



25 February 2015

Dear Marist Colleagues

**BIENNIAL MARIST SCHOOLS AUSTRALIA CONFERENCE  
25, 26, 27 JULY MELBOURNE AUSTRALIA**

**"THEY HAVE NO WINE" - St John, Marist Spirituality, Abundant Life**

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The Executive Director of Marist Ministries and National Director of Marist Schools Australia, Br Michael Green invites you to the 2015 Biennial Marist Schools Australia Conference to be held from Sunday afternoon 26 July 2015 through to Tuesday evening 28 July 2015 at the Catholic Leadership Centre East Melbourne, Victoria, Australia.

This year's conference is a break from the past both in style and presentation. Our focus for 2015 is the spirituality of leadership based on the writings of St John. Our keynote speaker is Dr Mary Coloe pbvm, a world renowned Johannine scholar who will break open the scriptures and assist us in growing, enhancing and broadening our understandings of leadership in the Marist way. St John, so embedded in the life of the community around Lyon France, is the key to understanding Marist spirituality. The writings, take us from the foot of the cross to Ephesus then Lyon to the founding of the Society of Mary around 1816, just after the French Revolution.

Studying spiritual leadership is one thing, living and practising it in our particular ministries another. Pope Francis has challenged us in "The Joy of the Gospel" to be evangelisers in a Marial way and in the process create something "new." As he states so clearly in paragraph 288 of "The Joy of the Gospel", "It is the Risen Christ who tells us, with a power that fills us with confidence and unshakeable hope: "Behold, I make all things new."(Rev 21:5.) We need to work on this agenda together.

Bringing your practical experience and collaborative understandings to this conference will assist with taking the Marist agenda forward nationally and internationally. Middle leaders and potential middle leaders are most welcome as well.

The Marist Schools Australia website, <http://msa.edu.au/> has all the information about the conference from accommodation options, conference programme, registration costs, registration procedures and the keynote speaker. Online registrations open **Monday, 2 March 2015** on the MSA website.

With our prayers and support for you in your ministries, we extend this invitation to you to join us in Melbourne on July 26, 27 and 28, 2015.

Yours in all things Marist, Jesus, Mary Our Good Mother and St Marcellin Champagnat,

**Br Neville Solomon**

for the Conference Committee

Mr Paul Herrick, Regional Director Marist Schools Australia (Melbourne), Mr Mark Murphy, Principal Marcellin College Bulleen, Ms Carmelina Eussen, Deputy Principal Marist College Penshurst, Ms Elizabeth Falconer, Mission and Life Formation Team, Ms Sarah Lowrie, PA to Principal, Marcellin College Bulleen, Ms Sophie Fenaughty, Executive Assistant, Marist Schools Australia

Attachments: 1. Program Overview  
2. Accommodation Options  
3. Venue Information  
4. Registration Information