

From Frank Malloy

Dear Colleagues,

The ongoing pressures of the pandemic are consistently being felt across the country in various ways. As case numbers rise, and the number of people tragically dying with Covid increases, creeping anxiety in the community is palpable. In our work with young people, many of whom are presently learning from home, we Marists are called to be beacons of hope. The daily joy and brightness each staff member brings to students is a blessing, whether at school or online. Each passionate act of advocacy by our Principals with Government and our peak bodies for Catholic education, seeks to influence on behalf of students, arrangements for learning and assessment sensitive to their needs in the midst of this crisis. Each prayer that is led for those who are suffering, have died or are front line medical staff, firmly places trust in God.

This coming week on 8 September, the Church celebrates the nativity of Mary. Pope Francis often leads us to Mary for example and guidance, and especially in the most challenging times. In 2014 in an address given in Cuba, the Holy Father shared the following thoughts about Mary, which are shared for reflection.

"Every time I read sacred Scripture, in the verses that talk about Our Lady, three verbs catch my attention. Three kinds of action -- be joyful, help without hesitation and persevere.

Whoever discovers Jesus will be filled with an inner joy so great that nothing and no one can take it away. With Christ in our lives, we find the strength and hope not to be sad and discouraged, thinking problems have no solution.

We should always rise in haste, just like Mary, to help others in need. Victory is to those who repeatedly rise up, without getting discouraged. If we imitate Mary, we cannot sit with our arms crossed, just complaining or perhaps avoiding any effort so that others do what is our responsibility. Making a difference and helping others does not have to be done on a grand scale but entails doing everyday things with tenderness and mercy.

The third verb is to persevere. Mary relied on God and his goodness for the strength and courage needed to stay by Christ's side no matter what and to encourage his disciples to do the same. In this world in which long-lasting values are rejected and everything is changing, in which the disposable triumphs, in which people are afraid of life's commitments, Mary encourages us to be men and women who are constant in their good works, who keep their word, and who are always faithful."

Yours sincerely,



Dr Frank Malloy
NATIONAL DIRECTOR

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Cardijn College, Noarlunga Downs, South Australia

7-12 Deputy Principal

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

Applications close: 7 September 2021

NEWS FROM ST AUGUSTINE'S COLLEGE CAIRNS

AIEF: Proud Indigenous graduates inspire siblings and friends

Two Year 12 students from St Augustine's College Cairns, Jack Barnes and Caiban Thaiday, appeared in an article in *The Australian* newspaper on 31 August 2021.

Jack, from Mornington Island, in the Gulf of Carpentaria and his Torres Strait Islander classmate Caiban from Darnley Island, are both graduating from St Augustine's. They will be two of 70 school leavers this year who were able to complete their education on a scholarship from the Australian Indigenous Education Foundation (AIEF) and who will join an exclusive club of 800 alumni around the country.

Due to COVID-19 restrictions, the boys' families are unable to attend the celebrations, however the AIEF will hold the event for students around the country via video conference, allowing families to either be there virtually or watch later. Jack will also have the opportunity to perform the didgeridoo at the event. He taught himself during the pandemic in order to be closer to his family and culture back home.

Please click [HERE](#) to read the full article from The Australian.



On Friday in week 5, whilst students began their EXEAT weekend, our staff gathered at the College to engage in our national Marist Staff Spirituality program for 2021. The program is a time for staff to reflect and renew spiritually. This program was based around the Gospel message,

“The Spirit of God has made me; the breath of the Almighty gives me life.”
Job 33:3-4.

God’s Spirit breathes life into all of creation, and it is that breath that provides life to all living things. The Christian life is one powered by the breath of God, transforming and calling us to be people who participate in the mission of Jesus: of building and empowering others into freedom.

Our Marist theme ‘Breathe: the Spirit of life’ is vital today when we reflect on COVID-19 or on our environmental concerns. It urges us to take time to slow down, breathe and be present to ourselves and to those around us.

A highlight for many of the staff was the making of rosary beads and a prayer card for our Marist Sisters and Brothers in Melanesia and Timor Leste and finishing the day in prayer to Mary.

- Matthew Pearce, Director of Faith Formation

Red Bend Catholic College Spirituality Day



Left to Right: Rosemary Facey, Dom Dixon, Dorothy Hayley and Hannah Graham



Above: Principal, Mr Stephen Dwyer, welcoming staff to the Spirituality Day

“

Sometimes, I feel that a lot of the confusion about the Holy Spirit would be cleared up if we just remembered that we are talking about the “Holy” Spirit. Not the Dramatic Spirit or the Mystical Spirit or the Magical Spirit. God’s Spirit is primarily concerned with our holiness and makes us more like Jesus. That’s why it says, “But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness and gentleness” (*Galatians 5:22-23*)

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- Paul Saddler Grace Baptist Church

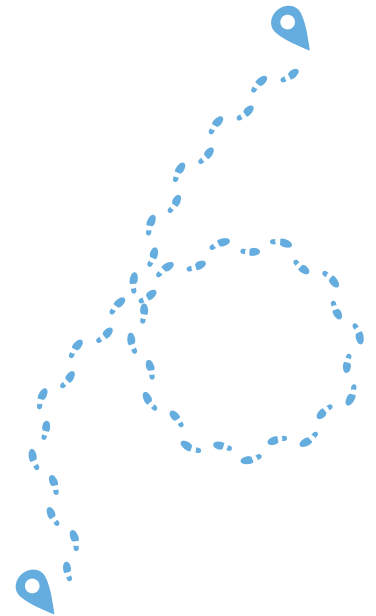
Covid Footsteps: 22-23 August

Insights from our Footsteps participants:

The Marist charism offers a “way” forward for the Church, our schools and our roles as educators and leaders at a time in history when we are facing overwhelming challenges.

The program showed how the Marist way is a “deep breath” on a personal and professional journey. We desperately need these opportunities to take stock of our lives and vocations.

From around the country, Marists gathered, prayed, shared and discussed issues pertinent to being Marist in these challenging times. We found comfort in the traditions and stories of our Marist heritage and looked at ways of continuing their relevance in our communities and classrooms today. We had some laughs and even got creative as Karen Norton (Notre Dame College Shepparton) shows in the photo below.

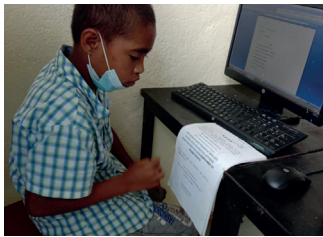




Project update Katilosa | Timor-Leste

Slowly but surely, parts of Timor-Leste are opening back up. It's been a challenging year for the tiny country, with COVID restrictions and lockdowns causing schools and educational services to be

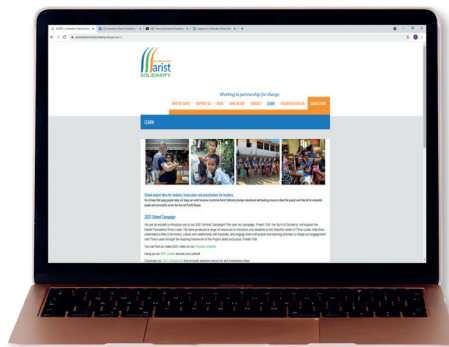
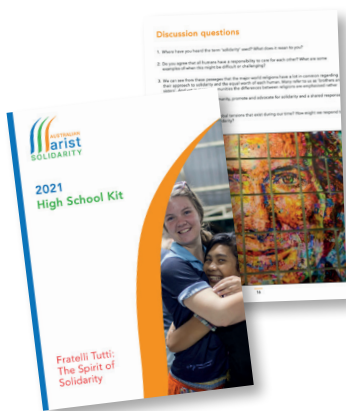
closed for most of the year. In August, the Inclusive Education program at KATILOSA, had restrictions lifted and students are now back at the centre!







Together, we can





Are you looking for spiritual and educational resources on social justice topics? Have students keen to learn more about life for young people in vulnerable communities in Asia and the Pacific? Fancy learning some basic vocabulary or local recipes from our overseas partners? Then we can help you! Check out our range of resources on the Learn section of our website:

www.australianmaristsolidarity.org.au



Connect with us to find out more.

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MARIST YOUTH MINISTRY

MYM QLD/NT

LaValla Online Gold Experience

One of the **key aspects** of Game Changers is **helping students see themselves as capable of leadership, regardless of if they hold a title, role or badge.** They have the potential to impact **great change** by **stepping up.** This was the focus of the La Valla Leadership Experience, which brought together Game Changers students from **OLSH Alice Springs, Marist College Ashgrove and Trinity College Beenleigh.**

Originally designed to be a camp, the La Valla Leadership Experience provided two evening meetings, **involving games, activities, sharing and reflection.** The two evening programs were connected by a Group Challenge, undertaken by each group throughout the duration of the second day within their respective schools. Their task was to **meet as many other students or staff members in their schools as possible,** employing the learning that **Marist leadership begins with relationships.**

It was a **fun and purposeful experience** for staff and students despite the shift to online. One student remarked, **“I understand that leaders also need to follow, that being humble helps to impact more people.”**



Students and staff online from Marist College Ashgrove, OLSH Alice Springs and Trinity College Beenleigh. Springs and Trinity College Beenleigh.

MYM MELBOURNE

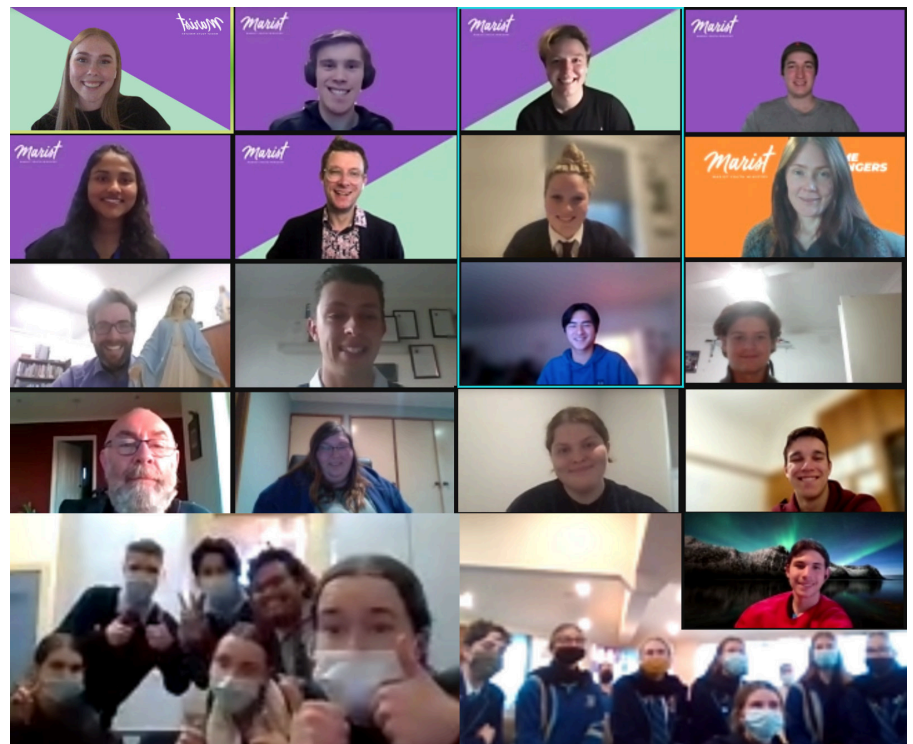
Marist Online Super Connect

Marist Youth Ministry Melbourne hosted an online Marist Super Connect on Thursday, 19th August. Year 11 and Year 12 students from various Victorian Marist schools (**Assumption College, Kilmore; Marcellin College, Bulleen; Marist-Sion College, Warragul; Catholic College, Sale; and Notre Dame College, Shepparton**) gathered virtually to explore the concept of **vocation** through the evening's theme, **The Call**.

Students were encouraged to **consider God's great desire** for them to be the best, most **fully human people they can be**. Through exploring their **passions, strengths, and the needs** of their communities, students were armed with skills necessary in discerning **their vocations**, and with the capacity to understand that **such a process is ongoing and lifelong**. Young Marist Volunteers gave students an additional platform for support, offering **advice and pearls of wisdom through a Q&A panel**. Many thanks to Ruby Broomhall (Assumption College alumna), Sheryl Varghese (Marymede Catholic College alumna), Ronan Long (Marcellin College alumnus) and Sam Chung (Marcellin College alumnus) for their support of Marist school students.

Our young people relished the opportunity to gather, noting the event **"involved deep thought and was engaging"**, and it was **"a great chance to connect again"**. Sincere thanks to school staff who make our events possible. **We look forward to connecting again soon.**

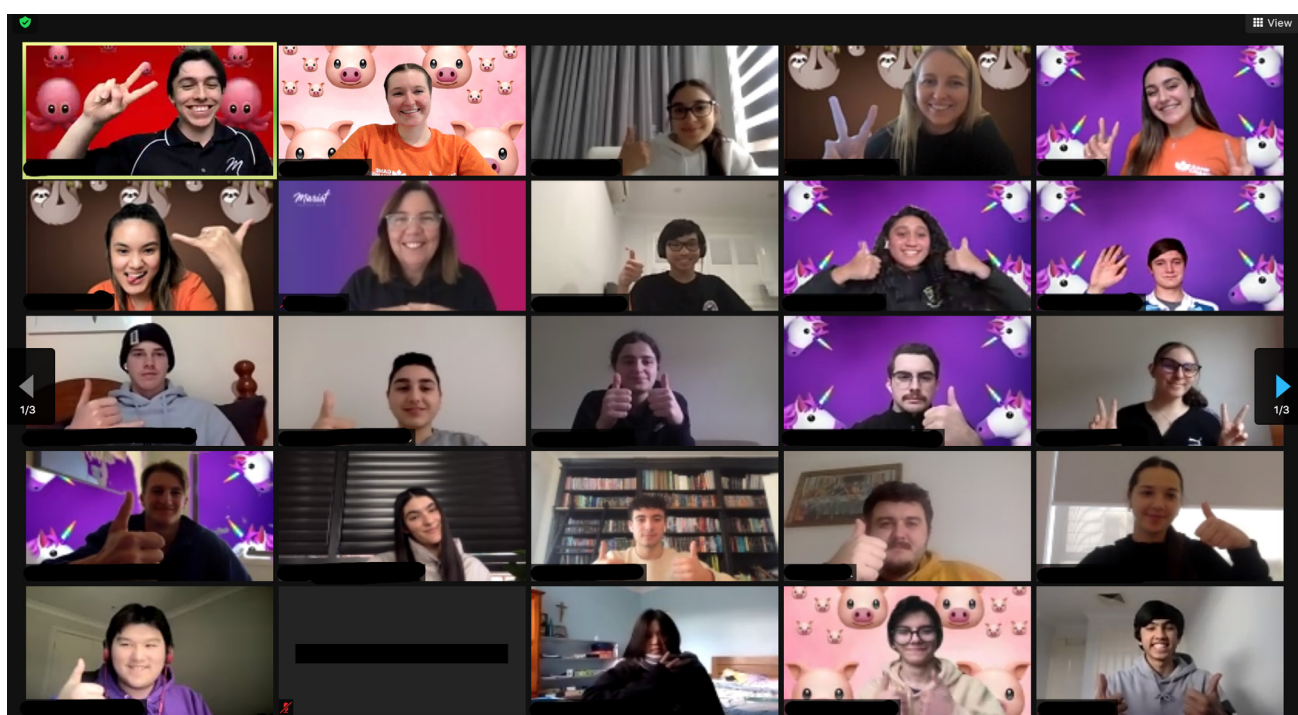
Lachy Scott and
Ella Beveridge
MYM Melbourne
Regional Assistants.



Marist students from Victoria joining online for a Marist Super Connect.

MYM NSW/ACT *Year 11 Game Changers Twilight Retreat*

On Friday 27th of August, Year 11 students from **Trinity Catholic College, Auburn, St Joseph's College, Hunters Hill, Marist Parramatta High School and Marist College Canberra** joined together online to not only connect with each other, but to **reflect deeply on God's presence in the world** and what they themselves are **called to be as 'Game changers' in their lives and the lives of others**. Students were **challenged in many ways** but the **'Shark Tank' challenge** was a great way for students to connect, have fun and reflect on ways they can personally invite Jesus into their lives.





EXECUTIVE EDUCATION

LEADING THROUGH UNCERTAINTY

LOCATION

Virtual Classroom

2021 DATES

Module One: 6 October 2021
Module Two: 7 October 2021
Module Three: 12 October 2021
Module Four: 14 October 2021

DURATION

- Consists of four modules
- Each includes pre-work and an online intensive of 3.5 hours

STUDY MODE

Virtual Delivery: Intensive Seminar

COURSE FEES

Full course: A\$2,195 +GST per person for alumni and association members

MORE INFORMATION

02 9739 2652
executiveeducation@acu.edu.au

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A UNIQUE FRAMEWORK FOR LEADERS IN THE EDUCATION SECTOR TO MANAGE TURBULENCE, OPTIMISE RISK AND TAKE DECISIVE ACTION

We are amid a significant shift in how educators and professional staff address the opportunities and challenges that lie ahead. These changes are already rewriting the future of how we conduct business in the education sector.

Advanced educational leadership empowers great schools to thrive and all schools to transform. Business-as-usual no longer exists. School leaders understand they must embrace the significant changes underway and equip their staff with the necessary skills to be resilient and thrive in uncertain times.

School leaders can leverage from the lessons learned during the ongoing crisis and build capability and resilience for a sustainable future. Investing in yourself, your people, and their professional development is essential as we move our teams and organisations forward.

This program is designed for school leaders, educators and non-teaching staff who recognise the value and importance of effective leadership.

BUILD YOUR BUSINESS SKILL SET, GUIDED BY OUR STUDY MINDSET

Leading Through Uncertainty is an opportunity to update skills quickly to ensure you manage turbulence, optimise risk and take decisive action.

This exceptional short course consists of four complementary modules. It is a rigorous, practical program grounded in best practice and backed by research. Each module is led by an expert with extensive knowledge and significant experience.

MODULE THEMES

MODULE ONE CARING FOR SELF AND FOR STAFF

Effective workplace practices making a difference to productivity and staff well-being

MODULE TWO SYSTEMIC PRACTICE FOR NAVIGATING UNCERTAINTY

See the big picture - a framework for decision making

MODULE THREE PSYCHOLOGY OF RISK

Thrive in uncertainty and social complexity

MODULE FOUR HUMAN CENTRED LEADERSHIP

Shifting self-identity from a performer in an operation to a thinking participant in a human system that performs outcomes

You can complete two modules per week. Each module will be delivered in a real time virtual classroom. You'll enjoy a focused and collegial environment with a highly collaborative and supportive team to assist your online learning.

KICK START YOUR EXECUTIVE MBA STUDY

If you choose to complete the assessments for all four modules, this together with your leadership profile and other courses and CPD completed within the last ten years, will give you the opportunity to apply for RPL to gain a credit for one unit in our Executive Master of Business Administration*.