



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

### **From Frank Malloy**

Dear Colleagues,

This week announcements of the retirement of two long serving and outstanding Marist Principals have been made. **Tony Duncan** who is currently on leave from Marist College North Shore, will conclude formally at the end of this term and **John Riordan** will conclude at Marist College Kogarah at the end of the year. It is fitting to recognise the vast contributions of these two fine, faith filled Marist educators.

Tony has worked in Marist schools across four decades and has made an enormous contribution to Marist life in many ways. Tony and Jackie had their six children Marist educated, with two working in Province and school ministries. Trained as an Engineer, Tony excelled as a Physics teacher. Students fortunate to be taught by him consistently achieved outstanding results in that challenging subject. Tony's passion and enthusiasm for engaging young people in prayer, worship and religious education have been constant and defining characteristics of his work and leadership. His involvement in senior retreats had far reaching influence in Sydney Catholic schools and Marist schools across the country. Tony's love of the Australian bush was generously shared for many years through active dedication to the Duke of Edinburgh programme, from which hundreds of his students gained awards.



As a leader Tony has personified the three Marist virtues of humility, simplicity and modesty. Unfailingly cheerful, blessed with a searching and insightful intellect, Tony could always be counted upon to bring creativity and enthusiasm to any issue or challenge at hand. Whether it be timetabling, workplace relations and industrial agreements, building masterplans, strategic plans, or results analysis, Tony was resolute in finding the best solutions from the perspective of the learner. Admirably, throughout all the years of leadership with the inherent pressure points and conflicts, Tony has maintained excellent relationships with staff, students, parents and professional colleagues. His dry wit and absurd sense of humour have been widely appreciated, if not always understood!

Tony Duncan has been totally committed to Catholic education throughout his career. His love for the work has been obvious to all fortunate to have worked alongside him. Hopefully with his retirement, Tony can spend more time with Jackie, and become a better long board rider in the waves at Freshwater. May God bless him and the family as they enter this next phase.



John Riordan has made a valued contribution to Marist education over the past 12 years. Highly regarded and respected for his clear and courageous leadership, John is grounded with a strong sense of faith and moral purpose. He has made an extraordinary impact at Kogarah, evidenced by consistently outstanding Higher School Certificate results. Throughout his 37 years in Catholic education in Sydney, John has been renowned for the high standards of conduct and engagement he is able to establish and sustain with students and staff. Mr Phil Gane, Director for Sydney Catholic Schools in the Eastern Region, observed in a recent communication, "One sign of a great leader is the capacity and commitment to generate new leaders for Catholic schools. John has a record second to none in terms of identifying and nurturing future leaders. His valuable legacy in this regard will be long lasting."

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Likewise, nationally with Marist Schools Australia, John is held in the highest esteem. His active leadership and encouragement of staff spiritual development and professional learning in the Marist way have been significant. His commitment in word and action to solidarity and the common good have been enduring expressions of authentic Christian leadership. Throughout his career, John's vision and commitment has enabled thousands of students and hundreds of staff to excel in their learning and teaching. We are looking forward to John continuing to generously mentor many Marist Principals across the country with his pragmatic and forthright wisdom for many years to come. May God grant John and his wife Kim, good health for many years to come and enjoy the blessings of family and friends in a fruitful retirement.

Yours sincerely,

**Dr Frank Malloy**NATIONAL DIRECTOR

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

The cut-off date for contributions for the next edition of Lavalla for 2020 is *Friday, 4 September*.

All submissions should be sent to Br Michael Flanagan (michael.flanagan@marists.org.au).



# MOVING MISSION AND LIFE FORMATION

## **CHAMPAGNAT DAY 2020** SPREADING THE LOVE

Our Marist mission is communal. In community we experience affirmation of our faith, we acknowledge that our spaces are sacred, we seek out reasons to be with each other, we welcome meaningful relationships and we certainly know how to feel the joy of our common spirituality. In our innate way, 2020 Champagnat Day celebrations were not dimmed by our current circumstances - it was an opportunity to SPREAD THE LOVE!



Holy Family Parish School Parkes celebrated with a beautiful Liturgy with Bishop Columba Macbeth-Green.



Marist Association Group South Burnett, QLD

Barambah Cellars. Moffatdale was the peaceful location where the South Burnett Marist Association members came together; they renewed their commitment and shared some beautiful content from Brother Mark O'Connor's recent 'Reflection' on holiness and humanity. Chelsea Schloss, Jessica Marshall, Tracey Gerrard, Father Bryan Pipins, Brother Tim Beencke, Brother Paul Turner, Amanda Rofe, Hayley Duff, Deborah Barry, Claire Dennis.



St Joseph's Primary School Murgon

Champagnat Day Certificates were awarded to Miha Costello (Yr 6), Harriet Clevens (Yr 5), Olivia Gorringe (Yr 2), Ava Cent (Yr 1), Elise Kent (Prep), Jack Schulz (Yr 4) Br Tim Beencke.





**E-LEARNING** 

## THE ART OF READING AND PRAYING SCRIPTURE

A newly designed e-learning formation experience consisting of 4 x 1-hour modules examining different methods of reading and praying Scripture. Each module focuses on a distinctive methodology to interpret and pray the Divine Word of God.

**ENROL TODAY** 

https://maristformation.thinkific.com/



### **Father Chris Monaghan CP**

Chris Monaghan is a Passionist who is currently President of Yarra Theological Union. Since 1987 he has been lecturing at YTU in both Old and New Testament. The major focus of his teaching throughout these years has been Matthew, Luke-Acts and the letters of Paul. His enduring passion is making the Bible in its richness accessible to people at all levels.

## 9-10 JULY 2020

Join us online at 10:00am, 12:00pm and 2:30pm each day to take up the themes in Matthew's Gospel

### REGISTER HERE

## **AUSTRALIAN Marist SOLIDARITY**

#### ST MICHEL TECHNICAL COLLEGE VANUATU

Celebrating the Feast Day of St Marcellin Champagnat

On Friday, June 5, St Michel Technical College celebrated the Feast Day of St Marcellin Champagnat.

Amongst the damage caused by Tropical Cyclone Harold two months ago, a small but meaningful celebration was had.

To help our Marist family in Vanuatu get through this humanitarian disaster, please donate to the Tropical Cyclone Harold Recovery Appeal at http://bit.ly/helpAMS



#### **FREE ONLINE EVENT**

Date: Wednesday 24 June, 2020

**Time:** 4:30pm - 5:30pm EST

Speaker: Br Raphael Fakaia, St Michel Technical

College

Join us on Wednesday, June 24, when we will hear from Br Raphael direct from Espiritu Santo about the impact Tropical Cyclone Harold has had on the region and the students at the college and the difficulties the COVID-19 restrictions have placed on the recovery.

#### To register visit:

https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/ams-onlineevent-st-michel-technical-college-vanuaturegistration-108932004558



### #COVIDCANTSTOPGOOD

Since April, we at Australian Marist Solidarity have not let the COVID-19 virus stop to us from carrying out our mission. We have been working from home during these difficult times, to ensure our project partners have been getting all the help they need.

Armed with the battle cry of #covidcantstopgood, we have been humbled by the generous support of our donors during the current trying times of the unfolding COVID-19 health and economic crisis.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all of you for your much-needed support.



## **MARIST YOUTH MINISTRY**

**Mid June Update** 

### **GAME CHANGERS**

#### **Game Changers IS BACK (at Ashgrove!)**

After several weeks away in isolation and home learning, Game Changers met for the first time in Term 2 at Marist College Ashgrove. The students were chomping at the bit to get back amongst their mates and to engage in the program.

Home learning looked different for many of the students, so the initial group meetings provided the opportunity to swap stories and experiences. The students also expressed gratefulness for the opportunities home learning provided, and the things they're grateful for upon returning.





#### Adam Burns, Marist Youth Ministry Brisbane







#### MYM National Weekly Formation, "Around the Well"

Since mid-March, our national MYM Team have been gathering weekly on Friday mornings for "Around the Well" sessions. These have been on a variety of topics and have included various speakers from our Marist family and from our wider Catholic family.

This formation has been incredibly intentional and it has been a perfect time to reset and look at the way that we do ministry with young people across the country, as well as provide personal spiritual formation for our team.

Last week, we heard from Natalie Lindner L'Hullier, who works at Australian Catholic University as Project Officer, Catholic Programs Identity and Mission.

**Edwin Bakker, Marist Youth Ministry** 



@maristyouthministry @maristgamechangers



Marist Youth Ministry Marist Game Changers





#### **Super Connect Night New South Wales**

On Friday, 12 June, the MYM Sydney Team ran our first online Super Connect to celebrate Champagnat Day! It was a great opportunity for our regional Marist schools in NSW and ACT to join in the fun with our Marist schools in Sydney. Congratulations to Tiana from Mount Carmel, Varroville for winning the Marcellin Kahoot competition and well done to all the schools for responding in various ways to the solidarity challenge. Thank you Red Bend Catholic College, Forbes for leading us in a meaningful Acknowledgment of Country. We are grateful for all the teachers that came online to supervise. Thank you for your gracious support!

#### Jeni Miller, Marist Youth Ministry Sydney









