


From Frank Malloy

Dear Colleagues,

As the COVID-19 pandemic reaches increasing levels of infection across the country, we know the most recent variant presents far greater danger to everyone, including young people. Whilst the inconvenience of lockdowns and the challenges faced with off-site learning are arduous, the tragic deaths of fellow Australians and the loss experienced by their loved ones weigh heavily upon us. At the beginning of the pandemic, the prayer by Pope Francis below was shared among Marists. In this week of the Feast of the Assumption, let us again turn to Mary our Good Mother and ask her to pray with and for us during these anxious times.

Pope Francis
Prayer for protection from Coronavirus

O Mary, you shine continuously on our journey as a sign of salvation and hope. We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick. At the foot of the Cross you participated in Jesus' pain, with steadfast faith. You, Salvation of the People, know what we need. We are certain that you will provide, so that, as you did at Cana of Galilee, joy and feasting might return after this moment of trial. Help us, Mother of Divine Love, to conform ourselves to the Father's will and to do what Jesus tells us: He who took our sufferings upon Himself, and bore our sorrows to bring us, through the Cross, to the joy of the Resurrection. Amen. We seek refuge under your protection, O Holy Mother of God. Do not despise our pleas – we who are put to the test – and deliver us from every danger, O glorious and blessed Virgin.



Yours sincerely,



Dr Frank Malloy
NATIONAL DIRECTOR

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Marcellin College Bulleen, VIC

Deputy Principal: Student Wellbeing

Deputy Principal: Faith and Mission

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

Applications close: 19 August 2021

REMINDER

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 next edition of Lavalla is **Friday 27 August 2021**.

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

Marist
ASSOCIATION OF
ST MARCELLIN CHAMPAGNAT

MISSION AND LIFE *formation*

“ The Breath of God always has the capacity to restore and revive. Even in our despondency, we can come to life – our spiritual vitality will be restored - when we respond to the Spirit of God. In Revelations (3:1-3) God cries out to us to ‘Wake up...for I have found your deeds unfinished...’ God cries out from his fierce love for us. It is a respond-to-this-cry cry. It’s a get-in-your-face-and-shake-you cry. It’s God’s cry to anyone who belongs to him to continue to respond to his Spirit and his word in these difficult times.

- from *Key Truths: July 26, 2019*
Life and Breath Series

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Out of the Shadows of Covid

As days of isolation turn into weeks, many of us are feeling increasingly uprooted from our normal lives. In a world in lockdown, it isn’t just our routines that are being disrupted, but our relationships too. Thankfully, distance doesn’t have to mean disconnection.

These challenging times remind us that it’s never enough to just look after ourselves. We must look after each other too. What a wonderful and compassionate initiative. Here is a little ray of sunshine video from our Victorian Marist schools to those in NSW!

Click [here](#) to watch the video!

The Feast & Day of Saint Mary MacKillop

On 8 August we celebrated the Feast Day of St. Mary MacKillop, the patron saint of Australia, Archdiocese of Brisbane, and the Knights of the Southern Cross.

Like Marcellin Champagnat, St Mary MacKillop saw the need for the education and religious instruction of children. Founding the Sisters of St Joseph, she gave her life to God providing an education for the children of poor and isolated families. The Sisters of St Joseph continue to share the spirit of our Mary of the Cross throughout Australia and New Zealand.



Covid Footsteps: 1-2 August

It was a terrific experience to gather staff from QLD, NSW, VIC ,WA and SA for a COVID Footsteps Program. Comments from some of the participants certainly capture the essence of the experience:



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Key insights were that the symbols and narratives that are part of our school's culture are part of a shared narrative across Australia and beyond. Clear connections were made between the origins of the Marist movement and how the ideas and values associated with it can be animated within our school contexts.

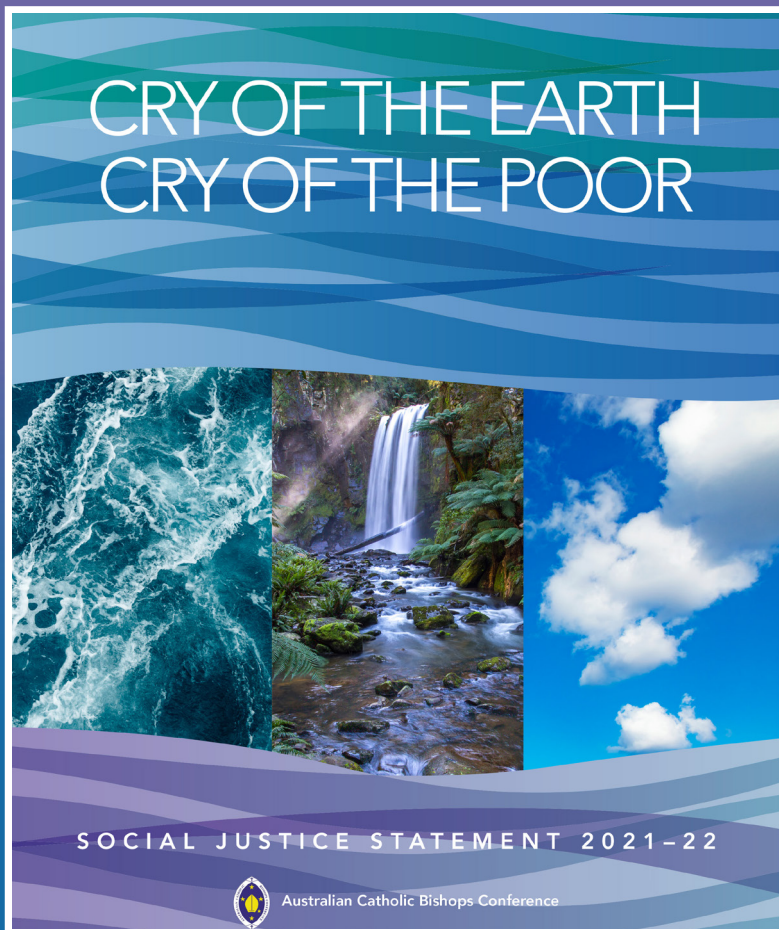
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I enjoyed and appreciated the opportunity to reflect on the importance of our jobs - it is energising to remember the impact we can have.

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Join Marists from around the country for a **POP-UP FORUM** to highlight key themes of the Australian Bishops Social Justice Statement, *Cry of the Earth and Cry of the Poor*, and explore its application to enliven and support the mission and life of Marist schools.

Guest presenter: Dr Sandie Cornish
Social Justice Officer, Australian Catholic Bishops Conference

An online conversation for all staff, school leaders and those with a particular responsibility for social justice and faith formation.

Date:

Tuesday August 31

Time and Mode:

4:30pm – 5:30 pm
(AEST) via Zoom

For enquires, please contact Paul Harris at

paul.harris@marists.org.au

REGISTER HERE

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ST MARCELLIN CHAMPAGNAT

Sending hugs and hope

sending virtual hug



loading...



We're compiling this AMS update during COVID restrictions in Brisbane.

Our sincere best wishes to all in our network who are enduring a much longer period of restriction and lockdown. We hope you are all staying safe and well and we pray that the situation improves soon.

Project update St Michel's Technical College | Vanuatu

Despite COVID lockdowns, restrictions, and major building material shortages – the reconstruction of cyclone-damaged St Michel's Technical College is almost complete!

In April 2020, Tropical Cyclone Harold made landfall on the island of Espiritu Santo as an intense Category 5 system with sustained winds of over 200km/h. Harold cut across the southern end of Santo, home to Vanuatu's second largest town, Luganville, and continued eastwards impacting a further six islands and about one-third of the country's population. An estimated 90% of structures were damaged, agricultural land ruined, roads blocked and water systems destroyed. TC Harold came at a time when Vanuatu had closed its borders to keep the threat of COVID-19 from its shores. St Michel is located on the western outskirts of Luganville and bore the brunt of Harold and suffered crippling damage.

Some of the school buildings were completely destroyed or damaged beyond repair, with very few escaping any damage. The main damage at the school was roof destruction, and subsequent water damage in the buildings that destroyed books, resources, equipment and furniture.

There are 434 students enrolled at St Michel, comprising 213 boys and 221 girls. This is made up of 354 students in the academic stream (grades 7 to 12) and 80 students in the technical stream learning trades such as mechanics, woodwork, hospitality, cooking, welding and sewing. There are 27 staff members.

Thanks to generous AMS donors and funding contributions, a reconstruction plan was put into place quickly. The school identified five priority areas for repair, to be undertaken in two

phases. The first phase, comprising rebuilding the technical workshop and classroom, and the boys' toilet block, is now complete.

Project coordinator and St Michel's English teacher, Brother Raphael Fakaia advises that Phase 2, which includes repairing the year 9 classroom building and staffroom, and replacing 15 computers that were destroyed, is now also close to full completion.

Br Ralph provided the following update:

"The classrooms are on track to be completed by the end of August. At the moment we are also in the process of purchasing the computers. We are still waiting for the quote and once we receive it, we will buy the computers. Thank you so much and may you have a great week ahead. God bless."



MARIST YOUTH MINISTRY

MYM NATIONAL

Dear colleagues,

On behalf of MYM I would like to invite all GC Mentors to our upcoming **MYM Formators' Virtual Workshop on 26th August**. At this workshop **Nathan Ahearne** will explore ways to create spaces for young people to develop a balance between **contemplation (inhaling)** and **action (exhaling)**. With a specific focus on how **Mary** created space for **Jesus** to perform His first public miracle and her example for discipling young people today. If you want more information, please email your MYM Regional Coordinator or follow the QR code.

MARIST YOUTH MINISTRY *Formators' Workshop*



Please join

Nathan Ahearne

as he explores the theme...



SCAN TO REGISTER!

GUARDING SPACES FOR YOUNG PEOPLE TO
Breathe the Spirit of Life

WHERE: ON ZOOM

WHEN: THURSDAY 26 AUGUST, 2021

RSVP BY: THURSDAY 19 AUGUST, 2021

Many of our Marist schools have young people fulfil Youth Minister roles in the school community. Like any Marist, they too **appreciate moments of connections and formation**. MYM offers **several opportunities** each Term for those Youth Ministers or Campus Ministers to join the MYM team for Around the Well. **This coming Friday Sr. Rosie Drum mgl**, will explore how we can best **communicate God's love to students** in our roles as youth ministers. Sr Rosie has engaged in youth ministry for 20yrs and promised to share all her trade secrets! For Zoom details, please email your MYM Regional Coordinator.

AROUND **TERM 3** **THE WELL**

A moment to connect, reflect + empower youth ministers in Marist Schools across Australia.

11:30AM - 12:30PM (AEST) | ZOOM
Friday 20th August

The Gospel According to... YOU!

SR ROSIE DRUM MGL

We will explore the big concepts of Theology and Evangelisation in the context of being aware that the young people we want to help know and love Jesus can only meet him through us. So how can we best communicate his love? Sr Rosie Drum mgl has engaged in youth ministry for 20 years so she'll share all her trade secrets!

For registration and Zoom details: edwin.bakker@marists.org.au