



# MSA Newsletter

A newsletter for Member Schools of Marist Schools Australia published fortnightly during term time



## From Brother Michael Green

Dear Brothers, Colleagues and Friends

Something momentous will occur at Mittagong at the end of this week, something that has not happened before. The significance may have slipped our notice – given that it's called a "Mission Assembly". We've held those events before, haven't we? You know the drill: a talkfest among a group of true believers; a couple of days off school. Great experience for those who are there. Inspiring liturgy, delightful meals. Maybe the publishing of some communiqué gushing with the ephemeral enthusiasm of the participants. Then everything duly filed.

Can I propose, as non-clichéd as I can, that "this one is going to be different"?

When sixty-four Australian Marists gather over four days from this Thursday, they will do so as Members of the Marist Association of St Marcellin Champagnat. All of them. They have been chosen as delegates either by nomination of their fellow-Members (two-thirds) or because of their current roles (one third). They come charged with responsibility. Regional gatherings have been held, local groups have met. The Association – which we anticipate will be approved by the Holy See in the months ahead – is the new space for all Marists to come together to share responsibility for the vitality and development of Marist life and ministry. Already 540 have joined and others are in the process of doing so. They are women and men, consecrated, married, single, ordained, younger and older. For all them, the Marist approach to the gospel of Jesus is a significant dimension of the way they live out their Baptismal call. They are a new ecclesial family, and this will be their first ever formal representative gathering.

They will also do so with the knowledge that, during the next three years, all canonical and civil responsibility for Marist schools and other ministries will pass from the Brothers alone to this expanded group of Marists which is the Marist Association of St Marcellin. Just let me run that by you again, for emphasis: it will be the Association, not the Province, which will have charge of Marist ministries, and will take responsibility for its own spiritual and communal Marist life. The Brothers will continue to be an integral subset of that Association, more focussed on their particular contribution as religious, but they will not be its numerical majority. The "Association Council" which will be nominated by the Assembly to replace the current Mission Council, will be chosen from among the Members of the Association, and will become the leadership group for it, as well as its trustees in civil law. This is how the buzz-words "communion" and "co-responsibility" are going to look in practice. The future will be different, and the future is upon us.

Without presuming to re-write or re-imagine the purpose and vision of our Marist origins, because they are creatures of a church and world of another time, it is not too much of a stretch to believe that Marcellin and his co-founders would be greatly pleased with all of this. They longed for a wide embrace of their spiritual intuitions across the church, and they proposed ways for lay people, priests and religious to live them out, each appropriate to their state of life. They also planned for them all to be in union with one another. Something "new for our time" they said. It's taken two hundred years, but perhaps we've finally nailed it.

Let us pray for that this week's Assembly be a moment of grace and blessing for us all.

*Nisi Dominus*

**Brother Michael Green FMS**  
NATIONAL DIRECTOR

## COMING UP...

20 Aug	justLOVE: Hearts Without Borders, Notre Dame College	2-5 Sept	Marist Contemplative Retreat, Mittagong
20-23 Aug	Mission Assembly, Mittagong	3-4 Sept	Spirituality Day, St Joseph's School Northam
25 Aug	justLOVE: Hearts Without Borders, Trinity College Beenleigh	7 Sept	In the Marist Way, Marist Youth Care
26 Aug	MSA Regional Council, Brisbane	8 Sept	Marist Leaders: Next Gen1, Brisbane
27 Aug	MSA Regional Council, Sydney	8 Sept	Mission Council meeting
28 Aug	MSA Regional Council, Melbourne	11 Sept	justLOVE: Hearts Without Borders, Trinity Catholic College Auburn
28 Aug	justLOVE: Hearts Without Borders, Catholic College Sale	11-12 Sept	Staff Spirituality Day, St Thomas More Primary
29-30 Aug	Marist Educational Leadership Program, Melbourne (wk 2 of 2)	13-16 Sept	Footsteps1: Making Jesus Known and Loved, Mittagong

## TWO AUSTRALIAN BROTHERS TAKE THEIR FIRST VOWS

In a simple and joyful ceremony in Sydney last Saturday, the two newest members of the Marist Brothers took their first vows as religious. Brother Jack O'Sullivan (ex-student of Notre Dame College Shepparton and former member of the Remar Ministry Team) and Brother James Hodge (ex-student of Marist College Rosalie and former volunteer at Sala Lavalla in Cambodia) completed their novitiate in the USA. Their fellow-novice, Brother Sam Amos, made his first profession the previous week and was able to travel to Australia, along with the Novice Master Brother Robert Clarke, to be with their confreres. Brothers James and Jack are home for two months, living at the Brothers Community at Eastwood, before moving to the Philippines in November for twelve months to undertake the next stage of their formation.



## SCHOOL LEADERSHIP VACANCY



### DEPUTY PRINCIPAL – TEACHING AND LEARNING St Augustine's College, Cairns QLD

St Augustine's College is seeking applications for the position of Deputy Principal (Teaching and Learning) commencing January 2016.

Interested applicants are invited to visit the College website [www.sac.qld.edu.au](http://www.sac.qld.edu.au) for an information package including a position statement and selection criteria. [Click here](#) for the full advertisement. **Applications close Thursday, 10 September 2015.**

## NEXT LAVALLA & CHAMPAGNAT JOURNAL PUBLICATION

The cut-off for contributions to the final edition of Lavalla and the Champagnat Journal for 2015 is **Friday, 11 September 2015**. The next edition after October 2015 will be April 2016.

Please ensure that photographs are high resolution jpg copies and provide names of people in the photos.

Written material should be in the form of a WORD document and forwarded to Brother Tony Paterson, [tony.paterson@marists.org.au](mailto:tony.paterson@marists.org.au) by 11 September.

## 2015 MARIST MINISTRIES MASS & DINNER DATES

The annual Mass and Dinner for those involved in our Marist Ministries will be held in the following three venues this year. Information will be forwarded to Principals and Ministry Leaders. Invitations from your Principal or Ministry Leader.

- ♦ *Brisbane*  
Saturday, 17 October 2015  
Marist College Ashgrove
- ♦ *Sydney*  
Friday, 6 November 2015  
Marist College Eastwood
- ♦ *Melbourne*  
Saturday, 5 December 2015  
Marcellin College Bulleen

## 2015 MARIST SOLIDARITY DATE CLAIMERS

### Christmas Menu Launch

#### Brisbane

Monday, 9 November 5.30pm to 7.00pm

#### Cairns

Wednesday, 11 November 5.30pm to 7.00pm

#### Sydney

Tuesday, 17 November 5.30pm to 7.00pm

#### Melbourne

Sunday, 22 November 5.30pm to 7.00pm

#### Adelaide

Tuesday, 24 November 5.30pm to 7.00pm





# Marist MISSION AND LIFE FORMATION

## MARIST EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP PROGRAM

Marist Educational Leadership, an Australian Catholic University (ACU) program, is being undertaken by the Lavalla Catholic College Traralgon community at the Marist Centre in Brunswick.



Lee McKenzie, Chris Roga, John Freeman, Br John McMahon (presenter) and Robert Tarraran

## justLOVE: HEARTS WITHOUT BORDERS MOUNT CARMEL CATHOLIC COLLEGE

A crisp yet sunny day in Mittagong greeted the staff from Mt Carmel College Varroville for the Staff Spirituality Day. Some took the opportunity to enjoy an overnight stay in the beautiful and peaceful surroundings of the Hermitage.



Anthony Glynn, James Doyle, Kim Alexander, Christine Hogarth and Roxanne Lillis

## justLOVE: HEARTS WITHOUT BORDERS RED BEND CATHOLIC COLLEGE

The Forbes Staff Spirituality day was held offsite at a picturesque location in Eugowra. One staff member described the experience as the following "a great opportunity to slow down from the busyness of the school day and to build a greater sense of awareness".



Viv Thompson, Scott McDonald and Tristin Nicholls

Matt Pearce, Pat Rudd and Louise Spry



Alia Di Paolo, Diane Poulton and Rob Muscatello



Tim Spry, Jo Donnelly, Amanda Maitland, Berry Cannon and Heather Horsington



Madeleine Maulguet, Rebecca Toogood, Therona Govender and Katherine Buttigieg



Forbes Staff

justLOVE  
hearts without borders



## WORLD YOUTH DAY 2016 UPDATE

### EXCITING PLANS FOR NEW CLASSROOMS AT ABAFALA SCHOOL IN TIMOR-LESTE



Marist Solidarity will soon begin work to reconstruct dilapidated classroom buildings at the Abafala Catholic Primary School in Timor-Leste.

The project is now possible thanks to the generous support received from international funding partners, and the fundraising efforts of Marist Schools Australia, especially Galen Catholic College, Wangaratta, Notre Dame College Shepparton, and Catholic College Sale.

In 2012, members of the Abafala community reached out to Marist Solidarity to highlight the urgent need to improve conditions at its primary school, which local building professionals declared derelict and unsafe.

Several of the classrooms are termite-infested with collapsing ceiling and wall structures, leaking roofs, and floors made of broken and cracked concrete.

The local community are mainly subsistence farmers that do not have resources to undertake the necessary work.

The Abafala School is located within the Baucau district, and is the only primary school in this poor, rural area. It provides education for 105 boys and 128 girls.

Marist Solidarity is working in partnership with the local community, and the Catholic education office of the Diocese of Baucau to develop plans to rebuild three classrooms and five toilet cubicles.

With your ongoing support Marist Solidarity can help ensure that young people in Abafala have the opportunity to receive quality education in a safe and clean environment. To donate to this project please email us at [msol@marists.org.au](mailto:msol@marists.org.au) or go to our website to find out more about our other projects in Timor-Leste.

[www.australianmaristsolidarity.net.au](http://www.australianmaristsolidarity.net.au)



World Youth Day 2016 is approaching closer with the countdown now less than one year away! It is expected that somewhere between 4-5 million Catholic youth from around the world will gather with Pope Francis in Kraków for the celebrations. On pilgrimage to Poland, our Marist Way to Kraków will first follow the trail back to our founding roots, taking us to Paris, Lyon and Le Puy in France. In Lyon, we will gather with 300 other Marist Youth as we attend the International Gathering of Marist Youth. IGMY will bring together the four branches of the Marist family – Brother, Sisters, Father & Missionary Sisters – as we celebrate the bicentenary of the Fourvière pledge, the 200-year anniversary of the beginnings of our Marist tradition.

World Youth Day is so much more than just a holiday; rather it involves the action of embarking on a pilgrimage. This experience invites the pilgrim to not only journey to a new place physically and geographically, but most importantly to a place of spiritual newness. It is by the experience and willingness to move from 'one place to another' that God can speak into our hearts and provide a newness of faith and personal relationship with Him.

As Marist Youth Ministry, we are excited to invite all young Marists of 18-30 years of age to join our pilgrimage group. Visit our website, [www.maristyouthministry.com/wyd](http://www.maristyouthministry.com/wyd) to find more information, check the itinerary and register an expression of interest.

Sally McEniry  
MYM Regional Coordinator Brisbane

