

## From Frank Malloy

Dear Colleagues,

As we commence this new school year in the midst of the continued uncertainties associated with the COVID-19 pandemic, the work of the teachers and leaders in each Marist school is to be commended with deep appreciation once again. It is noteworthy that two of the greatest global crises to impact upon Australia in the past 15 years, have seen the nation's educators distinct, assured, and vital leadership in their communities. First to mind was the Global Financial Crisis and the economic stimulus facilitated by schools with the "Digital and Building Education Revolutions" of the Rudd Gillard Rudd Governments. The selflessness, good will, ingenuity, and compassion of our teachers and Principals in particular, will be long remembered as a most prominent feature of the national response to this prolonged COVID-19 crisis.

In the midst of the hectic and all consuming commencement to this new school year, is the beginning of celebrating 150 years of Marist education in Australia. In mid-February 1872, at this very time of year, the *Star of Peace* sailed within sight of land for the first time in seventy nine days since leaving England. On deck at 2.30am, a young Frenchman, Pierre Laboureyas, clearly saw in the shrouded gloom, the coastline of Australia. Pierre is better known to us as Brother Ludovic, the 28 year old "Director" of his fellow three young Brothers in the foundation of the first Australian Marist school. One can only imagine the natural anxiety and unsettled emotions for this young man from the other side of the world, whose suitability and preparedness for the immense task had been questioned by some respected fellow Brothers in Europe. Such was the weight of these expressed reservations upon poor Ludovic, some months before the scheduled departure he formally requested the Superior General of the Marist Brothers to "relieve him of this burden". Ludovic's request was denied.

The vulnerability of Ludovic and the inexperience of his fellow Brothers was of deep concern to many of the Brothers in senior roles in Europe, especially in light of the colourful accounts of the challenges being experienced by those new to this ancient land. Yet in the midst of the swirling uncertainties we read from Ludovic's journal, words that reflect a man of faith with great trust in God and a determined focus that echoed the Marist vision so firmly established by Marcellin. He wrote:

*In my anxiety of seeing the land I got up at 2.30a.m. I was the first among the passengers to see it. My first sentiments and actions were ... consecration of myself, of my Brothers, to Jesus through Mary for the Christian education of the children of Australia to whom we are sent"*<sup>1</sup>

Acutely conscious of the present COVID-19 difficulties, as we commence these first weeks of school for 2022, let us like Ludovic affirm our trust in God and our commitment to *Jesus through Mary for the Christian education of the children of Australia*. May the year ahead present many moments, formal and informal, for us to be thankful for the gifts of faith, courage, perseverance, intelligence, patience, and compassion that God bestowed on the thousands of exemplary Marist Brothers, teachers and staff who have worked, and continue to work, in our schools.

Yours sincerely,



**Dr Frank Malloy**  
NATIONAL DIRECTOR

1. Doyle, A. (1972). *The Story of the Marist Brothers in Australia 1872 - 1972*. Drummoyne: The Marist Brothers of the Schools.

## EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Marist College Ashgrove

Head of Mission

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

Applications close: Monday 7 March 2022



# 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 for the 2022 editions of Lavalla are:

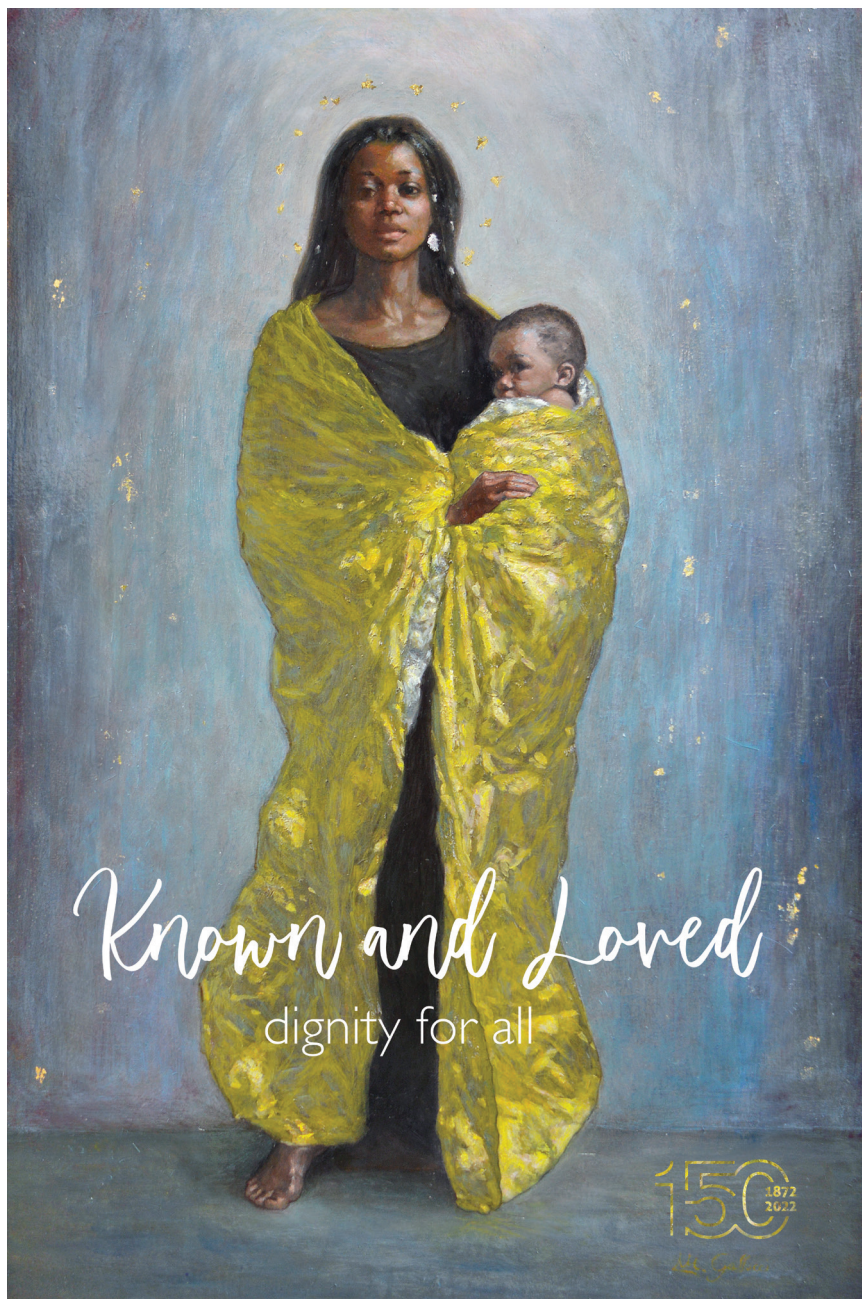
*Friday 8 April 2022: Issue 1*  
*Friday 24 June 2022: 150 years special issue*  
*Friday 23 September 2022: Issue 2*

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

As our Marist schools settle into a new year, albeit with another topsy-turvy start, the Mission and Life Team take this opportunity to remind you to *Breathe*, as we all did so beautifully last year but, also in these uncertain times, that the relationships you foster on your campuses must remain true and steadfast.

Our theme this year – ***Known and Loved: dignity for all*** – clearly conveys that we can love others because we are first loved by God. “We love because he first loved us,” writes John (1 John 4:19). This is the life we are invited into. This relational love is the deepest reality of the Christian life.

Knowing and loving is the call of being a Marist educator. It is also the call of every parent and, in our communities, we all seek to know and to show love to young people. Following the creed of St Marcellin Champagnat, we Marists have always shown love for our students. But the nature of these times, when our interactions are often limited by the cold interface of Zoom, blocked by necessary face masks or staged two metres apart, reminds us to let young people know that they are fully known and loved because then they can be themselves and feel deeply loved for being just who they are.



*“I am the good shepherd; I know my own and my own know me...” – John 10:14 NRSV*  
*...and He deeply knows and He truly loves.*



## Happy New School Year!



And happy 150 years of Marist education in Australia! We hope it's a fantastic one for you all. We are off to a fine start – our CEO Bec Bromhead is back from parental leave (huge thanks to our Business Manager Deirdre Looney for acting in the role); we have been successful in gaining funding for new projects; and we have just put the finishing touches on our 2022 Schools Campaign Kit.

Our Schools campaign will again focus on supporting education in Timor-Leste, one of Australia's closest neighbours. Timor-Leste was also the focus of last year's campaign, but because it was such an unusual year, we understand some of the materials weren't used as planned.

There's loads of new material within this kit – inspiring spiritual resources; stimulating learning activities; creative fundraising ideas; and delicious recipes. Please look out for it when it arrives via email – otherwise, it can all be found on our website at [www.australianmaristsolidarity.net.au/learn/](http://www.australianmaristsolidarity.net.au/learn/)

## Christmas Appeal update

Thank you to everyone who supported our Christmas Appeal – Give the gift of care. Because of your generosity, we raised \$31,000 for AMS projects. You have helped us change lives. 🍊🍊🍊



## Play-based learning

We love this strategy Sister Lilibeth and her team at the Balay Banaag project in the Philippines have put in place to combat the effects of the pandemic: play therapy. Some students haven't seen their parents and guardians in person for almost two years - these play-based activities have certainly helped to put a smile on their faces.

## Connect with us to find out more.



[australianmaristsolidarity.net.au](http://australianmaristsolidarity.net.au)



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# Marist Youth Ministry

## MYM Sydney

Welcome to Marist Youth Ministry for 2022! We are hoping that we will get to meet you and your students in person at all our MYM AND GC events this year! We are very happy to announce a new **MYM Regional Assistant for Sydney**. Sarah Vella, ex-student from Cerdon College, Merrylands (2020), will be taking the place of Emma Gallagher. Sarah lives out her deep faith, by supporting her parish and now, proclaiming the love of God through Marist Youth Ministry.

She is currently studying Physiotherapy at University of Sydney and loves everything creative – dancing, singing and sewing! Sarah is a wonderful asset to the existing MYM team – Ashley Douhei, (St Patrick's Dundas) Monica Le (St Patrick's Dundas) and Daniel Cooper (Parramatta Marist High School).

Jeni Miller, MYM Sydney Regional Co-ordinator.



*MYM and Game Changers events for Term 1 are as follows:*

**Super Connect**  
9 March

**Year 12 Game Changers Reflection Day**  
1 April

## MYM Brisbane

Technically speaking, 2022 kicked off for MYM Brisbane in October last year, during the Marist Student Leaders Summit. Held at Ashgrove, the Summit gathered 60 student leaders from eleven schools, to prepare them for leadership in their Marist communities in 2022.

# Marist Youth Ministry



The success of the Summit in forming students as Marist leaders was evident in students' comments at the end of the weekend:

- **Leaders** need to understand their environment and change and adapt their style to best suit.
- To do good quietly.
- A **Marist leader** strives to make a difference no matter how big or small.
- Be people of action with **love in our heart**.
- I've grown in **self-confidence** as a leader – thank you so much!
- I will never forget the Summit, I now know what it means to be a leader.

Despite entering another disrupted school year, these students are prepared to build the Marist Project in their school community. We pray for these young Marists and all our students returning after the extended break.

Adam Burns, Marist Youth Ministry Brisbane

*Upcoming MYM Brisbane events:*

**Year 7 Forum**  
7 March

**Connect Night**  
11 March

**Year 8 Forum**  
18 March



# Marist Youth Ministry

## MYM Melbourne

Marist Youth Ministry Melbourne is ecstatic to finally be back! Our first couple of weeks back in the office have been a mix of working in the office and from home, but we are slowly coming to find our new normal. We are pleased to introduce two new members to our team, for the Regional Assistant position, Grace Wake and Ruby Broomhall.



Grace graduated Marymede Catholic College, South Morang in 2021. She is passionate about women in sports and is currently playing football for the Northern Knights!

She also enjoys reading in her spare time, and whilst taking a break from studying this year to work, Grace hopes to study Science at The University of Melbourne next year.

Ruby graduated Assumption College Kilmore in 2019. Ruby enjoys music, through singing and learning new instruments.

She is also quite the green thumb and has an impressive collection of house plants to show for it! Ruby is currently studying Psychological Science at the Australian Catholic University, Melbourne.



*Upcoming MYM Melbourne Events:*

**Connect Night**  
10 March

**Bread Run**  
Every Wednesday

# Marist Youth Ministry

MYM Melbourne team were lucky enough to kick off with some Ministry this week, by beginning the Exodus Community Bread Run for 2022! The team met in Heidelberg West to have a quick refresher on how the bread run works, and why we do it. We had some special members of our Marist Community join us to share this great experience with and serve our wider community!



We would like to thank the Exodus Community Ministry for their ongoing support and efforts. MYM Melbourne are looking forward to our Wednesday Evenings together this year, in which we will deliver the bread with young people from our Marist schools, to allow them to complete Ministry and gain new experiences and insights into their communities.

Ruby Broomhall,  
Melbourne Regional Assistant

