



MSA Newsletter

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



From Brother Michael Green

21 February 2012

Dear Members of the Marist Family

What effect do we have on each other? Or, to put it more personally: how do people act in response to my presence in their lives? What do I evoke in them?

We could ask ourselves this question many times over – as a teacher, or as a parent, as a friend, as a spouse, as a colleague, as a coach, as a leader, as a brother or sister. Our relational lives are multi-faceted. But what do I stir up in others?

Maybe it's affirmation or maybe it's trepidation. Perhaps, optimism; perhaps cynicism. Freedom or fear? Calm or angst? Growth or regression? Confidence or shyness? Generosity or stinginess? Resilience or defeatism? Trust or apprehension? Self assurance or dependence? Forgiveness or resentment? Enthusiasm or apathy? The list could go on. Or perhaps it's the case that I have little effect on others most of the time, and don't really give it much thought or care.

In his message to us as we begin Lent tomorrow, Pope Benedict offers us a fresh focus for our annual time of renewal¹. Taking a verse from Hebrews (10:24) he reminds us of our primary responsibility as Christians to be concerned for each other and, more particularly, to "stir up" in each other "love and good works".

As Australian Marists, we might well consider the Holy Father's challenge within the context of the theme we have chosen for the year "Encounter, eyes opened – hearts burning". The quality and impact of personal relationship is at the heart of the Marist way, especially the Marist approach to education. It all pivots on this. For Marcellin, educating was first of all about affecting young people through personal and physical presence in their lives, in and through relationships with them, relationships that were loving. This is how Christ-life came to birth in them. He was fond of quoting from Corinthians about what love meant in practice, and that without love – despite all the noble and worthy things I might be able to do – it counted for nothing (1 Cor.13).

I recall a priest saying to me once that he thought we teachers had an "awesome responsibility", so much so that he admitted that he could never take it on himself. "You affect them for life by how you treat them," he counselled. And we do. And it is indeed an awesome responsibility. It was interesting to hear Kevin Rudd speak to the students at Ashgrove last Friday: his memories were of the Brothers who cared for him, and he remembered the detail of it². All of us have memories of childhood and schooldays, and all of us can recall the detail. Of course we can: it is the detail that has most affected us – the particular incidents, the specific encounters and relationships.

As we take part in the starkness of the ash ritual tomorrow, let it cause us to pause. Let it allow us ponder in awe the possibility and potential that has been entrusted to us in our life relationships, especially those with the young.

Nisi Dominus

Brother Michael Green FMS
NATIONAL DIRECTOR

- 1 Read the full text on the Vatican website: http://www.vatican.va/holy_father/benedict_xvi/messages/len/documents/hf_ben-xvi_mes_20111103_lent-2012_en.html
- 2 Look at it on YouTube: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=T5HkhNwhElc>

COMING UP . . .

20 - 24 Feb Retreat for Middle Managers
 20 - 24 Feb Regional meeting in Auckland for Marist Lay Coordinators in Oceania
 21 Feb Province Mission Council
 25 Feb In the Champagnat Way : New Staff Induction, Forbes
 27 Feb MSA Regional Council Meeting, Melbourne region
 28 Feb In the Champagnat Way : New Staff Induction, Brisbane
 29 Feb In the Champagnat Way : New Staff Induction, Macarthur region
 29 Feb Twilight Retreat, St Michael's Daceyville
 1 Mar Love of Work (Workshop), Mitchelton
 2 Mar All Staff Formation, St Gregory's College

• 4 - 7 Mar Footsteps, The Hermitage, Mittagong
 • 9 Mar In the Champagnat Way : New Staff Induction, Catholic College Bendigo
 • 9 Mar Eastern Region In the Champagnat Way : New Staff Induction, Marist College Kogarah
 • 9 Mar Staff Development Day, Marist College Eastwood
 • 13 Mar MSA Leadership Team Meeting, Mittagong
 • 14 Mar Staff Day, Marist College Ashgrove
 • 14 - 15 Mar Marist Principals' Conference 2012 The Hermitage, Mittagong
 • 16 Mar Retreat, Sydney
 • 18 - 21 Mar Footsteps 2, The Hermitage, Mittagong
 • 20 Mar In the Champagnat Way : New Staff Induction, Sacred Heart College Middle School

MARIST PRINCIPALS' CONFERENCE 2012



9.00am Wednesday 14 – 1.30pm Thursday 15 March. (Accommodation and dinner available the night before) Reply forms are due this week, please.

MEET MARIO FRAZZETTO



Mario has been appointed this year as the Marist Young Adult Coordinator working from our Melbourne office. Mario is on secondment from Marcellin College, Bulleen, where he has been a teacher and also Remar Coordinator.

AN INSPIRATIONAL MARIST STORY FROM SOUTH AFRICA



With our Australian Marist solidarity focus mainly directed towards the Asia Pacific, we are perhaps less aware of the many wonderful Marist projects that are

running in other parts of the world, for example in Africa. He is a link to a programme that is being run at Sacred Heart College, in the inner-city Johannesburg suburb of Observatory:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vDKwigPEuMk&feature=related>

For more information, contact Bec Bromhead in Canberra: bec.bromhead@gmail.com



The people in Remar Ministry Team

Brothers Michael Callinan and Brother Michael Akers spent a day with the Remar Ministry Team recently to develop their appreciation of the Marist story
 Back Row: Len Cooke, Cassie Gawley, Alyce Forrest, Gabi Fulton, Brother Michael Akers

Front Row: Chris Walsh, Br Michael Callinan, Jack Stammers, Simone Boyd



The newly commissioned captain of Marcellin House at St Michael's Primary School, Daceyville, Lucia Nezval with Carole Wark following the Opening Mass.

Marist MISSION AND LIFE FORMATION

The Mission & Life Formation team has had the great privilege to begin the year sharing in the Encounter of various ministries across the country. Being part of a national team visiting many places gives a wonderful perspective of all that is happening in our Marist ministries especially at the very busy start of the school year. It has been inspiring to see so many places breaking open for their own communities the Province theme for the year: Encounter - eyes open, hearts burning. The various opening liturgies, staff and student formation sessions and planning visits have indeed been encounters on the road with the living Jesus for all those present.

On Friday 10 February 2012, Brother Michael Flanagan and Mr Peter McNamara came to St Mary's to induct the new staff of both Trinity College, Lismore and St Mary's Catholic College, Casino. In the meantime, Brother Tony Leon was on his second day presenting leadership training and vocation talks to the students. Brother Gerry Steele, who has recently moved into the Lismore community came as well to support Brother Paul Turner who works at the school. It was a very fulsome day with so many men in white.



Photo L - R: Brother Tony Leon, Mr Aaron Beach (principal), Brother Michael Flanagan, Brother Paul Turner, Brother Gerry Steele and Mr Peter McNamara



New Principal of Trinity Catholic College, Auburn, Mr John Robinson meeting with the new Regional Director, Frank Malloy, Coordinator of the Local Marist Group, Brother Tony Vaughan & Carole Wark



Young Marist men engaged in a discussion about Mary as Mature Disciple at the Marist College Emerald Staff Spirituality Day in mid-February.



Mr Michael Blake, Brother Michael Callinan and the 2012 Leaders of St Peter's Campus, Maitland, Montana Beavis, Cormack O'Connor, Rebecca Treloar and Adam Neville and Carole Wark following the Opening Liturgy and Commissioning.



New staff from Marcellin College Bulleen at the In The Champagnat Way program which introduces those new to Marist schools to the character of Marcellin.



New Helms get to know each other before a session on Marist spirituality and our characteristic style of youth ministry



Brother Hubert Williams with the newly commissioned Captains of St Francis Xavier's College, Hamilton, - Chelsea Willis, Harlan Agresti, Elisa D'Andrea, & Thomas Vallender



MAPS INVITES ALL MSA SCHOOLS TO BE PART OF THE BIGGER PICTURE!

The MAPS 2012 schools campaign kit has now been delivered personally to 24 schools and has been mailed to all others in the MSA network. Other schools will be visited throughout the year to outline the services of this Province office. The hospitality and time given by principals and senior staff to the visits has been deeply appreciated. These visits replace any regional launches of the kit and they in a special way provide the MAPS team based in Brisbane an opportunity to express personally our appreciation for the partnership of MSA schools and the office in developing educational resources on Marist solidarity, immersions links, volunteering, fund raising and networking.

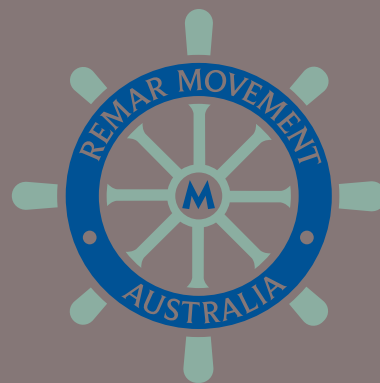


DECODE THE CAMPAIGN WITH SMART PHONES

On each of the posters and the campaign catalogues is a small square black code similar to those in supermarkets. Using a QR code scanner (which you can download free from the app store or android market), the app uses your built-in camera to focus on the code and you are linked directly to the MAPS campaign website. This means that all materials for learning activities, prayers, liturgy, 13 MAPS project snapshots and other resources can be easily accessed at your fingertips.

All the materials are also accessible through:
www.maristsolidarity.net.au/maps/2012

Thanks again for your support of the young people in the Asia and Pacific Islands communities where Marists work.



REMAR NEW HELMS GATHER



An enthusiastic and energetic group of new Helms gathered in Lysterfield, Victoria for a two day inservice. The program was a lively mix of information sharing, a focus on Marist Spirituality, games and activities, along with a prayer evening that allowed the New Helms to share some of their own faith story. We warmly welcome the following Helms (and supporters) to the Remar family:

- Sacred Heart College (Adelaide) - Derek Leibbrandt
- St Francis Xavier College (Beaconsfield) - Paula Carr, Simon Cuckson
- Assumption College (Kilmore) - Rochelle Stokes
- Catholic College Wodonga - Keiran Mullins, Shinead Kilroy
- Newman College (Perth) - Isabella Dillon
- St Peter Claver College (Ipswich) - David Campbell, Emma Galea and Diarmuid O'Riordan
- Notre Dame College (Shepparton) - Jason Giuliani
- Marist-Sion College (Warragul) - RoseMarie Black, Andre Ockerse
- Nagle College (Gerlinton) - Damian Ramos, Louise Pettigrew
- Marist Regional College (Burnie) - Delmy Britto
- Our Lady of the Sacred Heart College (Alice Springs) - Lauren Maksimovic
- Lavalla College (Traralgon) - Brett Van Berkel
- Penola Catholic College (Broadmeadows) - Maria Alberto, Bernie Brown
- Marcellin College (Bulleen) - Laura Duncan
- St Patrick's College (Launceston) - Cas Douglas

