



From Frank Malloy

Dear Colleagues,

Love and Fear

Over the past two months Australians have watched the rapid spread of the coronavirus from Wuhan Province in China to 140 countries around the globe. As the number of infections and fatalities rise, and governments respond with restrictions to lessen the impact on their countries, the behaviour of people has been surprising and for many disappointing.

Last week, images of two women physically fighting over rolls of toilet paper in a south western Sydney supermarket "went viral" around the world on social media. These sad and disturbing images are in stark contrast to the selflessness of Australia's volunteer fire fighters who worked so courageously for months on end during the summer.

One can only guess what motivates good, rational people to behave in such a way. The great Australian aphorist, Michael Leunig, possibly captures the essence of the phenomena in the following poem:

Love and Fear

There are only two feelings. Love and fear.
There are only two languages. Love and fear.
There are only two activities. Love and fear.
There are only two motives, two procedures,
two frameworks, two results. Love and fear.
Love and fear.

As Marists, followers of Jesus, with a sacred responsibility to teach the young, may our response in these unprecedented times of uncertainty always be characterised by love.

In the most recent edition of [Christlife](#), Brother Michael Green fms has written the first of a series of reflections on Marist spirituality. The first explores Saint Marcellin's enduring example and teaching of purposeful consciousness of God's presence. Michael's inspirational insights are timely during this Lenten Season and the current pandemic. [Marist Spirituality: Water from the Rock](#).

Yours sincerely,

Dr Frank Malloy
NATIONAL DIRECTOR

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Principal - Marcellin College Bulleen, VIC

Applications close 22 April 2020

Please [CLICK HERE](#) for more information.

Secondary Teacher - The John Berne School, Lewisham, NSW

Please [CLICK HERE](#) for more information.

Development Officer - The John Berne School, Lewisham, NSW

Applications close 23 March 2020

Please [CLICK HERE](#) for more information.



LAVALLA MAGAZINE

Please use Lavalla to share some news from your school with the rest of Marist Schools Australia.

The cut-off date for contributions to the first edition of Lavalla for 2020 is **Friday, 27 March**. All submissions should be sent to Br Michael Flanagan (michael.flanagan@marists.org.au).

A prayer from Father Gary Perritt CP

Jesus Christ, you travelled through towns and villages “curing every disease and illness.” At your command, the sick were made well.

Come to our aid now, in the midst of the global spread of the coronavirus, that we may experience your healing love.

Heal those who are sick with the virus.
May they regain their strength and health through quality medical care.

Heal us from our fear, which prevents nations from working together and neighbours from helping one another.

Heal us from our pride, which can make us claim invulnerability to a disease that knows no borders.

Amen.

Our Fall Suggested Readings

***Sparks of the Universe: Rituals Awakening Appreciation for Earth our Common Home* by Jennifer Callanan**

Sparks of the Universe is a book of rituals inspired by Pope Francis' encyclical, *Laudato Si'*, *On Care for our Common Home*.

It is a resource for educators, students and all those committed to awakening ecological awareness.



***Cosmic Sparks - Igniting a Re-Enchantment with the Sacred* by Margie Abbott RSM**

Cosmic Sparks builds on the thesis that Earth is all we have; we come from Earth and unto Earth we shall return. The collection of rituals is about realising that Earth is sacred once and for all.

Margie Abbott RSM is offering a detailed and practical resource that anyone can use to enter into a physical, heart-centred and nurturing relationship with Earth.



Marist Pedagogy Program at Mt Maria College Mitchelton

Photo 1: Samuel Finch; Harrison Smith and Heather McGeorge **Photo 2:** Robert Pacoski; Greg Cuthbert; Hayley Williamson and Anthony O'Shea

The Birth of the Ecological Age

Then the Spirit said:
"Let life entwine the land and sea
In the web of its community.
Let its power move human hearts
To mend the world they've torn apart,
And sing with every leaf and stone
This is our Earth. This is our home."

— Excerpt from *The Creation Mandala*
by Vincent Busch

World Environmental Day

Nurturing and cherishing creation is a command God gives not only at the beginning of history, but to each of us. It is part of his plan; it means causing the world to grow responsibly, transforming it so that it may be a garden, a habitable place for everyone.

— Pope Francis

KATILOSA is changing the lives of children with a disability, but there is still more to do.



Donations received through Australian Marist Solidarity (AMS) have enabled KATILOSA to continue to provide crucial services to people with a disability. Despite their best efforts, there is a severe lack of basic services in Timor-Leste which is contributing to marginalising people with a disability. There are also systemic structural challenges facing people with a disability.

A father who has an adult child with a disability, who lives at home, and is a client of KATILOSA provides an example of this. As a veteran he receives a pension, but the government won't pay his son a disability allowance because they say as he is already receiving the veteran pension and his family can't receive two allowances. As a result, he is struggling to support his family and his son's needs.

KATILOSA not only provides community-based rehabilitation (CBR) but also seeks to change structures and systems by advocating for families and helping them access government allowances, state provided services and other services.

Changing the landscape for people with a disability in Timor-Leste is the overriding goal of KATILOSA and this is being done through CBR outreaches, advocacy and providing other opportunities.



An evaluation session was held in January 2020 of which two AMS staff were in attendance. Eighty people gathered which included clients themselves (both children and adults) as well as their family members. There was an even split between male and female carers which included parents, but also aunts, uncles and grandparents. One of the key feedback areas was an open floor discussion about what services they would like KATILOSA to provide. Some of the responses included:

- After school classes such as English and music for people with a disability.
- Increase the staff to increase the regularity of visits of CBR staff.
- Engage youth both disabled and non-disabled in nearby villages in agriculture and growing vegetables.
- Continue the woodcarving program
- Replace the vehicle to improve transportation options for staff and clients.

During this evaluation Australian Marist Solidarity staff were told by those gathered of the impact KATILOSA was having:

- Community members told of how they were more understanding of people with a disability.
- A father said that their child can now walk again after the physiotherapy provided.
- Families spoke of being supported by KATILOSA and better understanding how to support their child.

KATILOSA has been able to reach more clients than ever in 2019, with a combined reach of 169 clients plus 157 families. It is expected that there will be a similar level of reach in 2020. As the only provider of these services in Baucau subdistrict, KATILOSA is making an impact on the lives of these marginalised people and their families.

The support from our donors is transformative for KATILOSA as well as the beneficiaries and is highly appreciated by all parties involved. Please help us continue the work being done at KATILOSA by donating to Australian Marist Solidarity.

Together, we can change lives.

Australian Marist Solidarity | PO Box 273
Ashgrove West Q 4060 | P: 07 3354 0600 |
E: ams@marists.org.au |
www.australianmaristsolidarity.org.au



MARIST YOUTH MINISTRY

Early March Update

This fortnight at Marist Youth Ministry has been all about our 'Connect' Evenings. Connect is an opportunity for young people to gather and connect with students from their state as well as discuss topics that are particularly pertinent in their lives. Connect is a great way of strengthening relationships and Marist ties among our senior students!

Connect.

QUEENSLAND

The first QLD Connect was hosted at the Marist Centre in Ashgrove on Friday 6th May. Thirty-five students and accompanying staff braved the stormy weather to attend the evening, representing the communities of Mt Maria College (Petrie), Carmel College (Thornlands), Trinity College (Beenleigh) and Marist College (Ashgrove).

Drawing students from all corners of Brisbane, the night was focussed on the theme of One, derived from the One Wild and Precious Life theme. The students engaged in a variety of activities, leading into a reflection on the One Marist Family.

The night culminated in a prayer response, with students considering their part in the Body of Christ (1 Cor 12:12-27). Each student wrote a gift they can use to continue to build a sense of solidarity and family spirit within their particular communities, presenting this as part of the prayer space.

The next Connect Night will be held in Term 2, continuing to build on the theme with a focus on Wild.

Adam Burns Marist Youth Ministry QLD



Volunteer English Language Tutor or Teacher

Opportunity in Sri Lanka

The Marist International Novitiate, located in Tudella, Sri Lanka, is home to around 15 young men in their 20s to early 30s, who are training to become Marist Brothers. The Novitiate is responsible for the formation of Asian, Melanesian and Timor Leste novices.

The five Brothers working there teach subjects such as Scripture, Theology, English and Marist Spirituality.

As the novices come from a range of different countries, including Vietnam, Timor Leste, Papua New Guinea, they need assistance with developing their English skills.

Volunteer Duties and Responsibilities

A suitable volunteer would interact with the novices, helping to improve their day-to-day English conversation skills. As well as having some set times for private tutoring or assisting with English classes, the volunteer would join in with some of our daily activities, depending on their interests and as they feel able; for example, playing sports and joining in music lessons. Volunteers would also participate in our community activities, including our prayer times and meals, plus join in the various trips we occasionally have around the country.

This position would suit both male and female **teachers (retired or on leave)** and Young Adults. No formal qualifications as an English Teacher are necessary – you would be accompanying their learning - but an online TEFL course may be useful. Preferably volunteers would stay for at least three months.

Further Details

If you are interested in this unique volunteering opportunity and would like further details, please contact: **Brother Chris Wills**



Access to the Program

Access information on the Bridge Builders Program here: <http://www.maristassociation.org.au/volunteers> Or enquiries can be directed to **Cmi** in Rome chris.wills@marists.org.au

Teaching English as a Foreign Language TEFL

If you were to apply for this volunteer opportunity it would be helpful if you had a certificate in TEFL (or TESOL). Just so you were familiar with some of the techniques and tricks of language teaching. You would not want to be wasting too much time on teaching complicated grammar or big useless words!!! Bridge Builders can help you with this.

Volunteer English Language Tutor or Teacher



Opportunity in Timor Leste

ICFP is a Marist managed Teacher Formation Institute which prepares Post-Secondary Timorese to teach in Primary school in East Timor.



Volunteer Duties and Responsibilities

The volunteer assignment is to accompany Timorese teachers as they develop their skills in teaching English as a Second Language to students in our undergraduate program. At the end of the program our Timorese staff will have the skills to continue with our new project of qualifying some of our students to teach English Language in *Ensino Basico* schools in Timor Leste.

And adjunct activity is to assist some office staff with English language, on a 1-1 basis so they can engage in more courses in accounting/finance/office management which are available online/distance education in English.

Further Details

1. **Retired Teachers** (the Grey Army!) might like to consider this opportunity. Your teaching experience and qualifications may qualify you for support under the government volunteer agency AVI administered by AusAID.
2. You may not be able to respond to this request, but you may know someone who is looking for such an opportunity.
3. It would also suit a **younger teacher** looking for a service opportunity at the beginning of a longer world journey.
4. A commitment of six months or longer is desirable although other proposals will be considered.
5. Housing and other supports in Bacau have already been established by the Marists
6. If you are interested in this unique volunteering opportunity and would like further details, please contact: **Brother Chris Wills**

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Or enquiries can be directed to chris.wills@marists.org.au