful and welcoming learning spaces that the students are now embracing and celebrating every day. There is still so much more to look forward to.

### Mr Brian Vane-Tempest

Director of Strategic Planning & Communication



## ST TERESA'S CATHOLIC COLLEGE, NOOSAVILLE

# Farewell Brother Paul Creevey

Members of the St Teresa's Catholic College Noosaville community farewelled Brother Paul Creevey after the Marcellin Champagnat Day Liturgy on Friday 10th June 2016 at St Teresa's Catholic College.

Brother Paul has been Principal at St Teresa's Catholic College for seven years and leaves the College with a strong spiritual, academic, cultural and sporting legacy, which he so lovingly built on during those seven years. Br Paul begins a new chapter in his life of service by crossing the sea to commence his Doctoral Studies in Sacred Theology at the Catholic University in Leuven, Belgium in September 2016.

We thank him most sincerely for his witness, his time and energy and his outstanding commitment to Catholic Education in Noosaville and the wider

North Coast through his leadership of St Teresa's College during this time. Executive Director Brisbane Catholic Education – Pam Betts & Brisbane

Regional Director for Marist Schools Brother Neville Solomon spoke on behalf of Brother Paul Creevey and thanked him for his contribution.



Number 1 from left: Paul Blundell (Area North Supervisor), Bro Paul Creevey (Principal STCC), Pam Betts (Executive Director – Brisbane Catholic Education) & Bro Neville Solomon (Brisbane Regional Director Marist Schools Australia).

## CHAMPAGNAT CATHOLIC COLLEGE, PAGEWOOD

# Farewell Mr David McInnes

Recently the Champagnat Catholic College community fare-welled their much loved and respected long-term Principal, David McInnes. The College Eucharist and Rite of Farewell coincided with the last days of Term 2, and it

involved all members of the school community – staff, students, parents, former students and members of David's own family. It was a great tribute to a Marist educator who has given so much to the school over many years.



The students farewell David at College Mass and Assembly.

We wish David well as he heads to St Teresa's College on the Sunshine Coast where he will replace Br Paul Creevey as the Principal.

# Marist Pilgrimage 2016

The Annual Marist Pilgrimage took place this year from 3rd–24th April. A group of 31 Australian pilgrims, mainly from Marist schools across the country, visited the Holy Land, Rome and The Hermitage, Lavalla, La Rosey, Le Puy, Lyon and other places of special interest to the Marist project in Southern France. The pilgrimage was led by Brothers Michael Green and Michael Akers, and Father Gavin Foster SM, the Chaplain at St Joseph's College, Hunters Hill.

The photographs below tell the Story of the Pilgrimage...



# Gifts from Holy Lands

## A personal reflection after the 2016 Marist Pilgrimage

Many tourists return home with bags full of souvenirs, presents or at least a memory card with hundreds of photos, I am guilty of all three. But I return as a pilgrim and the most precious gifts I've collected won't be screened through customs, downloaded or shared on Facebook. In fact, I deliberately left things behind as I journeyed, jettisoning unnecessary burdens that weren't worth carrying. It is my firm hope that the experience of the Marist Pilgrimage to the Holy Land, Rome and l'Hermitage will flow through each of us into our Marist communities which include staff, students, families and local Church. Like the River Gier runs through l'Hermitage, the pilgrimage has carved a deep path in my heart and refreshed my soul with living water. I am now left pondering how these profound personal experiences will help animate, inform and direct my role as a Marist educator, colleague, friend and local coordinator of the Marist Association.

I sense that a returning pilgrim has more to offer than a presentation of photos and stories for those willing to listen. Like all effective evangelisation, the biggest impact we have on others is dependent on our actions, the way we practically share our deep love of God experienced in prayer, living in community and our common sense of mission. I hope to be more gentle and nurturing in my relationships and try to reflect the relationship that I saw between Mary and Jesus in the statue of 'la bonne mere', a favourite of Marcellin's which captures the tenderness and trust of the infant Jesus in the arms of His good mother.

Mary always held Jesus in her heart, especially at the crib, the cross and the altar. We were blessed to visit the Holy Sepulchre, Bethlehem and many other amazing sites from the inception of Christianity, many Roman and Byzantine ruins and we even attended a general audience with the Pope. Yet, my biggest

highlight was sitting on the floor during communion at La Valla (gathered around the table where Marcellin broke bread with his brothers) holding the precious body of Jesus in the palm of my hand. I have received Jesus thousands of times before, but in that moment I felt strongly connected with Mary who carried Jesus in her womb. For just a few minutes, there was a deep peace and connectedness with God who dwells in me. As Marists we are called to be God bearers, who bring Christ alive in the world and I want to encourage greater participation in our Friday morning and monthly Parish masses.

My perception of Marcellin, Mary, and Jesus has forever been changed. They are no longer assigned to the pages of sacred text in foreign locations. Their humanity and the reality of their daily lives were broken open in historical sites such as the Sea of Galilee and the ruins of Peter's house. The historical and social context revealed the normality of their extraordinary lives and those they encountered. I draw encouragement from the down-to-earth practical examples of the way they lived, as it points to the ability for each of us to be saints of the new millennium.

On a practical level I feel invigorated, energized, renewed, and ready to critically reflect on our programs and discover how they can be improved or replaced. I will bring the same attention to Canberra Marists, liturgies and Religious Education to support our ministry to be conducted with 'good taste, order and symmetry' (the old Marist Rule). We were blessed to be led by a team of experts in Marian theology, Marist patrimony, liturgy and gentle pastoral support, who not only delivered an outstanding pilgrimage but also demonstrated a synthesis of ideas, logistics and genuine unity.

**Nathan Ahearne,**  
**Marist College Canberra**



# The SIEV X Memorial Site



For those of us that have grown up in Sydney, the school trip to Canberra is part of our schooling memories. The War Memorial, Parliament House, perhaps even the Mint. Since 2003, there has been a new must-see site that most of us have never heard of.

The SIEV X Memorial Site in Weston Park, Yarralumla (less than a 10 minute drive from Parliament House) is located on a peninsula on the western side of Lake Burley Griffin. The memorial site remembers the 353 lives lost in the worst maritime tragedy in the region's history at the height of the 2001 election. SIEV X is a naval acronym standing for Suspected Illegal Entry Vessel (no.10) and this overcrowded vessel's engine failed in high seas and sank. The vessel was 19.5m long and had mostly refugees from Saddam Hussein's Iraq. They were mostly women and children whose husbands and fathers had been able to come ahead to Australia. Each lost life is represented by a white pole and each pole has a unique mural donated by school, church and community groups.

**So, why haven't you heard of it and why has Marist College North Shore become involved?**

The tragedy itself was controversial for many reasons, including sinking within

our nation's international water zone and occurring at a time of the changing political tide in regards to refugee and asylum seeker issues.

Marist College North Shore is a community that is not afraid to discuss pertinent issues. We are a community that stands in solidarity with the plight of refugees and asylum seekers. As Marist and Catholic, we pray that those who make policies and decisions, make fair and good policies and decisions.

In Term 4 English last year, Years 7-10 engaged in special PBL units (Project

Based Learning). Year 7's focus question was: What is the role of the international community in assisting refugees/asylum seekers? A group was given the project of designing our pole for the SIEV X Memorial Site. Nathan Wiryadi, Tristan Oliveri, Nick Christenson, Lucas Parsons, and Ayden Thomson researched the SIEV X tragedy and decided to represent an unknown boy (on behalf of the College). Unfortunately not all names were released by the AFP.

*Their design was powerful: our design is a simple sunset to represent a new beginning, an ocean to show where they lay and a dove to represent the freedom that some refugees and asylum seekers now have.*

Steve Biddulph (well-known Australian author, activist and psychologist) started the memorial site and has been incredibly encouraging and supportive of our involvement. Currently the Faith-Based Working Group of the Canberra Refugee Action Committee has taken on the care of the site and assisted us with installing our pole.

On Thursday May 19th, the 5 PBL students and 5 Year 12 Student Leader representatives and Solidarity students with the Director of Faith Formation Mr Anthony Munro and the Solidarity



Coordinator Mrs Katie Lynch travelled to Canberra to install our pole in the memorial site. As a College-wide Solidarity initiative, it was important for our student body to be represented by their College Captain William Coyle, Faith and Solidarity Captain Thomas McGowan, Chanel House Captain Oliver Herbert and exemplary Solidarity students Dean Solway and Brad Ford.

For our ceremony, we were also joined by Marist College Canberra Director of Faith Formation Mr Nathan Ahearne and selected student representatives. Marist College Canberra installed a pole at the site at the time of the site's inception and attended to stand in solidarity with us as a Marist school. With Notre Dame College Shepparton, we are the only 3 Marist schools involved.

Paul Meyers and others of the FBWG also assisted us with the installation and our ceremony. We blessed the MCNS pole and prayed as a group the message on the sign at the site:

*Our message in making the memorial is that Australia is not a country defined by fear and greed.*

*Love is stronger than fear. Kindness is stronger than greed.*

It was a moving ceremony and the MCNS students had time to explore the whole memorial site which includes an outline of the 19.5m vessel - they were able to stand inside the space and imagine the journey of over 350 people in such a small space.

Many thanks to the College Leadership Team for their wholehearted support of this initiative, especially our Headmaster Mr Tony Duncan who regularly encourages conversation on our response as Marists, Christians and Australians to refugees and asylum seekers. Also special thanks to Mr Anthony Munro for his support in the preparation of MCNS' involvement and on the day of the installation. Lastly, special thanks to Mr Nathan Ahearne and Marist College Canberra for their support on the day.

Soon, the College will install a replica of the Canberra pole on site in the College grounds. We plan to have a ceremony with the whole College in attendance.

For more information, please visit:  
<http://www.sievxmemoial.com/index.html>

**Mrs Katie Lynch**  
**Solidarity Coordinator**



# 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 through the generosity of the Tony and Gwyneth Lennon Family Trust 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 Trust and his daughter Eliza, visited Marist again this year to meet the new recipient, catch up with last year's recipient 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 Trust in their generous contribution to the students at Marist College Bendigo.

## ST JOSEPH'S SCHOOL, NORTHAM

# St Joseph's School reintroduces the Sub Tuum

Students at St Joseph's School in Northam have heard the Sub Tuum sung for the first time this year. When the boys' (under the Marist Brothers) and girls' (under the Sisters of St Joseph of the Apparition) schools amalgamated in 1971, various traditions were abandoned while new ones took shape. Past students from those early years do not recall signing this hymn to Mary once the new school was founded.

This year, on Founders' Day, the St Joseph's School Choir introduced (re-introduced) the song to the community and visiting guest speaker, Mr Eric Chidlow, a founding student of the 1948 intake of St Pauls' College, remembered it well. Eric recalled

the many good times he spent with the Marist Brothers and the many friends he made at St Paul's College.

The school Choir is looking forward to leading the school in learning the Sub Tuum through the rest of this year.



## LTYENTYE APURTE SCHOOL, SANTA TERESA

# Congratulations Br Daniel



Congratulations to Br Daniel Hollamby of Ltyentye Apurte School at Santa Teresa for his Order of Australia award announced in the Queen's Birthday Honours List recently.

Daniel is now in his fourth decade as a school principal, and many of these years have been spent serving in indigenous communities. Recent appointments include Bourke in New South Wales, Murgon in Queensland and currently Santa Teresa in the Northern Territory.

Br Daniel is pictured with students from Ltyentye Apurte School.

## BURDEKIN CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL, AYR

# Fundraising for Orange Sky Laundry Foundation

In response to the jubilee Year of Mercy, Townsville Catholic Education Office held a Diocesan gathering for all employees within the 41 Early Learning Centers and Schools in the region during the last week of the Easter Holidays. As part of this gathering, members of the Orange Sky Laundry Foundation presented to the audience their mission and social action initiative. So impressive were the young men, that the Executive Director put out the challenge to schools to raise enough money for the foundation to include Townsville in their support of people who are homeless.

Burdekin Catholic High School took on this challenge. In conjunction with their annual walkathon, students were asked to raise money for the Orange Sky Laundry Foundation. A total of over \$7,500 was raised by students and donated to Townsville Catholic Education Office to assist in their advocacy for a laundry van in the Townsville area.

Further activities and educational programs to engage in both the Year of Mercy and the Orange Sky Laundry Foundation are planned for Semester 2.

*Maddison Cabassi, Aleera Queenan, Tiara Maher, Meg Rountree, Sarah Kos*



*Abbie Woods,  
Katie-Anne  
McAuliffe,  
Anastasia  
Davis-Horn*



## MARIST YOUTH MINISTRY (MYM)

# St Marcellin Day

The young adults in Marist Youth Ministry celebrated Feast of St Marcellin at their latest 'Exchange' gathering on 12 June. To celebrate the occasion with the Brothers Community at Eastwood, each member of the team bought a dish to share for dinner. Together with fairy lights and French coloured balloons, an atmosphere of fun and family spirit was present. After a delicious creamy, chocolate log cake baked by our own Tim Alice the group gathered to reflect on the life of Marcellin and ways we can be truly present in our daily lives. Lucy Murrie led the group, outlining ways we can bravely reach out to others, such as the homeless we may pass on the streets, by simply being more present and aware of others in our immediate vicinity. As Marcellin Champagnat reached out to those on the margins, the young adults agreed to be more 'present' by offering their service to young asylum seekers under the care of Marist Youth Care. For up-dates, watch this space!

**Jeni Miller**  
**Sydney Region**  
**MYM Regional**  
**Co-ordinator**



*Young Marist Volunteers: Young adults who work in Marist Youth Ministry L to R: Jamie Manalaotao, Dominic McDonald, Cameron Menzies, Patrick Cooke, Stephanie Georges and Patricia Mendoza*





## Super Connect Gathering – Marist Youth Ministry

Marist College Eastwood was the scene of the second Marist Youth Ministry (MYM) Super Connect on 3 June. Social Justice was the theme of the night and students interacted with the idea through being the audience on 'Marist Q&A'. Over 115 students and staff from 13 Marist schools learnt about opportunities in 'going to the margins and serving those in need' within Marist Ministries. The panel included speakers

from Marist Youth Care, the John Berne School, and Marist Solidarity. Students were invited to attend information booths after the 'show' to explore ways they could possibly volunteer for one or more of the projects supported by the particular ministry featured.

The Young Marist Volunteers 'warmed up' the audience prior to the 'Q&A' show with Student Bingo and a photo booth opportunity. Both activities saw students

from all the Marists schools connecting with each other. A big thank you goes out to the Brother's Community at Eastwood for not only cooking 250 sausages but also helping MYM to prepare and serve dinner! Some photos displayed here show part of the fun that was had, but to see more, visit and 'Like' Marist Youth Ministry – Sydney for the complete picture!

**Jeni Miller**



*Young adults from MYM at their Champagnat Day celebrations: Front row (L to R): Thomas Kasanczuk, Cameron Menzies, Patrick Cooke, Lucy Murrie, Jessica Barrett. Back row (L to R): Br Mark Murphy, Br Brian Kinsella, Ashleigh Green, Tim Alice, Tom Alice, Anthony Mackett, Jodi Morris and Br Matthew (Community Leader) Photographer: Jeni Miller*

## ST FRANCIS XAVIER'S COLLEGE, HAMILTON

# Life at St Francis Xavier's College

St Francis Xavier's College is a senior school catering to over 1000 students in Years 11 and 12. The College has 3 years 7 to 10 associated schools that feed into it. This is the students' first encounter in a Marist school and as it will be short lived it is essential that we are dedicated to building community quickly and authentically. We do this with a clear focus on Marist values.

The college is in the Hamilton-Newcastle Diocese, and this year the diocese celebrates 150 years since the first bishop,

Bishop Murray arrived in the region. Recently an exhibition was held in the diocese to commemorate the 150 years of Catholic life in the diocese. One of the highlights of the exhibition was the attention given to the pioneer religious orders who established the Catholic school system: the Marist Brothers, the Dominican Sisters, the Sisters of St Joseph of Lochinvar and the Sisters of Mercy in particular.

Four Marist Brothers continue to work in the school, and the college is ably led by Brother Robert Sutton.

Like all senior schools, St Francis Xavier's is a very busy school where continual assessment, rankings, public exams (NSW HSC) add to the pressures faced by our students many of whom hold down part time work, travel long distances, play sport. These pressures along with the challenges young people face as they move towards independence in an uncertain world make it increasingly important that our students feel connected, supported and genuinely cared for.

The following photographs represent a collage of life at St Francis Xavier's...



*Drumming: community building and stress relief*



*Hospitality students – dessert preparation in the College kitchen*

*Students on the new overpass to the library.*



The café is open between 7.30-9.00am for both staff and students; run by hospitality students



Yoga for students at the College



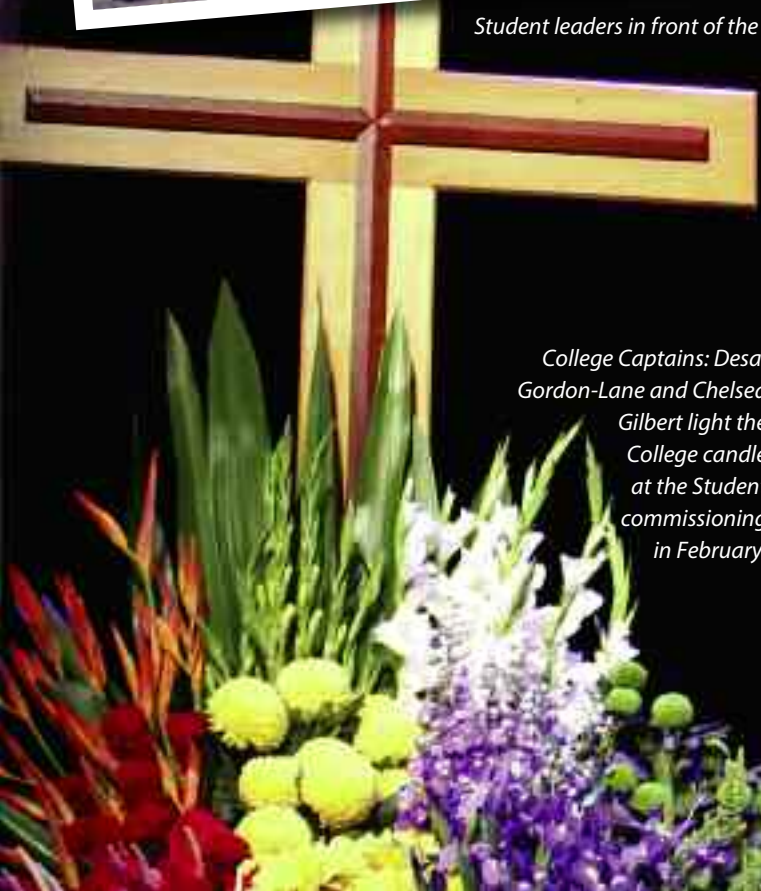
Outside entrance to library



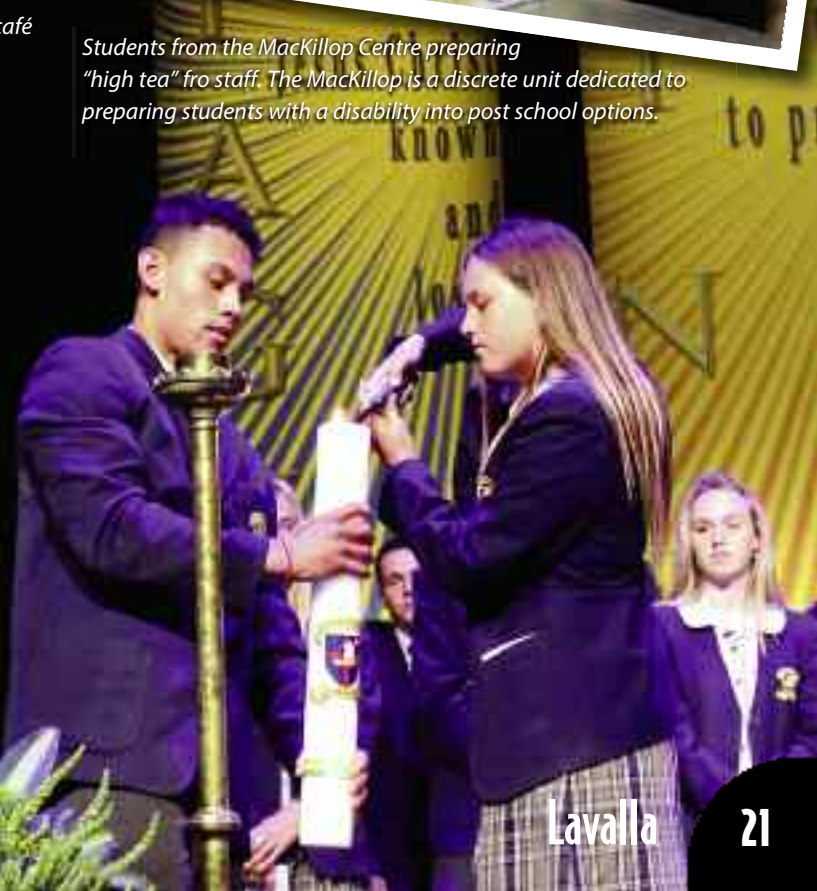
Student leaders in front of the café



Students from the MacKillop Centre preparing "high tea" for staff. The MacKillop is a discrete unit dedicated to preparing students with a disability into post school options.



College Captains: Desai Gordon-Lane and Chelsea Gilbert light the College candle at the Student commissioning in February.



# The oldest building at Assumption has become its newest learning space



Assumption  
College entry

From a building that still features bluestone from the 19th century, Assumption College's newest learning space, the Fourvière Centre, has been born and was officially opened on Sunday, April 17.

Staff, past and present students, parents, Marist Brothers, Paul Herrick from Marist Schools Australia and Nationals MP for Euroa Steph Ryan and those that contributed to the project gathered for the opening of the centre, home of the new library, Pathways Centre and hub for teaching English.

Until 2014, this building was the boarding house, and being heritage-listed its exterior has hardly been touched, except for the grand, new entrance and prominent wide arches that have been glassed-in. The interior has been totally transformed.

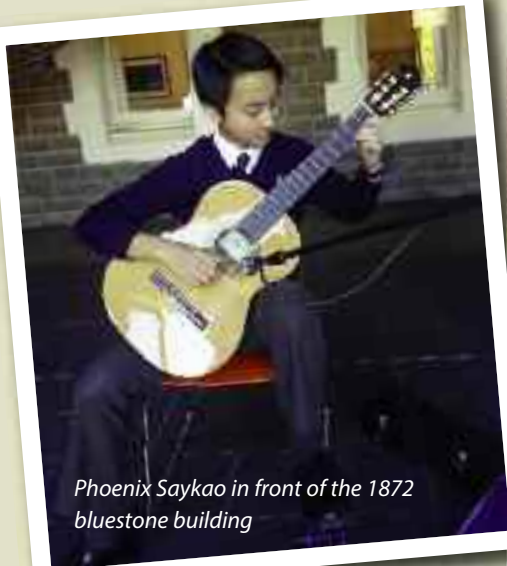
In bright sunshine Principal Kate Fogarty gave a brief history of the building, noting that one part dates back to 1872.

She said that many, many people had been involved in the refurbishment that will give students and teachers "beautiful, light, warm and welcoming spaces to inspire their learning".

Alumnus Bishop Peter Connors asked God to bless "the learning space for the education of our young people", and blessed the building while sprinkling holy water in the forecourt.

After the opening ceremony we enjoyed lunch prepared by VET hospitality students and hot drinks provided by members of the Parents and Friends. In the background, year 11 student Phoenix Saykao played classical guitar. I was reminded of the Greek legend of the Phoenix, a bird that is cyclically regenerated, in the same way as this beautiful building has been.

**Stephen Calvert**



Phoenix Saykao in front of the 1872  
bluestone building





Bishop Peter after sprinkling the forecourt with holy water and blessing the building.



Principal Kate Fogarty addresses guests

## ST GREGORY'S COLLEGE, CAMPBELLTOWN

# The College Show Sheep Season



This year has been another successful one for the College Show Sheep team. It has also been one of our busiest, with seven events on the calendar. Some of the highlights included:

**1.** The Royal Canberra Show. In the Corriedale Judging (where our sheep are judged against those of professional studs), we received **Reserve Champion Ewe** and **Champion Corriedale Group** (of 1 ram and 2 ewes). In the Schools Judging classes (where our sheep are judged against those of other schools), we received **Champion Long Wool Ram**, **Reserve Champion Long Wool Ram**, **Champion Long Wool Ewe**, **Reserve Champion Long Wool Ewe** and **Supreme Long Wool Exhibit**. In the Sheep Parading classes, **Daniel Brennan** achieved 2nd (out of over 60 entrants) in the junior class, with **Sam Prince** achieving 2nd, **Lachlan Watkin** 3rd, **William Cadden** 4th and **Zak Hackett** 7th in the senior class (also out of over 60 entrants). In the Meat Sheep Judging **David Watson** achieved 5th in the junior class, with **Lachlan McLean** achieving 3rd, **Lachlan Watkin** 7th. **Lachlan McLean** also achieved 3rd overall Meat Breed Sheep Judge.

**2.** New to the show calendar in 2016 was the Camden Sheep Show, held in March. This was another very successful show for the College, achieving **Champion Corriedale Ram** and **Champion**

**Corriedale Ewe, Champion Wool Breed Ewe, Reserve Champion Wool Breed Ram and Reserve Best Sheep**

**Exhibited by a School.** In the Junior Handling competition **Elijah Moss** achieved the Champion 13 and 14-year Junior Handler award, with **Sam Prince** achieving 2nd in the 15 and 16-year class.

**3.** The Sydney Royal Sheep and Fleece Show also held in March was a significant one for the Corriedale breed, being the 100-year anniversary of Corriedales being shown at the Sydney Royal. Apart from the usual sheep showing duties, many students represented the College at a dedicated stall, showcasing products of the breed and a poster depicting the history of sheep showing at the College. Many students also enjoyed talking with Corriedale breeding royalty at a Corriedale Association function celebrating the occasion.

**4.** After our success at Sydney, the College was invited by the Australian Wool Innovation (AWI) to attend the International Wool and Textile Organisation (IWTO) 85th Annual Global Conference, held at Belgenny Farm in early April. The IWTO Conference brought together woolgrowers, spinners, weavers, garment manufacturers, designers and retailers from around the world.

**Mr Edward Stefanski**

**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  
St Michael's Primary School, Daceyville

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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**

St Mary's Catholic College, Casino  
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**

Parramatta Marist High School,  
Westmead  
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**

St Francis de Sales College, Leeton

**Diocese of Wilcannia-Forbes**

Red Bend Catholic College, Forbes

**Diocese of Wollongong**

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

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