



# 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

To gather. To assemble. *Ekklesia*.

It is in our human nature to want to be with others, indeed to need to be with others – at times of celebration and of grief, at times of deliberation and of protest, at times of special moment. We gather. We gather as families, as clubs, as movements, as ethnic and national groups, as church. We do it to cheer and to cry, to express solidarity and support, to party and to pray.

This week in Krakow, hundreds of thousands of young people are gathering from all parts of the church and the world. Among them are a large number of Marist World Youth Day pilgrims, many of whom also gathered in Lyon last week for the Marist International Youth Encounter. During the recent winter school holidays, there were two quite significant gatherings of Australian Catholic educational leaders: the five-yearly convention organised by the National Catholic Education Commission in Perth, and the biennial national conference of the Association of Principals of Catholic Secondary Schools held in Melbourne. Among the 1400 at the former and 350 at the latter were delegates from most of our MSA schools. It was important for us all to be there, as it is important for us as Australian Marists to have a group of representatives in Poland this week. As Marists, we are in and of and for church.

At the heart of the pledge that St Marcellin and his companions made at the Marian shrine of Fourvière – two hundred years ago last week and celebrated wonderfully in Sydney this past Saturday – was a dream and a hope for the Church. The Church was broken. It needed to change its sense of itself and its approach to people if it was going to reconnect with them. Those first Marists were honest enough to acknowledge that, and not to pretend that they just needed to try harder and somehow to do better, and all would be well. They intuited that things needed to be done differently. They had a plan for realising their dream – in French, a “*projet*” – and to it they gave the appellation “Marist”.

We now have many words for what it means to be Marist. Books of them. Last Friday, for example, at the opening of facilities for the next stage of Marist College Bendigo – aptly called “Fourvière” – members of the student body took their own pledge as Marists. They had confidently written their own words for it. Other MSA schools have developed powerful ways, such as this, for expressing, verbalising, and ritualising their Marist identity. That’s the gift of being able to help to shape a school’s identity by tapping into one of the spiritual traditions of the church. There is always a rich source of symbols, story, and terminology in such traditions, ones that offer accessible and attractive ways for expressing and strengthening Christian discipleship.

But a core element of the Marist dream was and is about church. A “new way of being church”, the founding generation called it. Actually, it was not new at all; it was the Church’s most ancient way of assembling, one captured in the Acts of the Apostles: as disciples, with Mary, transformed and emboldened by the Holy Spirit, ready to go out and to speak the gospel of Jesus in a language that everyone could understand. The Marian principle of the church, we might call it today.

As we celebrate the Fourvière bicentenary, let us commit to seek out ways that our schools can be a Marian leaven within the wider community of the Church, ways that bring the Church together, and which extend its embrace to those who may not feel welcome. It is never a healthy sign if any school community has in some way or another become exclusive in its membership or in its ecclesial life. To be faithful to our Marist founding aspirations before Our Lady of Fourvière in 1816 is to want to have an influence, as St Marcellin put it, “in all the dioceses of the world”.

*Nisi Dominus*

Brother Michael Green FMS  
NATIONAL DIRECTOR

## COMING UP...

29 July Remar Gold Helm In-service, Victoria  
 2 Aug Association Council meeting  
 5 Aug Our Daily Bread: Marist Centre Melbourne & Varroville  
 5 Aug Remar Gold Helm In-service, Sydney  
 6-7 Aug Marist Educational Leadership Programme: Canberra  
 8 Aug Our Daily Bread: Maitland  
 12 Aug Strategic Plans and Complispace PD day for IT Staff in Marist schools: St Joseph's College, Hunters Hill  
 12-14 Aug Remar Gold Retreat, Victoria

14-16 Aug Oceania Council meeting  
 14-17 Aug Footsteps 1: Making Jesus Known and Loved, Mittagong  
 15 Aug Our Daily Bread: Kogarah  
 15-16 Aug Our Daily Bread: Beenleigh  
 17 Aug Marist Oratory Competition: Penshurst  
 17 Aug A Theology of Mercy: Beenleigh  
 19 Aug MYM Connect: Eastwood/Macarthur  
 21 Aug MSol Eyes on India Exhibition: Melbourne  
 24-26 Aug Being Marist Conference: Melbourne

### OPENING AT MARIST COLLEGE BENDIGO



Last Friday, 22 July, the next part of the development of Marist College Bendigo was opened by Brother Peter Carroll (Leader of the Marist Association of St Marcellin) and solemnly blessed by Most Reverend Les Tomlinson (Bishop of

Sandhurst). Towards the end of the ceremony, Brother Michael Green (MSA National Director) addressed the staff, students and guests on the meaning of Fourvière, the name chosen for the new building. In 2017, the College moves into Year 10 in its secondary department, and opens its primary department with Prep and Years 1, 2, 5 and 6.



### 200 MARIST YEARS CELEBRATED



A large number of Marists from all over Australia, including many Principals and other Association members from many MSA schools, gathered at Hunters Hill on Saturday to mark the very day,

two centuries ago, when Marcellin Champagnat and eleven companions made a pledge to form a new group in the Church which they wanted to call the Marists. They imagined that it would include lay people, priests and religious sisters and brothers, and spread all over the world. It did. Next January, we mark the bicentenary of when the first concrete realisation of their project occurred: Marcellin's inviting two young men of the parish of La Valla-en-Gier to become the first Marist Brothers.



### DOWN-UNDER COLLEGES CUP



St Michael's College QLD, invites schools to participate in the **Down-Under Colleges Cup**, 3-7 July 2017. The points of difference of this tournament are its tertiary education focus, its staging on the Gold Coast and the availability of low cost high quality accommodation and meals at the Queensland Government Active Recreation Centre at Tallebudgera beach. To register and for tournament details go to: [www.downundercollegescup.com](http://www.downundercollegescup.com). For further information contact Jeff Kemp, Tournament Director, on 0438 184 994 or email: [jeffkemp@stmichaels.qld.edu.au](mailto:jeffkemp@stmichaels.qld.edu.au).

### FAITH FORMATORS' CONFERENCE

Over 60 leaders of faith ministry in MSA schools all over Australia (RECs, Directors of Mission, APREs, Directors of Faith and Ministry) have been gathered in Brisbane since Sunday for the 2016 Conference. The theme of this year's conference is: "Developing a Contemplative Culture in Marist Schools".



Tina De Souza (Champagnat CC, Pagewood), Gina Mari (Parramatta Marist High), Peter Centra (CC Sale), Nathan Ahearne (Marist Canberra), Peter Hawes (Marist Canberra), Br Greg McDonald (MYM)

# MARIST MISSION AND LIFE FORMATION



**John Therry Catholic High School**  
Rosemeadow - 18 July 2016

On a picture perfect day the entire staff of John Therry Catholic High School, Rosemeadow gathered at the La Valla site of the Hermitage to lead and participate in the ODB program. Among the staff gathered for this day were a large group of teachers beginning their practice teaching as well as an equally large group of teachers new to Mittagong.

## OUR DAILY BREAD - PRAYING OUR LIVES



Sharon Wills, Ciara McCartan, Mary Collins, Gabrielle Biasin  
**Newman College**  
Perth - 18 July 2016  
Duncan Pugh and Mathew Puljiz



**Lavalla Catholic College**  
Traralgon - 11 July 2016

Lavalla Catholic College, Traralgon, participated in *Our Daily Bread - Praying Our Lives* program recently. After the orientation presentation, members of the staff facilitated and led various modules, on ways of praying.



HOLYLAND ROME LYON NOTRE DAME DE L'HERMITAGE



Marist Asia-Pacific Solidarity (MAPS)  
 Australian Marist Solidarity (AMS)  
 Marist Volunteers Australia (MVA)

## FIVE TRAINEE TEACHERS IN TIMOR-LESTE RECEIVE SCHOLARSHIPS FROM LENNON FAMILY FOUNDATION



L-R: Mr Rex Cambrey, Br Peter Carroll, Mr Tony Lennon

Earlier this month, Mr Anthony Lennon presented a cheque on behalf of the Tony and Gwenyth Lennon Family Foundation to support 'The Rex Cambrey Scholarship Program', which gives five deserving young people from Timor-Leste (pictured below) the opportunity to receive tertiary education at the Marist Brothers' teacher training facility, [ICFP](#), or *Instituto Católico para Formação de Professores*, in Baucau.

Leader of the Marists Brothers' Province of Australia, Brother Peter Carroll, gratefully accepted the cheque on behalf of [Australian Marist Solidarity](#) (AMS).

The Lennon Family donates the scholarships to honour the work of long-serving Marist Brothers Melbourne business manager Mr Rex Cambrey and his close affiliation with the family's business entity, [Peet Limited](#).

Brother Peter says, "The strong partnership with the Lennon Family Foundation and AMS's offshore work has been marked by generosity over several years." He says that the Marist Brothers are "deeply grateful" for this long-standing relationship to support Marist projects and especially our partners at ICFP. Scholarships cover tuition fees, living expenses, travel and educational materials.

Please go to our [website](#) to find out how you can help increase standards of education by empowering teachers in Timor-Leste.



## MARIST INTERNATIONAL YOUTH CELEBRATE IN LYON

Statue of St Marcellin at Lavalla with Gabriel Rivat



Our Australian Marist Pilgrims in Lyon report that the International Gathering of Marist Youth (IGMY) has been a wonderful opportunity to strengthen 'family ties' with so many young Marists from around the world as well as connect with the other Marist branches. During this past week the group toured Marist sacred sites with tour guide, Br Neville Solomon, including a visit to the Basilica of Notre Dame de Fourviere, Lavalla, Notre Dame de l'Hermitage and the reliquary of St Marcellin. They have moved on to Krakow this week for the World Youth Day events and meeting with Pope Francis. We continue to pray for our Aussie Pilgrims' safe travel and continued journey in faith.

Br Greg McDonald  
 National MYM Co-ordinator

Australian Marist Pilgrims outside the Basilica of Notre Dame de Fourviere

