



# MSA Newsletter

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



**From Brother Michael Green**

24 June 2014

Dear Brothers, Colleagues and Friends

Corpus Christi processions often made me uncomfortable. I found them rather anachronistic, caught somewhere between the Church Triumphant and an Irish Catholic underclass wanting to make some kind of aspirational social statement. The Eucharistic theology seemed to me to be at least twisted, if not downright idolatrous.

That was before I went to the one at Genzano di Roma.

It was a couple of years ago. I had just landed in Rome for a meeting, and in the interests of wanting to stay awake until evening (so, certainly not out of any noble religious motivation), I accepted an invitation from a few confreres that we spend the day by driving up to this lovely little town in the *Castelli Romani*, and make a Sunday excursion of it. They assured me of a pleasant experience.

Corpus Christi occurs during an annual event at Genzano which the locals call “Infiolata”. It is something which the town council has built into a bit of an earner, running over some days. In fact, they schedule the festival to end on the Sunday *after* Corpus Christi in order to attract extra custom. It will be on again next weekend. There will be lots of food and drink stalls set up, music and street entertainers, crafts and markets. A good family day out.

Right down the middle of the town, on a steepish incline, is a wide stepped street where people will have spent considerable effort and talent in creating a series of large displays made from flowers – hence the name of the festival. The displays depict scenes of daily life, historical events, artworks, issues of the moment, even aspects of thought and philosophy. They are brilliantly done, and worth the trip just to be seen. They also provide the focus for the main event of the day, in early evening: the Corpus Christi procession.

The Blessed Sacrament is carried simply and slowly down the middle of the carpet of flowers – through the midst of the scenes of life which are depicted. The symbolism is profound: the Divine in the very midst of human life – celebrated, revered, honoured. The Word has become flesh. Daily bread broken. The reign of God at hand. Emmanuel.

One of the oft-quoted riches of Marist spirituality is its accessibility and the sense of the immanence of Christ in which that is sourced. It is deeply sacramental in that sense. Like Mary, we are alert to the divine presence in the very heart of who and where we are, today, and we know that that changes everything for us. As we put down our pens and sheath our laptops for the mid-year break, let us give thanks for our “everyday God”, and for all that we have been able to do with the young people in our care to bring them also to a sense of the God who can be their daily bread.

*Nisi Dominus*

**Brother Michael Green FMS**  
NATIONAL DIRECTOR

## COMING UP...

27 June #serve program, St Patrick's Marist College  
 27 June # serve program, Lavalla Catholic College  
 29 June Brothers Jubilee Celebrations, Brisbane  
 30 June NSW/QLD/VIC school holidays commence  
 1 July Marist Tertiary & Online Committee meeting  
 2-5 July Remar Retreat, Mittagong  
 4 July #serve program, Marcellin Technical College  
 5 July Brothers Jubilee Celebrations, Sydney  
 7 July SA/WA/ACT school holidays commence

13 July Brothers Jubilee Celebrations, Melbourne  
 14 July NSW/QLD/VIC schools resume  
 14 July #serve program, Oakhill College  
 14-17 July Staff Spirituality Days, St Teresa's Catholic College & St Thomas More Primary  
 18 July Next Gen 1 program, Melbourne  
 21 July SA/WA/ACT/NT schools resume  
 21 July #serve program, Newman College, Perth  
 23 July #serve program, Bunbury Catholic College

## APPLICATIONS FOR MARIST PILGRIMAGE 2015 NOW OPEN

**2015 MARIST PILGRIMAGE 12 APRIL TO 4 MAY**

**HOLY LAND 8 NIGHTS**

**WHAT YOU NEED TO PROVIDE**

- \* Passport
- \* Travel Insurance
- \* Spending money

**PILGRIMAGE ORIENTATION MEETING**  
 There will be a Pilgrimage orientation Meeting for all participants early in 2015. Details to follow.

**ROME 3 NIGHTS**

**COSTS \$10,850 per person**  
 Single room accommodation is provided throughout the Pilgrimage.

**PRICE INCLUDES:**

- \* Airfares (all participants will depart together from Sydney for the Pilgrimage on the same airline)
- \* Transfers to and from the airport
- \* Train and coach fares
- \* Most meals & accommodation.

**LYON & NOTRE DAME DE L'HERMITAGE 10 NIGHTS**

**FOR FURTHER ENQUIRIES**

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 Marist Mission & Life Formation  
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## RELIGION AND YOUNG PEOPLE IN AUSTRALIA

*New online course written by Prof Rymarz and delivered for the first time in Australia*



The Broken Bay Institute is bringing Professor Rymarz from the University of Alberta, Canada to Australia in August this year to conduct a two-day face-to-face seminar, as an introduction to the academic course, followed by online coursework. This course, RELT6022 forms part of the UoN-BBI Graduate Certificate and Master of Theology programs.

The seminars will be held as follows:

Broken Bay Catholic Schools Office

Tuesday 5 - Wednesday 6 August

Armidale Catholic Schools Office

Friday 8 - Saturday 9 August

BBI Youth & Religion Workshop

Tuesday 12 August

Tasmanian Catholic Education Office

Friday 15 - Saturday 16 August

For further information visit [www.bbi.catholic.edu.au](http://www.bbi.catholic.edu.au)

View photos from the recent  
 Marist Pilgrimage  
[here](#)

From: Br Jeff Crowe, Provincial.  
 On behalf of the Provincial Council & Mission Council



### A Letter of Invitation.



## AN INVITATION IS ON ITS WAY..

In the coming weeks, everyone who is a part of the Australian Marist Community will be invited to take another step in their journey within the spiritual family that is Marist. This will mark an exciting moment for our personal sense of vocation, create a new reality for co-responsibility of Marist life and ministries, and grow further support and resourcing between all Marists.

Each school and ministry will create a moment in extending this invitation at a time that fits into its rhythm and life. For schools, this is most likely to occur some time in the early weeks of Term 3.

This is indeed a Spirit led and Spirit filled moment in the life of the Church. It will be made visible in the response of all those who feel their path to Jesus has been significantly shaped and formed by the practical wisdom and spiritual life that is Marist.

Joe McCarthy  
 Director of Lay Marists



## CHAMPAGNAT WEEK 2014 Champagnat Day Mass in Emerald, Queensland

The whole community gathered in a colourful and high-spirited Mass to celebrate our Founder's Day at Marist College Emerald. The College Captains participated in the Mass reverently and spoke beautifully in between the praying and hymn singing. Champagnat's Spirit is alive and thriving in North Queensland.



(L-R) Luke Basford (College Captain); Theresa Brennan (College Vice-captain); Father Stephen Hanly (Parish Priest); Sophia Comino (College Captain); and Casey Jutila (College Vice-captain)

## Champagnat Day @ Burdekin Catholic High School



Emmy Cerqui leads the procession carrying the Bible

On Friday 6 June 2014, Burdekin Catholic High School came together to celebrate the life and works of Saint Marcellin Champagnat. Our focus was 'Building Community' and the virtues or qualities that we should strive to develop so as to achieve this. The liturgy was centered around the symbol of the three Violets developed by Marcellin to convey the importance of the Three Virtues: Simplicity, Humility and Modesty to building community. In the afternoon the school engaged in a series of fun activities organised and run by the SRC, School Captains and House Captains. These activities and the manner in which all students participated clearly demonstrated the strength of community and the Marist spirit present at Burdekin Catholic High School.

## FOOTSTEPS: MAKING JESUS CHRIST KNOWN AND LOVED 15 – 18 JUNE 2014



(L-R): Monique Nelson, Edwina Brennan and Bernard Ryall



Standing (L-R): Glen Buckler, Kurtis Harrison, Sarah Melhuish, Adam Mueller and Daniel Head. Sitting (L-R): Alison Lawrence and Brooke Nugent

#serve  
oneanother



## PARTNERSHIPS: THE ENABLER FOR REAL LIFE CHANGE



*Students of the LaValla School now partially funded by the Little King's Movement*

We are pleased to announce that the Little King's Movement is partnering with MSol in support of the LaValla School in Cambodia with a generous annual contribution. This goes a long way to securing the future of the school for children with a disability in Cambodia (click [here](#) for more information on the project). Thank you to all those at the Little King's Movement for your generous commitment to changing the lives of the young people of Cambodia. Thanks also to our other corporate organisations that have provided support for KATILOSA (Timor-Leste), St Marcellin Primary (Fiji) and The Teacher Training College (Timor-Leste).

Schools of the MSA network are still our most significant partners and in 2013 supported one third of our 108 projects across Asia and the Pacific. Thank you to all those who commit time and energy to supporting young people on the margins in these projects each year.

Michael Coleman, MSol Team – Brisbane  
P | (07) 3354 0600 or E | [msol@marists.org.au](mailto:msol@marists.org.au)

### Volunteering Position now available!

On the volunteering front one of our partners, Australian Volunteers International, is seeking a Farm Management Mentor for a two-year assignment linked to the LaValla School's farm program in Cambodia. Applications for this position close at the end of the month. MVA also requires teachers for positions in Vietnam, Thailand and beyond so please contact Ashley now on:  
P | (07) 3354 0600 E | [mva@marists.org.au](mailto:mva@marists.org.au)



## REMAR RETREATS

Remar has been all action over the last few weeks, with the Team splitting up to run three Red Caravel Days and three Blue Retreats. These were in Sydney (with Trinity Auburn, St Patrick's Dundas, and Mount Carmel Varroville), in Brisbane (with Trinity Beenleigh, and St Peter Claver Riverview), and in Perth (with Newman Churchlands). The theme of the Blue Retreat program is based around the symbol of the anchor, an ancient symbol for Jesus. An opening drama highlights how we can grab hold of the anchor when diving for treasure in the ocean depths.



*Red Caravel Day at Trinity College Auburn, with students in a cooperation game, making a square while blindfolded.*



*Sydney Blue Retreat, with students enjoying a game between sessions. Br Greg McDonald, looking on, was eliminated in the first round!*

The highlight of the Retreat is on the Saturday evening with the Remar Team performing a powerful passion play, followed by 90 minutes of reflection time, with Taizé music, and the opportunity to receive the sacrament of Reconciliation or to see some of the Team members for personal sharing and prayer.

After our final round of Retreats in Tasmania next week, we set sail for the Yr 12 Gold Retreat, August 8-10, with over 200 students attending fifteen schools converging on Phillip Island. Any schools investigating introducing Remar are welcome to send representatives, plus take some time off to visit the penguins!

Br Rod Thomson  
Remar Coordinator