

## From Frank Malloy

Dear Colleagues,

### NATIONAL SORRY DAY AND NATIONAL RECONCILIATION WEEK 2021

On Wednesday 26 May, Australians come together in prayer and reflection for *National Sorry Day*. As children we are all taught the importance of an apology. It is a powerful, empathetic restoration of relationship. As Marist educators, in our work with students, some of our finest “teaching moments” are in drawing our young ones to offer and accept appropriate and sincere apologies. *National Sorry Day* acknowledges and raises awareness of the history and continued effect of the forced removal of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people from their families, communities and culture. National Reconciliation Week<sup>1</sup> celebrates and builds on the respectful relationships shared by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and other Australians. A poignant and heartfelt expression of the sorrow experienced by our indigenous brothers and sisters is beautifully captured by the eminent Australian Archie Rowe in his famous song *Took the Children Away*<sup>2</sup>.

*National Sorry Day* has been observed since 1998, one year after the Bringing Them Home report was presented in the Australian Federal Parliament. This report detailed the impact of the forced removal of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children from their families. *National Sorry Day* offers an opportunity to reflect on the hardship faced when children were taken into institutional and foster care by governments and church agencies and placed with non-Indigenous families. These *Stolen Generations* suffered greatly from being removed from their loved ones at such an early age, and for many the scars were life-long. *National Sorry Day* is also an opportunity to “*acknowledge the strength of Stolen Generations Survivors and reflect on how we can all play a part in the healing process for our people and nation.*”

Our Marist schools across the country cherish highly valued and strong relationships with many indigenous communities. Through our Marist boarding schools, we are privileged to work with indigenous families from many remote areas of Australia. May the prayer on the following page<sup>3</sup> unite us during this coming week and increase our resolve to educate in reconciliation for all Australians.

Yours sincerely,



**Dr Frank Malloy**  
NATIONAL DIRECTOR

1. Further information about National Reconciliation Week this year is available on the [Reconciliation Australia website](#)
2. <https://socialjustice.catholic.org.au/event/national-sorry-day/2021-05-26/>
3. Aboriginal and Islander Commission of the National Council of Churches in Australia, (NATSIEC) 2003.

## Prayer

*Almighty and loving God,  
you who created ALL people in your image.  
Lead us to seek your compassion as we listen to the stories of our past.  
You gave your only Son, Jesus, who died and rose again  
so that sins will be forgiven.*

*We place before you the pain and anguish of dispossession  
of land, language, lore, culture, and family kinship that  
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples have experienced.*

*We live in faith that all people will rise  
from the depths of despair and hopelessness.  
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families have endured the pain and  
loss of loved ones,  
through the separation of children from their families.  
We are sorry and ask God's forgiveness.  
Touch the hearts of the broken, homeless, and inflicted and heal their  
spirits.*

*In your mercy and compassion walk with us  
as we continue our journey of healing  
to create a future that is just and equitable.*

*Lord, you are our hope.*

*Amen.*

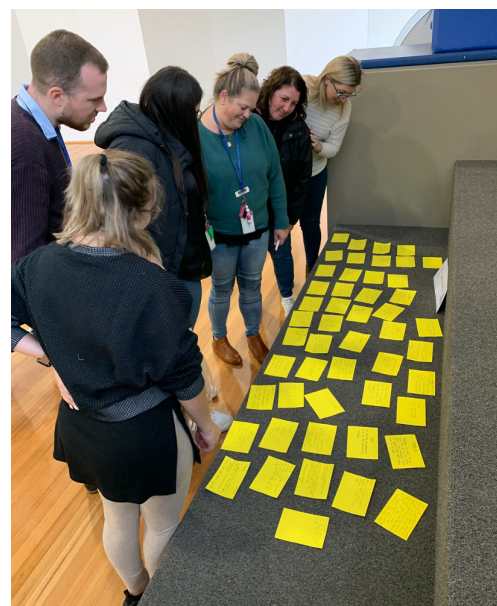
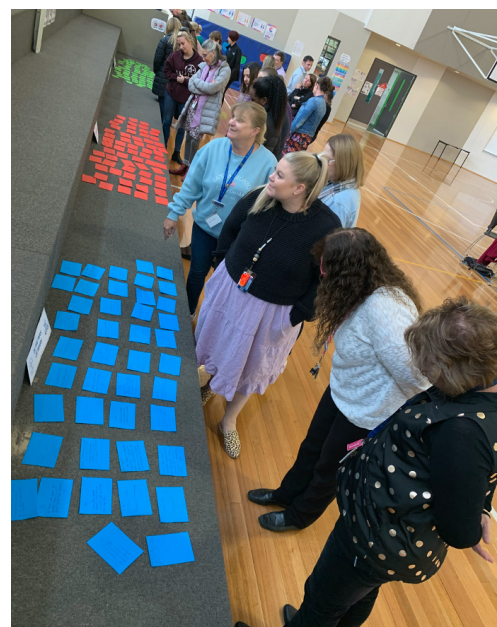




**Left to Right:** Jessica Kurzman, Br Dennis Cooper, Liz Darvell, Pat Old, Deb Amodio, Kathryn Fuhrmann, Nick McDermott and Br Tony Leon

**St Patrick's Primary School** in Kilmore participated in the *In the Marist Way Program* on Monday 19 April. 70 staff members were given an opportunity to affirm themselves and their wonderful work with the children in this school.

The energy flowed starting with a whole staff contemplative dance. An acknowledgement was made of the practice of the Marist Characteristics by nominating colleagues who exemplified **Presence, Simplicity, In the Way of Mary, Family Spirit and Love of Work.**



Being a follower of Jesus means much more than going to church or trying to live a good life. It means letting the Holy Spirit change us. Paul wrote about God transforming us: *And all of us, with unveiled faces, seeing the glory of the Lord as though reflected in a mirror, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another; for this comes from the Lord, the Spirit.* (2 Corinthians 3:18) - Doug Britton, MFT

*How willing are we to let the Holy Spirit transform us to be more Christ-like?*



# PROVOCATION.

**prəvə 'keɪf(ə)n | noun.** A CALLING FORTH, A SUMMONING, A CHALLENGE.

**A FOCUSED CONVERSATION  
FOR YOUNG PROFESSIONALS  
IN + AROUND CANBERRA.**

RSVP BY 31 MAY TO [YOUNGADULTS@CG.ORG.AU](mailto:YOUNGADULTS@CG.ORG.AU)  
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**THURSDAY  
3 JUNE 2021**

**5:30PM - 7:30PM INC. DRINKS AND DINNER ON US**

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A TWO HOUR SESSION THAT SEEKS TO:

- CONNECT** YOU INTO A DIVERSE + VIBRANT NETWORK.
- FOCUS** YOUR SENSE OF PROFESSIONAL GROWTH, AND
- RELEASE** YOU MORE FULLY INTO YOUR LIFE CALLING.

A COLLABORATION BETWEEN



**Catholic Archdiocese  
of Canberra & Goulburn**



## Volunteers rock!



Last week we celebrated National Volunteers Week. We are blessed at AMS to have the services of a team of enthusiastic and dedicated volunteers who assist us with fundraising, grants submissions, events management and more. They are invaluable for small INGOs like our organisation and enable us to channel the majority of our funds directly into our projects, and we greatly appreciate them.

If you are interested in being part of our team in this capacity, we currently have three volunteer positions on offer:

- Administration Officer
- Database Officer
- Finance Assistant

Please contact us at [ams@marists.org.au](mailto:ams@marists.org.au) for more information.

## Follow us!

 [@MaristSolidarity](https://www.facebook.com/MaristSolidarity)

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 [Australian Marist Solidarity](https://www.youtube.com/Australian-Marist-Solidarity)

## Let Children Learn Appeal update



## Donate today to build a new school for the future leaders of Bougainville.

Last issue we introduced you to our exciting mid-year appeal to build a new school building in Bougainville.

We are thrilled by the support we have already received – thank you! It's not too late to contribute – our appeal runs until 30 June.

Just 1 in 4 children in Bougainville will reach upper secondary school due to the scarcity of schools. In fact, there are only currently four upper secondary schools in the whole of Bougainville.

This project aims to change that, by funding the extension of St Joseph's School in Mabiri to offer education to year 12.

Please donate to help build a new school so that children like David (below) can finish their education and fulfil their dreams. Imagine if you, your child, or loved one would not graduate high school? Your donation will change lives.

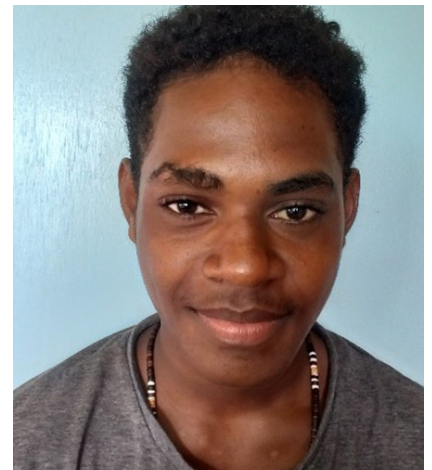
## David's story

David is 16 years old and hopes to finish school so that he can get a good job and look after his family.

His favourite subjects are maths, social science and English.

David hopes to become an engineer one day.

Will you donate today to help children like David?



# MARIST YOUTH MINISTRY

## MYM NSW/ACT

### *Le Rosey* Yr 7 Game Changers Regional Retreat Day

The Regional Retreat Day, held on Friday 21st May saw about 40 students reflect on role models, both in the Gospel and in their lives today. Sessions were focused on Jesus Christ's early life in Nazareth as well as Marcellin's life growing up in Le Rosey. Students looked at the ways to live out their faith by serving their families.



Parramatta Marist High school



Marist College Canberra



Marist College Randwick

## Game Changers at St Joseph's College Hunters Hill

'Game Changers' students from Years 7 – 12 at St Joseph's College, were officially recognised at their College Assembly on Thursday, 20 May. Along with the Principal, Mr. Ross Tarlinton, MYM Sydney Coordinator, Jeni Miller, had the pleasure of presenting students with their 'Track' badges to recognise their place in the program. Our Gratitude to Mr. John Watknis and the other 6 staff at SJC for their time mentoring students in each of the year groups.



St Joseph's College,  
Hunters Hill

## MYM MELBOURNE

The Exodus Community Bread Run continues to be a source of **life** and **inspiration** for Marist students and young adults alike. Delivering donated loaves and rolls to over 20 families in the heart of the **Olympic Village in Heidelberg West** comes with its challenges for students: being confronted with isolation, addiction, mental health issues, and poverty, just to name a few.



Left to right: Alannah (ACK '18), Ella (ACK '18), and Miraede (SHC '18) rolling up their sleeves in service of the Exodus Bread Run.

Last week, a Marist student reached out, noting that the ministry event had **“a profound impact”** on them. The student explained, **“It’s intrigued me, and I wonder what ticks for them, and how they keep battling and playing on”**. Certainly colourful language to describe the true grit many of those who live in Exodus possess. Champagnat’s call to love our work was not lost on this student. He continued, **“If the opportunity arose again, I would be happy to roll up my sleeves”**. It is inspiring to witness the transformation of Marist students as they encounter Christ in someone they are serving.

If you want to learn more about the Bread Run or the work of the Exodus Community, please get into contact with me.

Lachy Scott  
[Lachlan.scott@marists.org.au](mailto:Lachlan.scott@marists.org.au)

# MYM QLD/NT

## Year 11 Forum

Our recent Year 11 Forum was attended by **30 students**. It was a **vibrant** event, **enlivened** by the excellent participation of the attending students and staff.

The Forum theme was “**Meaning and Purpose**”, designed around a contemporary view of vocation and discernment. Beginning with identifying the big questions in their lives. Students were invited to consider what gives their lives meaning and purpose. Drawing on our shared Marist story and Catholic Faith Tradition, students reflected on what God’s calling looks like in their lives and to consider what they are made for.



*We appreciate the engagement from the organising staff and students, from*

- Marist College Ashgrove,
- Trinity College Beenleigh,
- Mt Maria Mitchelton,
- Mt Maria Petrie and
- Carmel College Thornlands



For more Information  
Head to:

@Mym\_qld  
@MaristYouthMinistry

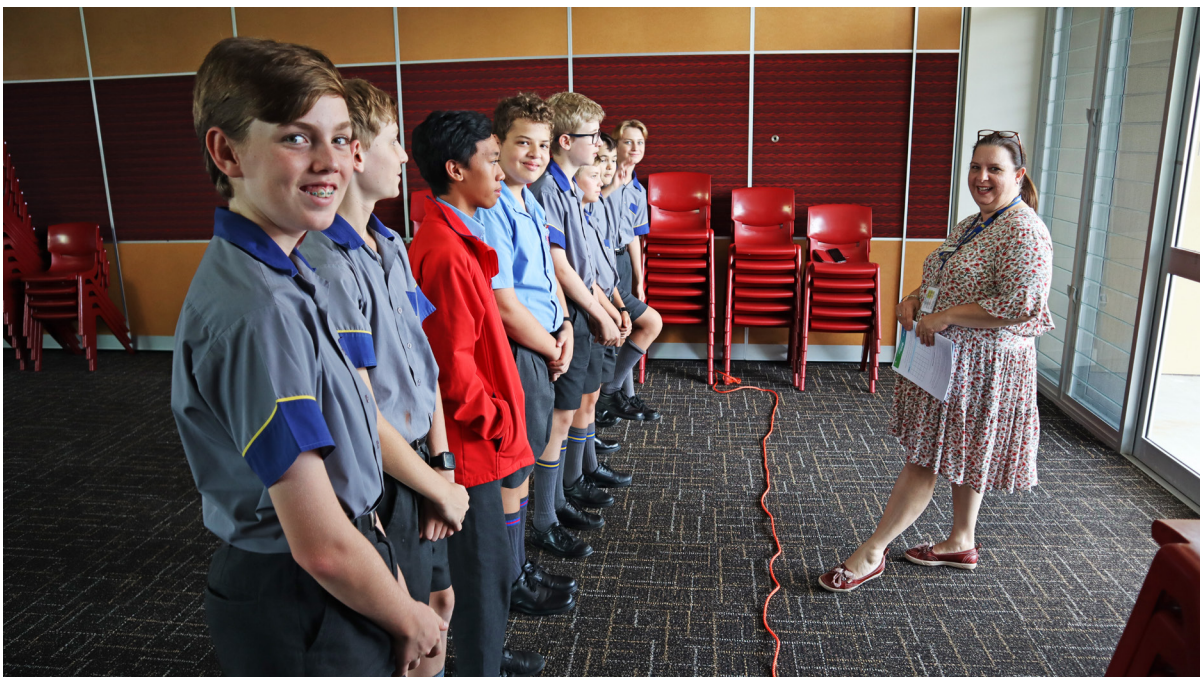


## Game Changers

Game Changers offers students a place to connect, deepen their understanding of the Marist story and Christian Tradition and gain the **confidence** to **become Game Changers themselves**.

Upcoming Regional Retreat days provide students an **immersive experience**. The interaction with their peers from across the region which fosters the exchange of ideas and experiences, helping students imagine the broader scope of the Marist project and how they might belong to it.

The following dates are exclusive to Game Changers schools. For more information about the program, please contact Adam ([adam.burns@marists.org.au](mailto:adam.burns@marists.org.au)).



**Year 8 Game Changers students from Trinity Beenleigh and Marist Ashgrove.**

### Upcoming Dates:

- **Tuesday 27th May** – Year 10 Regional Retreat
- **Friday 28th May, 6-8pm** - Connect Night at Marist Centre Brisbane (Yr 11 & 12)
- **Monday 14th June** – Year 7 Regional Retreat
- **Thursday 17th June** – Year 11 Twilight Retreat
- **13th – 15th August** – Year 10 Leadership Camp