



MSA Newsletter

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



From Brother Michael Green

Dear Brothers, Colleagues and Friends

One hundred years ago, apparently for the first time in written English, an emerging literary genius combined into a single word 'bull' and 'shit'. The writer was none other than Thomas Stearns Eliot. The component syllables of his new word seemed to him to be a clever conceit, being consistent with the colloquial usage each word had enjoyed since medieval times. He was reportedly surprised, therefore, that the British journal to which he submitted his poem entitled *The Triumph of Bullshit* judged it unsuitable for general publication. It is not known, as he read in other publications the reports of carnage beginning to take place in the trenches of Belgium and France, which were judged suitable for general readership, if he considered penning a companion poem that he might have called *The Triumph of Irony*.

Later in 1915, T.S. Eliot had more success getting another poem published, albeit tucked away unobtrusively towards the back of the journal. *The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock* was to become emblematic of modernist literature, and a staple on senior secondary English syllabi. By the 1960s it had grown to be something of an anthem for youth who were questioning the meaning and merit of societal norms. And it somehow connected with their adolescent angst.

Are we allowed to use Eliot's word in 2015? Is it PC to do so? Let's presume permission, for the sake of argument. The poetry of T.S. Eliot is not as much in vogue as it once was. Pity. All those memorable one-liners no longer dropped liberally into conversation at uni parties. But what we might call the 'bullshit antennae' of young people remain as active as ever. Prufrock-type teachers, for example, never gain much traction with the young: adults whose rhetoric they perceive to be empty or tired, whose lives lack passion or conviction, or most of all who are not the people they seem to be, or who use methods that are inconsistent with the core values of the school. Eliot might have called them 'hollow men'.

If St Marcellin had have spoken English and had lived a century later, he may have been tempted to use Eliot's word. A farmer's son, he spoke directly and liked to employ arresting metaphors to make point. He was also someone who eschewed both insincerity and tepidity. For him a teacher taught above all else through example, through the person that he or she was. "Simplicity" he called it, borrowing the term from St Francis de Sales. Teachers affected their students by who they were to them, by the genuine witness of their lives. Or, the witness of their genuine lives. "They will become what you are," he wrote to one early Brother (and one who was known for his impatience and self-righteousness). To simplicity he added another term he had learnt from de Sales: "presence" – to create opportunities to become immersed personally in the lives of the young, and to be oneself to them. They are rich concepts, simplicity and presence, ones which go to the heart of who we aspire to be as Marist educators.

Marcellin chose schools as the most effective way for his pursuing his project. He knew, as you and I know, that schools are powerful places, and also privileged places, to work with young people. One of the greatest responsibilities with which we are charged is to look for ways through whatever role we have in the school to inspire young people to believe: to believe in themselves, to believe in the inherent goodness of other people, to believe in the grace of change and growth and forgiveness, to believe enough to risk and to persevere and to love, and to believe in the God at the heart of all of this.

There is no more powerful, or privileged, way to educate than to seek to affect students by who we really are. Their antennae will be up. Prufrocks need not apply.

Nisi Dominus

Brother Michael Green FMS
NATIONAL DIRECTOR

COMING UP...

10 Mar Marist Principals' Regional Meeting, Sydney
 11 Mar MSA Regional Council meeting, Brisbane
 11-12 Mar MSA Regional Council meeting, Melbourne
 13 Mar MSA Regional Council meeting, Sydney
 13 Mar Marist Principals' Regional Meeting, Melbourne
 13 Mar In the Marist Way, Noosaville & Sunshine Beach
 15-18 Mar Footsteps 2 programme, Mittagong
 16 Mar In the Marist Way, Marist Youth Care
 19 Mar In the Marist Way, Adelaide

20 Mar In the Marist Way, Western Region Sydney
 20 Mar Remar Coordinators' Retreat, Templestowe
 23-25 Mar Marist Leaders: Mystics and Prophets, Sydney
 28 Mar VIC holidays commence
 31 Mar Directors' Forum
 3 Apr GOOD FRIDAY
 4 Apr EASTER SATURDAY
 5 Apr EASTER SUNDAY
 6 Apr EASTER MONDAY

MESSAGE FROM BR TERRY HEINRICH

LaValla School, Cambodia would welcome superseded laptops for use in their computer education courses. Laptops in reasonable working order would be welcome and appreciated. Visiting school groups can readily bring these when they come. Br Terry's email address is tghfms@gmail.com



With thanks
Br Terry Heinrich

2015 MARIST SCHOOLS AUSTRALIA

Biennial Conference

THEY HAVE NO WINE: JOHN'S GOSPEL, MARIST SPIRITUALITY, ABUNDANT LIFE



Online Registration for the 2015 Biennial Conference has opened!

Sunday afternoon, 26 July 2015 until the Tuesday evening, 28 July 2015 at the Catholic Leadership Centre, East Melbourne VIC.

For two and half days Marist Education Leaders will explore the spirituality of leadership around the great themes of St John's Gospel.



Principal guest lecturer is one of Australia's well respected scripture theologians, Mary L Coloe pbvm, BA., BTheol (hons), D. Theol. Mary teaches in the field of New Testament studies, with a particular focus on the Gospel of John. She has taught at the Australian Catholic University, Boston College, the Jesuit School of Theology Berkley, and at the Ecce Homo Biblical Institute Jerusalem. She is a member of the Studiorum Novi Testamenti Societas and other national and international biblical associations.

REGISTER NOW:

<http://msa.edu.au/registrations/>

LAVALLA & CHAMPAGNAT JOURNAL CUT OFF DATE

The cut-off date for the April edition of the LAVALLA and CHAMPAGNAT JOURNAL is Friday, 20 March 2015.

All submissions should be sent to Br Tony Paterson at tony.paterson@marists.org.au



HAVE YOU DOWNLOADED THE MSA APP?



- Read this Newsletter, the Lavalla magazine and the Champagnat journal.
- Catch up with the latest news.
- Check the various programmes and events.
- Find links to all MSA schools and other Marist connections.

Download the free app for your iPad, iPhone or Android device today.

Google Play:

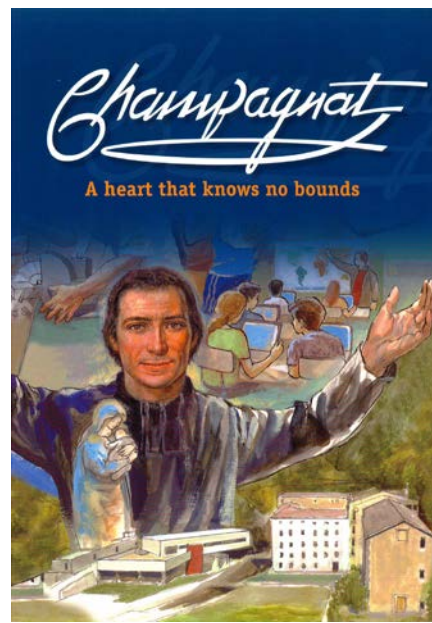
<https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.fraynetwork.marist>

App Store:

<https://itunes.apple.com/au/app/marist-schools-australia/id826186929?mt=8>



CHAMPAGNAT COMIC BOOK



A revised version of the Champagnat Comic book is now available. Schools may be interested in purchasing class sets.

\$10.00 per book + postage.

Contact Marist Resources to place your order: resources@marists.org.au

Marist MISSION AND LIFE FORMATION

justLOVE CAMPBELLTOWN

On Friday 27 February 2015, the complete staff of St Greg's – teaching, administrative, boarding and maintenance, came together to be part of a thoroughly engaging morning with presenters Ryan Gato and Paul Harris. The staff came away understanding more fully the theme of the year and the projects created displayed creativity, thought and a really positive response to the need for all of us to act in justice (see images).

Most thought-provoking words: *Going out to those I do knowand those I'm yet to meet.*



(L-R) Mario Ghezzi, Peter Baz and Luke Morris

justLOVE ASHGROVE



(L-R) Phillip Holding, Matthew Dempsey & Jan Mulvuhill

IN THE MARIST WAY: MACARTHUR REGION

On 25 February 2015, 23 new staff from Mount Carmel Catholic High School, Varroville, John Therry Catholic High School, Rosemeadow and St Gregory's College, Campbelltown came together to share an afternoon of Marist spirituality and experience.



IN THE MARIST WAY: SHEPPARTON



(L-R) John Malloy, Graeme Miller, Sharon Malloy, Ross Hopkins, Nathan Carroll, Laura Long & Susan Dixon

justLOVE
hearts without borders

MARIST HOSPITALITY AND THE MYM ADELAIDE LAUNCH

Since beginning in the role of MYM/Remar Coordinator in January, myself and the MYM/Remar teams have found ourselves gathering around the tables of a number of Marist Communities. 'For the community today that Marcellin created, the table at La Valla is...

a powerful symbol of family and service' (Water From The Rock p56) and it is around the tables across the four states visited, that we have been welcomed, made connections, prayed and served together.

FIFTY-ONE EAST TIMORESE ON TRACK TO SHAPE A NATION!



As graduates, these young men and women look to a future as teachers in Timor-Leste

Saturday, February 21st, was an important day for the students of ICFP, the Marist initiated Teacher Training College in Baucau, Timor-Leste. Families of the fifty-one graduates travelled great distances to celebrate this exciting transition. It was also a moment to mark the commitment that they have made to shape the next generation of young people in their nation.

After the Indonesian occupation this young nation is still rebuilding its capacity to support its young people with education. Dr Joao Cancio Frietas, a former Timor-Leste Government Minister for Education, recognised the value of these graduates and of ICFP in this effort.

It was also Brother Peter Corr's first graduation with ICFP and as the new Director. We wish him all the best as he takes this new role.

The Marist Solidarity team deeply values this partnership with ICFP and we hope our donors to this program also relish this proud moment for these young people... a group who are shaping the nation.

Michael Coleman
MSol Team – Brisbane
E | msol@marists.org.au



Hollie Hockley (MYM Assistant Adelaide), Liz Wake and Cassie Wilmot – getting ready to cook up a storm!

Gathered around the Somerton Park table – Hannah Stavrou, Daniel Quinn and Br Paul Gilchrist.

More recently I stayed with the Brothers at Somerton Park on the glorious grounds of Sacred Heart College. The community welcomed myself and almost thirty post school Young Marists for the **MYM Adelaide Launch Night**. The night brought together young adults from Sydney, Alice Springs and local Adelaide folk.

It was great to see so many past Remar Rovers from Sacred Heart continuing their journey as Young Marists, connecting through prayer, ministry, food and of course some game time.

A big thank you to all the Brothers who have welcomed us!



Game Time! Br Paul and Br Pat join in a bit of fun with Young Marists.

Jason Dam sharing his immersion experiences in Santa Teresa – kicking off conversations about service and ministry.

Liz Wake
MYM Melbourne / Remar Coordinator