



MSA Newsletter

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



From Brother Michael Green

2 September 2014

Dear Brothers, Colleagues and Friends

Of a size that was rather larger in the collective imagination than in sober reality, there existed in the deep and dark recesses of the old building at St Joseph's College Hunters Hill, a wine cellar. *The Brothers' Cellar*. Actually, it was more of a smallish room with a modest if eclectic collection of labels, located in a cold corner of the lower ground floor. But the name "the Brothers' Cellar" had a more intriguing ring to it. At least it did to students and to younger Brothers.

As one of the latter group, I looked forward to each Sunday's lunch when two or three bottles were usually brought up to augment the lamb roast. Two or three bottles didn't stretch all that far in a community of thirty-six Brothers, but having a few beer drinkers and teetotalers helped. One memorable Sunday, the life of Brother Hilary, former Assistant General, was almost forced to a premature conclusion as his breath became short and his face reddened at the sight of several younger members of the fraternity guzzling their way disrespectfully through a bottle of aged and decidedly decent Cru Beaujolais. "Do you know what you're drinking?!" he gasped. They didn't, really.

It's a curious metaphor for the reign of God, wine. New wine needing new wineskins; water turned into wine; this is My Blood. I am the vine. And then that scene at Cana: have you ever calculated just how much wine would have been in those stone jars? There was at least 75 litres in each jar; that makes close to 500 litres of wine. And good wine, too. Some party. Quite immoderate, this reign of God or, as *Water from the Rock* calls it, this "Christ-life". Not really p.c.

According to a report in last week's *Tablet*, India's southernmost State is planning to ban the demon drink, something that presents a problem for the celebration of the Eucharist. Even the temperate Saint Paul might have drawn a line in the sand on that one. But perhaps the good people of Kerala have themselves to blame since, as it happens, the State has the highest per capita of alcohol consumption and also the highest proportion of Christians. The use of wine as a Christ-metaphor can also be a tad problematic at times.

There can be something unbridled about a person who has really allowed Christ-life to take root and grow. Not ill-disciplined or unthinking, like someone who has imbibed too much cheap grog too quickly, but passionate and uninhibited. Like someone in love. We can often seek to domesticate the gospel of Jesus in ways that consign it to its own little place in the corner, a controlled and controllable element of our lives. But a key feature of the incarnational theology which we Christians took up in the Judaeo tradition from which we grew was the sense that God is in our midst, in our hearts, in the very stuff of our daily lives. It is today that we find Christ and it is here that we respond to Christ. It is all of our life.

In a world which, in so many different ways, seems to be becoming more guarded and more self-protective, it can be a blessing to have the daily opportunity to live and work with young people. Their spontaneity, their enthusiasm and even their unmeasured judgement can help to disarm us and free us to drink generously of the Wine of life. It's an interesting twist on being "driven to drink".

But the question that is well to sit always with us is that of old Brother Hilary: "Do you know what you're drinking?"

Nisi Dominus

Brother Michael Green FMS
NATIONAL DIRECTOR

COMING UP...

3-6 Sept	Contemplative Retreat, Mittagong
5 Sept	#serve program, Trinity Catholic College, Auburn
7 Sept	Fathers Day
8 Sept	Remar Ministry Team 2015 Applications Close
9 Sept	Next Gen 1 programme, Brisbane
11-12 Sept	MYM Leaders Retreat, Mittagong
14-17 Sept	Footsteps 1 programme, Mittagong
17-27 Sept	International Mission Assembly, Nairobi
22 Sept	NSW/QLD/VIC commencement of school holidays

29 Sept	SA/WA/ACT/NT commencement of school holidays
3-5 Oct	Australian Catholic Youth Convention
6 Oct	NSW Labour Day
6 Oct	NT/VIC schools resume
7 Oct	NSW/QLD schools resume
8 Oct	St Joseph's College Mothers' Retreat, Hunters Hill
10-12	Red Leadership Camp # 1 (Vic, Phillip Island)
12-15 Oct	Living Champagnat's Vision programme, Alice Springs
13 Oct	Next Gen 2 programme, Brisbane

CONGRATULATIONS



To Glen McConville on his appointment as the next Principal of Mt Maria College, Mitchelton. Glen takes up his role at the start of 2015.

SCHOOL LEADERSHIP VACANCY



HEAD OF CAMPUS
Our Lady of the Sacred Heart
Catholic College ALICE SPRINGS NT

The College is seeking applications for the position of Head of Campus for the commencement of the 2015 school year. Interested applicants are invited to contact Recruitment for an information package including a position statement and selection criteria on telephone: 08 89841400, or email: recruitment@nt.catholic.edu.au

Written applications outlining professional qualifications, experience and capacity for this leadership position are to be addressed to: recruitment@nt.catholic.edu.au

Closing Date: Monday, 8 September 2014

MARIST BUSINESS MANAGERS CONFERENCE, MITTAGONG

The conference theme was 'Welfare – Our Mission – Finding the Balance' with a focus on our Marist welfare ministries and the welfare of our business managers. Over 36 Business Managers attended the conference from Perth in the west to Port Moresby in the north. Speakers include Br Paul, Br Ken McDonald, Br Allen Sherry, Dr Craig Hasted, (Monash University) and Joe McCarthy. A most interesting visit was made to Marist Youth Care in Blacktown.



SOME 2015 DATE CLAIMERS



The brochure for next year's MSA programmes, courses and events is almost finalised. Here are some dates that you may want to mark down:

FOOTSTEPS 1 MAKING JESUS CHRIST KNOWN AND LOVED

Mittagong: 1-4 March | 3-6 May | 17-20 May | 14-17 June | 16-19 August | 13-16 September

MARIST LEADERS: NEXT GEN1

15 May Melbourne
8 September Brisbane
15-16 October Sydney

MARIST LEADERS: NEXT GEN2

11 September Melbourne
11 September Brisbane
19 October Sydney

MARIST PILGRIMAGE

12 April-4 May Holy Land, Rome, Lyon, Notre Dame l'Hermitage

MARIST PRINCIPALS' REGIONAL MEETING

9 March Marist Centre Brisbane
10 March Marist Centre Sydney
13 March Marist Centre Melbourne

MEETING OF PRINCIPALS OF MSA-GOVERNED SCHOOLS

1 June Marist Centre Brisbane

MARIST SCHOOLS AUSTRALIA BIENNIAL CONFERENCE 2015

26-28 July Catholic Leadership Centre, East Melbourne

MISSION ASSEMBLY

20-23 August Mittagong

CONTEMPLATIVE RETREAT

2-5 September Mittagong

MARIST BOARDING SCHOOLS CONFERENCE

11-13 October St Augustine's College, Cairns

NEW: MARIST LEADERS: MYSTICS AND PROPHETS

23-25 March Sydney
10-12 June Melbourne

NEW: justLOVE: HEART WITHOUT BORDERS by school request

CENTRAL WEST MARISTS #SERVE

Red Bend Catholic College
Forbes



Kate Ralph shows us what it means to #serveoneanother!

Holy Family Primary School
Parkes



Andrew Berger (Religious Education Coordinator) with
Denise Gersbach (Principal)

Catholic College Sale



Corey Scholtes (House Leader, VCE Outdoor Education) with Jane Robbins
(VCE Drama, English teacher)



Tweets from #serveoneanother

Perception is not king. Reach out to see that love is
#community #serving #xingboundaries #serveoneanother @
maristserve

@maristserve Good question. Does 'service' too often come
with the expectation of reward? #serveoneanother

+ Lift your eyes, look around, and see the need. @maristserve
#serveoneanother #permissionistriumph

Surrendering of yourself, giving of yourself, being attentive of
self and others @maristserve.

@maristserve let's look closer to home..immerse reverse
#serveoneanother

Embrace the challenge of going beyond the ordinary
#serveoneanother #crossingboundariesandbridges

#serveoneanother @maristserve encounter others face to
face #inclusion #leavenoonebehind. Serve, don't hesitate.

#serve
oneanother

BANGLADESH: Calling on Building Supervisors, Architects and Engineers!



A teacher in a run down classroom speaks with her students

THE OPPORTUNITY... The Marist Brothers are urgently seeking a volunteer building supervisor, architect or engineer to assist with the construction of school facilities in Bangladesh. It is envisaged that the volunteer will stay in Bangladesh for a short period of time and provide an independent survey and consult with the local construction company. The follow up during the construction phases may then be facilitated online as the buildings progress.

BACKGROUND TO THE PROJECT... The tea communities are home to some of the most vulnerable people of Bangladesh. As they have been socially excluded and disconnected they have lost their original languages in most parts as well as their culture, education and unity. Living in the tea gardens means poor housing conditions, low wages, long working hours and social discrimination, and restrictions on movement. These people as victims of *modern slavery* are deprived of many basic human needs and rights. The children of tea workers are trapped in an endless cycle of poverty.

The Marist Brothers are working to support these people by starting a school that will provide education these children. As well as standard curriculum a major focus will be placed on English, Ethics and Computer skills. These skills give the children a higher chance of gaining better paid skilled work later in life. Marist Solidarity will be working closely with the Marists in Moulvibazar on the project.

To get involved with this truly life changing project please contact **Ashley** at Marist Volunteers Australia on (07) 3354 0600 or mva@marists.org.au.



MARIST YOUTH FESTIVAL COORDINATOR - MARIST YOUTH MINISTRY

Are you passionate about Youth Ministry and have a commitment to evangelisation of young people in the Marist way?



Marist Youth Ministry (MYM) is calling for expressions of interest from people who might consider part-time employment with our team based on a short term contract with the commencement date to be negotiated but ending on Friday 23rd of January, 2015.

We are seeking a confident young person who will join the MYM team in Sydney to coordinate the Marist Youth Festival. This position would be attractive to someone who is creative, flexible, efficient, collaborative and with a commitment to evangelisation of young people.

The position is based at the Marist Centre Sydney. For a copy of the Application Package go to <http://www.maristyouthministry.com>

To apply, email your resume and a cover letter addressing the selection criteria to Nehme Khattar at nehme.khattar@marists.org.au or call 0417 023 298