



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

Dear Colleagues,

In recent weeks, the passing of two well-known Australians featured much in the national discourse as Australians prepared for the Federal election. The passing of Les Murray, arguably Australia's most prolific and influential poet and former Prime Minister, Bob Hawke has provided cause for reflection on their great legacy to our nation. Bob Hawke, a giant of the Labor party and Trade Union movement was lauded for his commitment to consensus during his years as Prime Minister. Murray, a convert to Catholicism, dedicated each of his books to "the glory of God" and much of his work articulated a spirituality which resonated with many. Br Peter Carroll, Provincial and Leader of the Marist Association, wrote beautifully of the legacy of Les Murray and his fellow 'poet of the human spirit', Jean Vanier, in the recent edition of Christ life and we commend this [reflection](#) to you.

In his book, *The Quality of Sprawl* (1999), Murray wrote a wonderful chapter titled, *Some Religious Stuff I know about Australia*. In it Murray encouraged his fellow Australian Christians to,

*get on with being what our Founder told us to be, which is the salt of the earth,  
the baking soda in the loaf of mankind. Salt and baking soda aren't privileged substances,  
but they're pretty essential ones.*

This encouragement has remained with me since his passing and echoed loud and clear as I queued with my neighbours on Saturday to cast my vote in the Federal election. I confess that I really enjoy the ritual of voting at the local Primary school. There is something of 'fete-like' atmosphere to the day and, as I lined up to discharge my democratic responsibility, I broke ranks to buy myself a sausage sizzle. I thought of the story my son told me of one of his classmates who was on a mission at the recent State and Federal elections to rate the sausage sizzles in the local area and post his opinion on the best one on social media. I was acutely aware of the range of ages, cultural backgrounds, and proponents for many causes whose opinions were emblazoned on T-shirts and caps among the queues of people. And perhaps, with just a touch of complacency when compared to other parts of the world, all of this occurs in relative peace and security across the country. It is appropriate to celebrate and remember with fondness the heroes of our nation and faith, the rituals and routines on which we base our lives and the simple joy and privilege of being a citizen of this great nation.

Such gratitude and hope are perhaps reflective of St Marcellin's own attitude to education which inspires us:

To bring up a child involves more than teaching (them) to read and write, more than initiating (them) into the subjects which normally make up primary instruction.... To educate a child, therefore, is to show (them) this high and sublime destiny and to give (them) the means to reach it; in a word, it is to form (them) into a good Christian and a virtuous citizen.  
*(Life, XXIII, p. 534)*

Thank you for all you do to animate this vision in your school! May St Marcellin's words echo in our ears and affirm our vision for young people in Marist schools across Australia – "Good Christians and virtuous citizens", "salt of the earth, the baking soda in the loaf of humankind ... essential" now, more than ever.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Kyle-Robinson".

**John Kyle-Robinson**  
Regional Director NSW/ACT

## COMING UP...

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|-----------|---|
| 21 May    | Marian Lecture - Melbourne                |
| 22 May    | AMS Drinks on the Deck - Brisbane         |
| 26-28 May | Marist Assistant Principals Conference    |
| 28 May    | In the Marist Way - Macarthur             |
| 29 May    | In the Marist Way - Sydney Western Region |

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|---------|---|
| 4 June  | 10th Anniversary Celebration AMS - Sacred Heart College Adelaide    |
| 17 June | 10th Anniversary Celebration AMS - St Joseph's College Hunters Hill |

Marist Schools Australia Biennial Conference 2019

## HOLY TODAY...



Catholic Leadership Centre Melbourne - Sunday 28 July to Tuesday 30 July

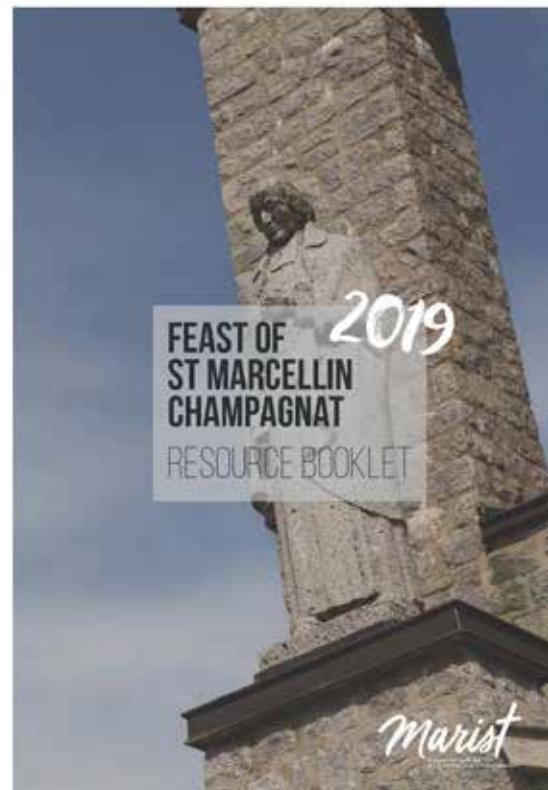
The MSA Biennial Conference has been tailored for principals, leadership team members, middle level and emerging leaders and we hope that you will take advantage to participate in this Marist gathering and the exceptional professional development opportunity which offers interesting keynote speakers and 18 workshops dedicated to '**Evangelising through quality education**'.

### Registrations Now Open

For more information visit [www.msa.edu.au/msa-biennial-conference](http://www.msa.edu.au/msa-biennial-conference)



**FOR MORE INFORMATION AND REGISTRATION**



[CLICK HERE](#) for the Resource Booklet



### LAVALLA & CHAMPAGNAT JOURNAL

Please use Lavalla to share some news from your school with the rest of Marist Schools Australia, and/or consider submitting an article for the Champagnat Journal.

The cut-off date for contributions to the second edition of Lavalla and Champagnat Journal for 2019 is **Friday, 26 July**.

All submissions should be sent to Br Tony Paterson ([tony.paterson@marists.org.au](mailto:tony.paterson@marists.org.au)).

### MARIST HEARTS AVAILABLE TO ORDER

Over the last few years, Daniel Lynch, from Newman College Perth, has worked with Trevor Wilkins of T&S Signcraft, to develop a series of 'Marist Heart' concepts. These designs are now available to commission.

Full details and descriptions of the concepts and contact information for T&S Signcraft can be found [HERE](#).



Read more about the Story of the Marist Hearts [HERE](#).

# *Marist* MISSION AND LIFE FORMATION

ASSOCIATION OF  
ST MARCELLIN CHAMPAGNAT

## "TO LOVE THEM; WE MUST LOVE THEM ALL EQUALLY"



On Monday May 6th, over 40 participants attended the Eastern Sydney "In the Marist Way" formation program at Marist College North Shore. Attendees from six different Marist schools in the region gathered to take part. Many teachers mentioned that the program allowed them to gain a deeper understanding of the Marist approach to education -- that we all share a common vision with a distinctive pedagogical style.

It was a time where our new staff were able to enter into a dialogue that enabled them to discern the true nature of education: one that does not simply consist of either discipline or teaching, but by constant daily contact and interaction with their students. They identified these moments as personal advice, attention to details, encouragement, and living the words of a Marcellin: "to love them; we must love them all equally."

## THE 2019 MARIAN LECTURE - SYDNEY



### AN ATTENDEE'S REVIEW OF THE 2019 MARIAN LECTURE:

"Dr Bonnie Thurston gives us a fresh look at Mary through the quality and depth of her presentation and her reasoned, imaginative and gentle approach."



# NEWS FROM NEWMAN COLLEGE, PERTH



**NEWMAN COLLEGE**  
*Educating in the Marist Tradition*

## Year 7 Humanities Solar Buddy Challenge

During the final weeks of Term 1, the Humanities Department allied with an external organisation, Solarbuddy, to provide an authentic learning opportunity aligned to the Year 7 Livability Unit in Geography. Solarbuddy is an Australian ‘not for profit’ organisation that works with developing nations around the World. With the assistance of schools, Solarbuddy provides solar lights to impoverished communities so that students can study at night. Energy Poverty is a large issue around the world affecting over a billion people. In these communities people often use kerosene lamps which are both hazardous to their health and often result in fires destroying people’s homes. Something as simple as a solar light gives people in these communities the opportunity to access studying at night so that they can improve their education and ultimately gain skills that may get them better employment.

As part of a combined STEM and Humanities initiative, the College has incorporated working with Solarbuddy into the curriculum. After obtaining the lights, the students studied the use of solar lighting to improve Livability in these communities, particularly focusing on Papua New Guinea, Vanuatu and Tanzania. Once the lights were assembled, the Year 7’s wrote messages to students in these communities to share their enthusiasm for solar lighting with them. The unit was completed with a simulation lesson that gave students a small taste of what it is like to live without light whilst trying to study. The lights and messages will be returned to Solarbuddy in the coming weeks so that they can be sent out to these communities. It should be said that some of the interest, effort and work produced around this unit has truly been remarkable and the students should be commended for their efforts and passion to make a difference.



## Walk for Water - Project Compassion

To help our Years 3-6 students understand just how far some people need to walk for water each day, they participated in the walk for water event on the last day of Term 1. This relay highlighted how fortunate we are and helped drive our Project Compassion fundraising efforts.





## AUSTRALIAN MARIST SOLIDARITY MID YEAR EVENTS

MELBOURNE | 11 May, 2019 11:00 AM | MARIST CENTRE, 1 DAWSON STREET, BRUNSWICK

BRISBANE | 22 MAY, 2019 5:30 PM | MARIST CENTRE, 142 FRASERS ROAD, ASHGROVE

ADELAIDE | 4 JUNE, 2019 5:30 PM | BR JOSEPH MCATEER FUNCTION CENTRE, SACRED HEART COLLEGE, SOMERTON PARK

SYDNEY | 17 JUNE, 2019 5:30 PM | THE PARLOUR, ST JOSEPH'S COLLEGE, MARK STREET, HUNTERS HILL

## Marist Youth Ministry - Year 12 Vocations Forum

The Year 12 Vocations Forum, held at Mittagong from 3 – 5 May, was attended by wonderful students from ten Marist schools in the Sydney metropolitan area and ACT. The students engaged whole heartedly with the program. After defining ‘vocation’ and ‘discernment’, students explored their own ‘Keys to Vocation’ looking at,

*What brings them joy?*

*What are their gifts and talents?*

*What problems/ issues they wish to solve in the world?*

One highlight was listening to a panel of guests: Fr Pio Hendi OFM Capp, Sr Rosie Drum MGL, Br NoyNoy Sisneros FMS and married couple, Tiffany and Joseph Schwarzkopf. Their input was invaluable in helping students understand their second sense of vocation.

Students left the Forum, with newfound friends and a better sense of their ‘calling’. On reflection, students said:

“Feeling closer to my faith and to be Marist man”

“It’s eye opening for me. I used to judge many without making conversation. Now that’s changed”

“I’ve noticed I don’t have to discern my vocation because I already know what I want to do, which helped me reinforce what I already wanted to do”

“I know more about my vocation and the calling that is for me from God”

“I am more aware of my surroundings and am more willing to let God into my life”

“I’ve had time to relax and be myself without stress”

“I am more open to who I am”

Thank you to all the Principals for their support, not only allowing students to attend but sending their wonderful staff to help supervise!



**REMINDER: Local Connect** gatherings are being held this term from 5 – 7pm on:

12 June	Randwick Connect	Marist College Penshurst
14 June	Eastwood Connect	Marist College Eastwood
21 June	Macarthur Connect	The John Therry High School