



MSA Newsletter

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



From Brother Michael Green

19 February 2013

Dear Brothers, colleagues and friends

Bet responsibly.

There's nothing like a papal election to generate media hype. Has tomwaterhouse.com posted odds yet? Ladbrokes wasted no time in doing so, listing Turkson from Ghana as a 5/2 favourite within hours of the resignation announcement. I think I'd wait for that price to blow out a bit before being tempted to place a wager.

How much will be won and lost on this election? Bet responsibly.

To which *papabile* might you be drawn to have a flutter? Will you have your money on a scholar? Or a pastor? Or a canonist? Or perhaps an administrator or a diplomat? Will it be another European? An African maybe? An American? Progressive or restorationist?

So much of the commentary in the media (including, sadly, in sections of the Catholic media) does not go much more deeply than this rather one-dimensional and simplistic conjecture. It's mostly vanity, isn't it? We all would certainly hope that the College of Cardinals approaches its solemn task with a whole lot more gravitas than that. I am sure they will.

It is timely – and perhaps even no accident – that the conclave will be taking place during Lent. It is the season of the Church's year that most powerfully calls us back to the essentials of our faith, to why the Church exists at all. The Gospel reading for today's Mass is typical of the Scriptures that we are given during these weeks: Matthew reminds us not to "babble as the pagans do", but to recognise and to love the unfathomable holiness of God at the heart of our lives, to yearn in ourselves and our world for the just and merciful reign of God, to be satiated by our love of God and neighbour, to be humble before this great mystery – the Lord's Prayer. Heaven knows just how much our Church needs to be renovated, perennially, by the spirit of this prayer.

We all have hopes for our Church and for its universal pastor. It is well that we do, albeit unlikely that you and I will be directly canvassed for our views. We think it's all well beyond our control. Yes and no. Yes, we will be watching it all from a distance – a considerable distance – but, no, we do have extraordinary influence. We are educators. To us has been entrusted the evangelisation of the generation of the Church who will follow us.

Bet responsibly.

Nisi Dominus

Brother Michael Green FMS
NATIONAL DIRECTOR

COMING UP...

22 Feb In the Champagnat Way: Perth
 26 Feb In the Champagnat Way: Brisbane
 27 Feb In the Champagnat Way: Macarthur Region Sydney
 1 March iBelieve Programme: Mittagong
 3-6 March Footsteps Programme: Mittagong
 8 March In the Champagnat Way: Central Victoria
 8 March In the Champagnat Way: Eastern Region Sydney
 11 March iBelieve Programme: All teaching staff, Mt Maria College, Mitchelton

14-15 March Meeting of MLF, AMC Pastoral Team, MSA Directors: Marist Centre Sydney
 18-20 March Oceania Partnership Commission, Auckland
 19 March In the Champagnat Way: Adelaide
 22 March In the Champagnat Way: Western Region Sydney
 24-26 March Australian Marist Boarding Conference, Sacred Heart College, Adelaide
 24-27 March Meeting of General Council with Provincial and District Councils of the Marist Oceania region: Mittagong

BIENNIAL MARIST SCHOOLS CONFERENCE



All schools should now have received registration information for this year's Conference in Cairns.

ONLINE REGISTRATION

Thanks to Bianca Buda, in particular, for all the work that went into setting up the online registration process for our courses and programmes this year. From the way the registrations have come in, it seems to have gone very smoothly. At the same time, a couple of schools have advised us of issues associated with paying by credit card. If there are any other comments or suggestions, please pass them onto Regional Directors or email Tony Clarke directly.



BROTHER ROBERT O'CONNOR

We bring to your notice the particular services that can be provided by Brother Robert O'Connor. Bob remains a member of the MLF team with a special remit to offer spiritual accompaniment and other professional consultancy to Principals and members of school leadership teams. While he continues involvement with some of the programmes, and is also available to schools for one-off presentations, his main focus is on support of leadership. Please feel welcome to contact Brother Robert directly: robert.oconnor@marists.org.au



CATHOLIC EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

A reminder about this conference organised by ACU in August. Currently there is a call for abstracts from potential presenters. Visit the conference website: www.acu.edu.au/leadershipconference2013 or contact Caroline Jones: caroline.jones@pccevents.com.au

MARIST BROTHERS VOCATIONS MINISTRY

At last year's Province Mission Assembly there was a strong call from participants for us all to promote the vocation of Brother among young men in our Marist family.



Br Greg McDonald

This year we have two Brothers working full-time in the work of vocations promotion – Brothers Greg McDonald and Rod Thomson.



Br Rod Thomson

Any assistance that Marist schools can give them in this critically important ministry would be much appreciated. They will be in contact with schools in due course, but feel most welcome to contact them directly: greg.mcdonald@marists.org.au and rod.thomson@marists.org.au.



CONGRATULATIONS JIM FENOUGHTY

Principal/CEO Mr Jim Fenoughty has been named 2013 City of Onkaparinga Australia Day Citizen for the year.

Jim's award was recognition for his dedicated work with young people and the community in the south. As Principal of Marcellin Technical College and CEO of MTC Training, Jim and the college have achieved outstanding results since its establishment.

The college offers a two-year program for young people starting at Year 11 and gives them an opportunity to complete their SA Certificate of Education, offering them opportunities to secure a nationally recognised training qualification and to become work-ready.



Mr Jim Fenoughty
Principal
Marcellin Technical College
Adelaide

INTRODUCING THE AUSTRALIAN MARIST COMMUNITY PASTORAL TEAM



Joe McCarthy

The *Australian Marist Community Pastoral Team* is made up of three Lay Marists and two Marist Brothers. The Lay Marists are Joe McCarthy (team leader), Carole Wark (part-time), Gail Coates (part-time). Br Paul Kane and Br Peter Carroll serve on the team, and balance this work with duties associated with Province leadership as members of the Provincial Council.



Br Peter Carroll

The work of the team will be to

- build up the Australian Marist Community, providing leadership and animation
- know and be pastorally supportive of Lay Marists, individually and as local core groups
- support the growth of core groups within local communities of mission
- promote the Marist lay vocation
- promote and encourage co-responsibility for Marist life and mission



Gail Coates



Br Paul Kane

Members of the team will travel to as many places in the Australian Marist Community as possible during 2013. We look forward to visiting you in your local community of mission soon.



Carole Wark

To educate children is to develop, strengthen and bring to perfection every faculty of their souls; above all, it is to form their hearts, their wills, their characters, their consciences and their judgements...
Guide (1853), p.105

Staff Spirituality Days

Br Robert O'Connor, Carole Wark and Steve Dwyer enjoying a break in proceedings at Red Bend Catholic College Forbes' Staff Day.



Lea Waszkinel, librarian at Marcellin College Bulleen, talking to new staff from Bulleen and Assumption College Kilmore, about her experience of being Marist.



Maddison Turnbull, one of the Solidarity Leaders at St Francis Xavier's College, Hamilton holds the Christus Lux Mea candle for the 2013 College Captains, Rachael Scott and Matthew Newman, to light during the Commissioning Liturgy.



Michael Cossetini (St Francis Xavier's, Hamilton), Melissa Lidbury (St Peter's Maitland) and Luke Baker (St Francis Xavier's, Hamilton) during the first In the Champagnat Way new staff induction program held in the Hunter Region of NSW.

Elise Foxall with parents Steven and Mary at the St Peter's Campus, Maitland Student Leaders Commissioning for 2013.





NEW WEBSITE WIDELY USED IN MSA SCHOOLS IN TERM 1

Members of the Marist Solidarity Team have been in the past two weeks visiting schools in ACT, NSW and Qld to introduce the MSA Solidarity Schools campaign resources for 2013. These are all located on www.connectliveschange.com.au. This is a new website of Marist Solidarity (MSol) and we will develop sub-domains in the future for Marist Volunteers Australia (MVA) and Australia Marist Solidarity (AMS) -our new non-profit with tax deductibility for overseas aid donors.

Nineteen MSA schools have been visited during the past week as many of these use Lent as a time to use the campaign resources and fundraise. Many leaders in mission, RE or justice had already accessed the resources on the website and had them in the hands of other teachers. The Quick Response Code attached will give you direct access to the campaign materials on a smartphone or tablet. This support is valued for the growing offshore commitments of the Marists in Asia and The Pacific islands.

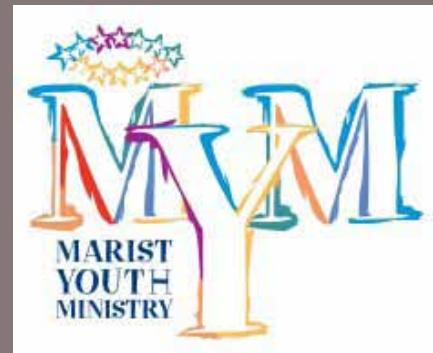
All other MSA schools have been mailed copies of the resources, posters and cards with the QR code and campaign prayer for staff. For more copies or feedback please contact the MSol liason for MSA: michael.coleman@marists.org.au or via the 'Contact Us' tab on the website.



Brother Allen Sherry FMS
Executive Director , Marist Solidarity Office Brisbane

MARIST SOLIDARITY EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

The Marist Brothers are seeking to employ a suitably qualified person to take up the role of *Co-ordinator of Projects and Accounts* in their office of international solidarity in Brisbane. *Click here* for the full advertisement.



STRATEGIC PLANNING FOR MARIST YOUTH MINISTRY

The new Marist Youth Ministry Council has met for a day of strategic planning. From this year, this new group has oversight of all Marist Youth Ministry in the Province of Australia, including both the in-school programme (Remar) and the various post-school programmes.

A single team of four people is leading youth ministry at Province level – three MYM Regional Coordinators and the national Remar Coordinator. They are assisted by 11 young people (the 7 Remar team and 4 MYM assistants).

On 8 February, the MYM Council spent a day at the Marist Centre Sydney to do some strategic thinking, attempting to give an Australian reality to the reference text "Evangelisers in the Midst of Youth". The day was very effectively facilitated by Brother David Hall.



Members of the MYM Council with Brs Michael Green (ED of Marist Ministries) and David Hall (facilitator): Br Greg McDonald, Declan Donohue, Br Pat Connell, Courtney Redden, Christian Nobleza, Br Darren Burge (Chair), Nehme Khattar, Mario Frazzetto and Nicki Pitt.