



## From Dr Frank Malloy

Dear Colleagues,

This week as we celebrate the Feast Day of Saint Marcellin, his example of living as a faithful follower of Christ is brought again into sharp focus. As a Saint of the universal Church, Marcellin's relationship with Jesus provides an ongoing example for all Catholics.

Recently on the Marist Pilgrimage, participants had the privilege of spending time in the foothills of the French Alps, which spectacularly skirt the rich, beautiful lands of the Rhône Valley. It was among these steep hills and ravines that Saint Marcellin and the first Marists commenced their project. Walking some of the centuries old trails in the region, retracing Marcellin's oft trod paths between the small hamlets and towns of the Parish of La Valla, one is struck by the sheer physicality of life for the local people of Saint Marcellin's time, still evident in many ways today, despite our modern technology. The climate in this high country is also extremely cold for most of the year with sudden and dramatic changes in weather commonplace.

Clearly Marcellin and the early Brothers possessed remarkable physical strength and endurance. The impact of their ministry and passion for the Gospel are greatly amplified when understood against such a foreboding and rugged backdrop. Spreading the Good News in such environs required resilience, perseverance, and faith. The fact 50 brothers died in the years between the founding in 1817 and Saint Marcellin's death in 1840, attests to the challenges they faced.

Courage, strength, perseverance, resilience, and selflessness are all virtues evident in bounty in the person of Saint Marcellin, each faithfully exercised in the name of Jesus and Mary in a manner that moved people closer to God. Comprehending the impact and influence of Saint Marcellin among the people of his time is aided enormously by visiting the places in which he worked. Brother Neville Solomon fms, a respected and renowned historian with particular interest in the life of Saint Marcellin, has likened Marcellin's widespread appeal across the parishes of that region to the way in which modern day Catholics are encouraged and motivated by recent and contemporary spiritual leaders like Mother Teresa and Pope Francis. Testimony to such comparisons resides in the numerous prominent recordings of Marcellin's name in Churches, on streets and town squares in settlements throughout the districts of southeastern France. Letters written in Marcellin's life time and shortly after his death, remark upon the distances people travelled to hear him preach, such was the transformative nature of his words and the persuasive humility of his character.

During the recent Pilgrimage, Brother Michael Green fms led participants through a series of letters written and received by Saint Marcellin. The overwhelming impression of this remarkable person was his earnest, patient, and consistent desire to recognise goodness in other people, affirm the gifts God had given them, and encourage them always to be their better selves. Brother Michael shared a selection of written communications in which, Marcellin's indefatigable hope, optimism, good humour, and prayerfulness shone through the encouraging letters he carefully composed in response to the often woe ridden, desperate descriptions and heartfelt pleas from some of the frustrated leaders of early communities.

Whilst this week, we celebrate the life and ongoing inspiration of Saint Marcellin, it is also a time for reflection on our own relationship with God, our openness to the Spirit working through us for others. Pope Francis, in his recent Apostolic Exhortation on "The call to holiness in today's world", reminds us that each person is called by God, each in his or her own way, to perfect holiness.

*We should not grow discouraged before examples of holiness that appear unattainable. There are some testimonies that may prove helpful and inspiring, but that we are not meant to copy, for that could even lead us astray from the one specific path that the Lord has in mind for us. The important thing is that each believer discern his or her own path, that they bring out the very best of themselves, the most personal gifts that God has placed in their hearts (cf. 1 Cor 12:7), rather than hopelessly trying to imitate something not meant for them. We are all called to be witnesses, but there are many actual ways of bearing witness. (GAUDETE ET EXSULTATE paragraph 11).*

In this week of celebration in our Marist Schools, let us recall Saint Marcellin's encouragement to his early Brothers, and heed Pope Francis' invitation to us today, to bring out the very best of ourselves, the most personal gifts that God has placed in our hearts, as we seek to bear witness in response to God's call to holiness.

Yours sincerely

**Dr Frank Malloy**  
NATIONAL DIRECTOR

## COMING UP...

6 Jun	Feast Day of St Marcellin Champagnat	31 Jul	MSA Governed Schools Principals Meeting
7 Jun	In the Marist Way - Riverina	2-4 Aug	Care for the Soul Retreat, Mittagong
17-20 Jun	Footsteps2 - Mittagong	3-5 Aug	Remar Gold Retreat - VIC
20 Jun	Remar Red Caravel Day - WA	4-5 Aug	Marist Educational Leadership Program
22-24 Jun	Remar Blue Retreat - WA	15-18 Aug	Contemplative Retreat - Mittagong
22-24 Jun	Care for the Soul Retreat, Mittagong	22-24 Aug	Being Marist Conference, Melbourne
1-4 Jul	Marist Business Managers Conference	30-31 Aug	Marist Assistant Principals Conference



### Being Marist Conference 2018

This national biannual conference invites staff from diverse areas of support in both our schools and ministries, to gather, share and deepen their experience of being Marist.

The conference title for 2018, A Future filled with Audacity and Hope, connects with our Association theme, offering a program that allows participants to engage with Marist spirituality and their own personal faith journey.

Date: 22 - 24 August 2018  
Venue: Marist Centre Melbourne,  
1 Dawson St, Brunswick.  
Cost: \$270 (plus own transport and accommodation arrangements)

Registration online through the schools  
Booking Officer at

[www.msa.edu.au/registration-for-programmes](http://www.msa.edu.au/registration-for-programmes)

For further information, contact  
paul.harris@marists.org.au or phone (02) 9218 4000.

### 2018 NATIONAL MARIST BUSINESS MANAGERS CONFERENCE

Sun 1 July to Wed 4 July  
The Hermitage Mittagong

Registrations are now open for the upcoming National Marist Business Managers Conference 2018.

Please click on the link [HERE](#) and this will take you to the Registration website. Registrations will also be available through the MSA Website. Please note, although the link states that Registrations close in June, there are only a limited number of rooms, so it will be first in best dressed!



### 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 first edition of Lavalla and Champagnat Journal for 2018 is **Friday, 15 June**. All submissions should be sent to Br Tony Paterson ([tony.paterson@marists.org.au](mailto:tony.paterson@marists.org.au)).

### PRINCIPAL St Augustine's College, CAIRNS Secondary, 780 students Catholic School for Boys in Marist tradition Commence in 2019

St Augustine's College is a part of the System of schools in the Diocese of Cairns. Founded in 1930 it is a Catholic secondary day and boarding school for boys, in the Marist tradition. With nearly 800 students, "Saints" is the oldest operating Marist school in Queensland.

Please visit [www.traksearch.com](http://www.traksearch.com) for information, including a video; and learn how to easily progress an interest in this role. Expressions of interest are also welcome from this website; to John Cheshier on 0417 068 220; or by providing a brief resume to [jobs@traksearch.com](mailto:jobs@traksearch.com) quoting reference no. TS1384.

Applications close Monday 18 June 2018.

### MARIST ASSISTANT PRINCIPALS CONFERENCE

Date: 30 - 31 August 2018  
Venue: Marist Centre Brisbane

Registrations are now open for the upcoming National Marist Assistant Principals Conference

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#)



The 2018 Champagnat Week Resource Booklet can be found [HERE](#).

## From the Regional Director ...



John Kyle-Robinson -  
Sydney Regional Director

### You may never know the good you have done

Perhaps like you, my inbox fills with a stream of daily emails that tend to shape some of my work. I sometimes open mine with one eye closed, dreading a 'surprise' that will send the day off in a new direction! Know the feeling? Occasionally these emails are also bearers of joy. Last week I received several emails recounting one such event in a Marist community. In this Champagnat week, it reminded me of what we know deep within our Marist hearts – the simple joy of doing good! I hope this story warms your heart this Champagnat week!

*"...Cranbrook 4th XV were playing their counterparts from St Joseph's College. Late in the game, a Cranbrook lad with Down Syndrome, eager to play with his mates, came on to the field to have his first game-time of the season. Nothing was spoken. Intuitively, the Joeys and Cranbrook lads looked meaningfully at each other, and knew what to do. With Cranbrook taking the kick-off, the ball was quickly funnelled to the new arrival, as he set off for the line, and the Jo boys moved to stop him ...*

*Sort of.*

*That is, through a combination of the newcomer running like a scalded cat, his mates running and riding shotgun all around him, and the Jo boys somehow missing their tackles by mere inches, he proceeded to run all the way to the tryline to score the first try of his life, all as the crowd came to their feet and roared, before both teams came together to warmly congratulate him.*

*Bravo.*

*Who won?*

*Who cares?*

*The congratulatory words of the Joey's headmaster, Dr Chris Hayes, to the entire school on Thursday, bear repeating.*

*"For that young man, his parents, his schoolmates and their parents, as well as our Joeys staff and parents, a great moment of jubilation and celebration happened on that rugby pitch. Our boys saw a need and did something about it. You may never know the good you have done because for that young man you made his day. And it will be a day he will never forget. He will always remember the day he scored a try against St Joseph's College. From the actions of our boys we have a clear display of great compassion, unselfishness and generosity. You have changed someone's life and to the Joeys boys responsible, we salute you for being outstanding ambassadors of our great school."*

*(Peter Fitzsimons, The Fitz Files 25 May 2018)*

<https://www.smh.com.au/sport/blues-must-embrace-the-need-for-speed-20180525-p4zhhu.html>

# THE 2018 **MARIAN** LECTURE



*Br Peter Carroll, His Excellency Bishop Vincent Long, Dr Bernadette Tobin, Professor Greg Craven*

We are called to be a Church based on justice, tenderness and mercy – with Mary as our model in following Jesus. According to speakers at the 2018 Marian Lectures, this is the inspiring future envisioned by Pope Francis.

This year's special guests included Bishop Vincent Long, Diocese of Parramatta; Professor Greg Craven, Vice-Chancellor of the Australian Catholic University; and Dr Bernadette Tobin, Director of the Plunkett Centre for Ethics.

The lectures, were held on 29th & 31st May at the Australian Catholic University in Sydney and Melbourne, and was an initiative by the Marist Association of St Marcellin Champagnat. The audience was certainly both challenged and engaged by the presenters and the question session which followed.

The full lecture in Melbourne will be available soon for viewing online at [www.maristassociation.org.au](http://www.maristassociation.org.au)



*Kathleen McGrath, Mary Ivancic, Liza Adams*



*Cassie Wilmot, Br Dennis Cooper FMS, Daniel Nguyen*

## AMS CEO thanks Brother Neville Solomon and welcomes Mr Ross Tarlinton

On Monday 28 May the teams at Marist Centre Brisbane welcomed guests from the MSA Advisory Council, Marist 180 and Marist College Ashgrove to farewell outgoing MSA Regional Director Brother Neville Solomon and welcome new MSA Regional Director Ross Tarlinton. The morning tea was led by AMS CEO Brother Allen Sherry and included blessings for the outgoing and incoming Directors.

In thanking Brother Neville, Brother Allen noted that “Br Neville has given over 6 years to the MSA Regional leadership role. He provided great energy, support for principals and school leadership teams and a strong connection with Catholic Education offices and Bishops.”

In farewelling Br Neville, Marist Centre Brisbane welcomed in new MSA Regional Director Mr Ross Tarlinton who has broad leadership experience and has been a great supporter of AMS works in his previous Headmaster’s role at St Josephs College, Hunters Hill.



Brother Allen Sherry welcoming guests to Marist Centre Brisbane



Brother Neville Solomon thanking colleagues

Media: Tony Skinner, AMS Communications Coordinator  
 W: [www.australianmaristsolidarity.net.au](http://www.australianmaristsolidarity.net.au)  
 E: Tony.Skinner@marists.org.au

## News from REMAR

Earlier this year, led by the Mission and Life Formation Team, the Remar Ministry Team explored the idea of an audacious hope. We gained important insight into our role as youth ministers in modern Australia and we explored how we act as the face of Jesus to those we encounter through our work.

Five Red Caravel Days. Four Blue Retreats. Thus far, we have seen and been signs of hope for the students who we have lead in our Remar events. As we approach the mid-year break, we consider how in this first half of the year, we have lived our mission of making Jesus Christ known and loved, especially by the most needy and the young.

In our work with students from various Catholic schools across Australia, we have extended and strengthened our Marist community and been present with students in their exploration of identity and authentic experience of faith and relationship with God. By exploring opportunities of service, and how we can be the hands and feet of Christ to those we encounter with these students, we continue to walk in solidarity with young people in our formation as Christian leaders.

We look forward to continuing our service to those we encounter in the second half of the year.



Mr Edwin Bakker  
 National Remar Coordinator

## MITTAGONG RETREATS

The first of our ***Savouring the Silence*** retreats was held over the weekend at The Hermitage. A small group joined us from Trinity Catholic College Auburn, Marist Catholic College Penshurst and from Melbourne. There will be another five Retreats offered during 2018. Details of these retreats and how a place can be booked can be found on the Hermitage website ([www.thehermitage.org.au](http://www.thehermitage.org.au)).

Many thanks to Br Bob O'Connor, Br Bill Tarrant and Fr Gary Perritt who were part of the team for the weekend. The feedback from the participants gives an indication of how beneficial the time was for those who attended. I include a few of their comments for your interest:

*"He is calling me to take time out regularly, to sit in silence, to reconnect to the real world around us and to draw nourishment from it."*

*"The experience reinforces how important taking time to reflect is. I think coming on retreat isn't an academic exercise, for me it is an emotional connection, the sharing of ideas, the insights into scripture. They are very helpful in focussing contemplative thought"*

*"Having benefited enormously from the experience I am grateful the opportunity existed for me. Thank you for the experience."*

There are 7 places still remaining on our 22-24 June ***Care for the Soul*** weekend retreat.



## PERSONAL RETREATS

Two new Hermitage Cottages on the La Valla site will soon be on line at The Hermitage. These facilities are self-contained and allow guests the ability to do a private retreat and cater for themselves. Accompaniment is available for anyone choosing to do a private retreat at The Hermitage. Catering options are also available if that is preferred.

With the addition of these 2 cottages, the Hermitage will have five cottages available for guests wishing to do a private retreat. All guests are also welcome to join the La Valla community for morning and evening prayer during their stay.

Please ring the Hermitage office on 02 4872 1911 for reservations.

**Br Bill Sullivan**  
**Director**  
**The Hermitage, Mittagong**





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20 YEARS  
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## THE ANNUAL BERNE LUNCHEON 2018

The John Berne School cordially invites you to

## THE ANNUAL BERNE LUNCHEON 2018

Friday 22 June, 12 Noon – 3.30PM

Doltone House, Hyde Park venue Level 3, 181 Elizabeth Street, Sydney

**Guest Speaker:** Senator the Hon. Kristina Keneally, Ambassador for Berne

**Dress:** Lounge Suit



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### Tickets

Corporate Sponsor\*: \$2,500  
Individual Sponsor: \$500  
Individual: \$175  
Table of 10: \$1,750

*\*Includes Corporate Package*

### RSVP by Wednesday 13 June

#### Enquiries

Ange Flannery | Development Officer  
02 9560 9260 | [events@johnberneschool.org](mailto:events@johnberneschool.org)  
[www.johnberneschool.org](http://www.johnberneschool.org)

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