



# MSA Newsletter

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



## From the Acting National Director

Dear Colleagues

As indicated by Brother Michael in the last newsletter, I will be acting in the role of National Director for Marist Schools Australia during this term whilst Brother Michael writes a significant contribution to the history of the Marists, to be published for the Bicentennial in 2017. Since the last newsletter there has been the Brothers' Chapter, during which directions for the Brothers and the Province were established for the next three years and new members were elected to the Provincial Council. Members of the Provincial Council are Brothers Michael Callinan, Greg McDonald, Jeff Barrington, Paul Kane, Darren Burge and Ken McDonald who will be Vice-Provincial. In the next few weeks the very first Council of the Association of Saint Marcellin Champagnat will be announced by the Provincial Brother Peter Carroll. Let us keep all of these people in our prayers as they assume significant leadership roles.

This past week I had the privilege of visiting four schools in the Central West and Riverina areas of New South Wales, in the Dioceses of Forbes Wilcannia and Wagga Wagga. The Marists who first established these schools and the generations that followed have been faithful to Marcellin's original conviction to provide a Catholic education to young people living in rural areas remote from major cities. Each of these schools is flourishing under the leadership of highly competent and committed Catholic educators. Inspiring encounters and conversations regarding innovations in learning were experienced in each school. Reaching out to educate young people from Indigenous communities featured strongly in all the schools as well. However it was the strength of commitment to prayer and spirituality that stood out to me at the conclusion of the week. In the words of one Principal, "it is through prayer and reflection that we continue to explore the depth of our purpose in working with young people."

A remarkable experience of prayer at Red Bend Catholic College Forbes during the investiture of the College Leaders occurred when according to the order of events it was time to sing a hymn, appropriately the Peace Prayer of St Francis of Assisi. Filling the lungs for a good bellow, I was caught short as every person on staff started moving to the front of the auditorium, over 60 in total. Once assembled the staff started singing prayerfully, conducted in unison "Make me a channel of your peace..." 700 students sat transfixed with a shared countenance of wonderment. It was a sacred experience, generously given by the teachers and graciously received by the students. The presence of the Spirit was keenly felt and the powerful resonance in young people for simple gestures and symbols of Faith clearly evident.

In concluding, and still on the theme of prayer, October is the month of the Rosary. Often maligned in these modern times, the Rosary is a prayer to share and promote with our students. The attraction the Rosary holds for many young people continually amazes. Henry Newman, when an Anglican Minister forbade any devotion to Mary. However as one of the more famous "converts" in the English-speaking world in the 19<sup>th</sup> Century, Cardinal Newman's devotion to Mary and in particular his love of the Rosary grew throughout his lifetime. Writing in his latter days he reflected,

***"Now the great power of the Rosary lies in this, that it makes the Creed into a prayer; of course the Creed is in some sense a prayer and a great act of homage to God; but the Rosary gives us the great truths of Christ's life and death to meditate upon, and brings them nearer to our hearts."***

May Jesus grow ever closer to our hearts this October.

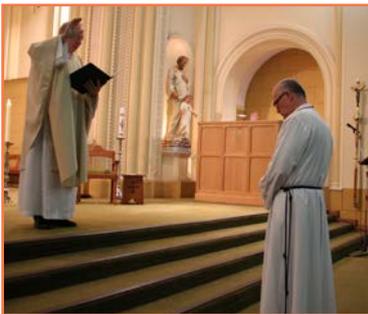
Yours sincerely,

**Frank Malloy**  
ACTING NATIONAL DIRECTOR

## COMING UP...

11-14 Oct	Marist Solidarity Retreat, Alice Springs	3 Nov	Melbourne Cup Day, Public Holiday, VIC
15-16 Oct	Marist Leaders: Next Gen1, Sydney	6 Nov	Marist Ministries Mass & Dinner, Sydney
16-18 Oct	Remar Red Leadership Camp, VIC	9 Nov	just LOVE: Hearts without Borders, Marist College North Shore, Marcellin College Randwick, Marist Catholic College Penshurst
17 Oct	Marist Ministries Mass & Dinner, Brisbane	11 Nov	MSA Regional Council, Brisbane
18-21 Oct	Footsteps 2: Making Jesus Known and Loved, Mittagong	11-12 Nov	MSA Regional Council, Melbourne
23 Oct	justLOVE: Hearts without Borders, Marist Centre Melbourne	13 Nov	MSA Regional Council, Sydney
23-25 Oct	Remar Red Leadership Camp, NSW	22-24 Nov	Student Leaders Gathering, Mittagong
2 Nov	Marist Centre Melbourne Closed		

### PROVINCIAL COMMISSIONING CEREMONY & THANKS TO BR JEFF



On Saturday 26 September, approximately 200 Marists gathered at St Joseph's College Hunters Hill for the Commissioning Mass of Brother Peter Carroll as Provincial of the Marist Province of Australia and Leader of the Marist Association of St Marcellin Champagnat, led by Fr Ray Chapman SM.

This special occasion also allowed us to publicly thank Brother Jeff Crowe for his years of leadership as Provincial. Julia Lederwasch, Deputy of St Francis Xavier's College, expressed her gratitude to Brother Jeff on behalf of the Marist Association. Brother Peter Carroll added his own words of appreciation to Brother Jeff and presented him with a specially created icon of St Marcellin and Our Lady.



### 2015 MARIST SOLIDARITY DATE CLAIMERS

#### Christmas Menu Launch

**BRISBANE: Monday, 9 November**  
Marist Centre Brisbane - 5.30pm to 7.00pm

**CAIRNS: Wednesday, 11 November**  
St Augustine's College - 5.30pm - 7.00pm

**SYDNEY: Tuesday, 17 November**  
Marist College North Shore - 5.30pm to 7.00pm

**ADELAIDE: Tuesday, 24 November**  
Paringa Hall, Sacred Heart College Somerton Park - 5.30pm to 7.00pm

**MELBOURNE: Sunday, 29 November (revised date)**  
Marist Centre Melbourne - 5.30pm to 7.00pm

### CONGRATULATIONS TO CATE SYDES CEO MARIST YOUTH CARE

Congratulations to Cate Sydes CEO Marist Youth Care, who is a NSW State Finalist in this year's Telstra Business Women's Awards, one of the most prestigious and highly recognised programs for Australian women in business. Cate's finalist nomination is in the "For Purpose and Social Enterprise" category. During Cate's career which spans 35 years, she has focused on the welfare of children and her core mission is creating positive social and environmental change. Cate has been CEO of Marist Youth Care for 10 years and in that time under her leadership the organisation has expanded through innovative programs, business development and fundraising. This is a great achievement and well deserved recognition of Cate's passion and vision to address social disadvantage.



#### Marist Youth Care Upcoming Dates...

Women's Leadership Lunch	29 October 2015
Wings of Hope Blue & White Dinner (William Blue College)	14 November 2015
St Vincent's Old Boys Reunion	22 November 2015
MYC Oration with Noel Pearson	23 November 2015

For more information contact [christinem@maristyc.com.au](mailto:christinem@maristyc.com.au) or phone 0400 881 779

### THREE2SIX ROLE WITH AUSTRALIAN VOLUNTEERS FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT



The Australian Government is funding a one year placement for a Project Development Coordinator to help expand the Three2Six program to other schools in South Africa. Do you know of people in your network who might be interested?

Click on the link below for further information:  
<http://www.australianvolunteers.com/jobs/10533990-project-development-coordinator-afternoon-school-expansion/>

# Marist MISSION AND LIFE FORMATION

## MARIST CONTEMPLATIVE RETREAT

Held at The Hermitage, in Mittagong, from 2 – 5 September, this retreat offered lay Marists and religious an opportunity to experience, through a variety of prayer methodologies, an encounter with God with a special focus on developing a Marian dimension to their daily lives. The retreat essentially allowed people to get away from their busy lives and usual distractions to make a commitment to engage in and deepen their contemplative practice. It encouraged a deepening of commitment to the contemplative dimension of the Gospel in our daily lives. Spending time in the natural and peaceful surrounds of The Hermitage and being creative and Marial in our approach to prayer helped to provide an incredible energy within the silence of the retreat.



Mark Murphy  
(Marcellin College  
Bulleen) and Chris  
Roga (Lavalla  
Catholic College,  
Traralgon)



Brooke Wasmund  
(Mt Maria College,  
Petrie)

## STAFF RETREAT - NEW NORCIA WESTERN AUSTRALIA



Michelle Izzard, Rebecca Clarke, Laura Connolly, Sue Lucy, Ryan Shelton

## FOOTSTEPS1: MAKING JESUS KNOWN AND LOVED

On Sunday 13th September 35 members of our Marist community came together to participate in the Footsteps1 program. During the four days they explored the life and history of Marcellin Champagnat and discussed our role as Marists today. It was a wonderful opportunity to listen to others and share stories of their personal contribution to Catholic education.



Milton Dempster and Maddie Cleveringa



Lucy Pelosi, Tracey Dunne and Jim Sheridan



Michael Dela Cruz

Just LOVE  
hearts without borders

## MARIST CONNECT: TERM 3

The Marist Youth Ministry team has recently held its regional gathering for Marist students (Marist Connect) that saw over 50 students from across 12 different Marist schools in Sydney come together in three different regions. The theme of the night was “Breaking News” as we focused on the cycle of bad news from



various news sources and how to respond as followers of Christ and Marists. We reflected on how a “Strong Mind and a Gentle Heart” helps us to “break down the news” and in fact calls us further to become “messengers of the Good news (The Gospel)” based on the example of “The Beatitudes”. We concluded by reflecting on the words of Pope Francis and on the last days of Jesus when he shared in the “brokenness” in our own lives. The night ended with



students sharing a meal with each other. Special thanks goes to Marist College Eastwood, Mt Carmel Catholic College, Varville and The Brothers’ Community at Randwick for being wonderful hosts.

MYM Team Sydney



## SO MUCH TO SMILE ABOUT ON WORLD TEACHERS’ DAY



This month, we celebrate World Teachers’ Day (October 5) and recognise the dedicated work of teachers to educate young people for a brighter future.

One teacher making a brighter future for his community is Arnaldo da Silva Cusmao—a recent graduate from the Marists’ teacher training college ICFP in Timor-Leste. Last week, 27-year-old Arnaldo visited the team at Marist Solidarity in Brisbane to share his story. Arnaldo is from Gari-uai—a very remote community in Timor-Leste. He is the second eldest of 10 children and, about three years ago, his father passed away. Life is very difficult for Arnaldo’s family. There were no schools in his village and the young people were getting into trouble.

To make things better, Arnaldo wanted to establish a school. He soon happened upon a meeting with Sr Dianne Stuart—a Loreto Sister who lives in Timor-Leste. “Sr Dianne listened to my story and wanted to help me with my problem,” he says. Over two years, the Loreto Sisters helped Arnaldo establish a school for about thirty children under the age of five. But Arnaldo knew he needed more education to make him a better teacher.

The Loreto Sisters, with support from the eMerge Foundation and Marist Solidarity, helped Arnaldo obtain a scholarship to attend ICFP. After three years of study, and more than 12 weeks of practical teaching experience, Arnaldo is now a qualified teacher.

He is in Brisbane as a guest of the Loreto Sisters and is gaining more practical experience at St Agnes Catholic Primary School in Mount Gravatt. He is now very happy that the Loreto Sisters appointed him as the Year One teacher at the newly opened school in Gari-Uai.

To find out more please email us at [msol@marists.org.au](mailto:msol@marists.org.au) or read the full story at:

[www.australianmaristsolidarity.net.au](http://www.australianmaristsolidarity.net.au)