



# 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

There is an advertisement that regularly appears in the English weekly *The Tablet*. You may have seen it. It is for “Leo House”, a place that offers accommodation within a Catholic milieu in the heart of New York City. One of its boasts is that there is a resident “Chaplin” and that daily Eucharist is available.

It seems that there is a direct connection between the person who is known as “Chaplin” and the celebration of Mass. Is this person a descendant of Charlie? Does the daily liturgy have a tragi-comic flavour to it? Perhaps little slapstick to keep the congregants engaged? Are words used? And does someone play the piano or do they use a backing track?

Excuse the little facetiousness. But it did catch my eye. Once an English teacher, always ... The same thing happens when I see an apostrophe on the wrong side of an “s”, or when someone uses “criteria” or “phenomena” or “alumni” as if they were singular nouns rather than using “criterion”, “phenomenon”, or “alumnus” and “alumna”. And I am quite the pedant when it comes to using the possessive case before a gerund, or following the word “different” with the preposition “from” and never “to”, or putting “to” rather than “and” between the verb “try” and an infinitive that follows it. And doesn’t everyone know that the noun “data” is plural, and requires a plural verb?

I could go on, but let’s return to Mr Chaplin and the Mass. I do laugh each time I notice this little advertisement and its unintended humour. But it’s not a bad association – levity and liturgy. *Sursum corda* is, after all, the invitation to us before the Preface to the Eucharistic Prayer. Sure, there are many ways through which we can have our hearts lifted in liturgy – through its poetic beauty, through the power of its ritual, through music; the Roman liturgy offers something for all five senses.

But what about simple joy?

In our Marist tradition, especially in our schools, we are usually pretty successful at infusing our liturgies with great joy. It is a mark of the way we do it. Liturgy is for us, as it was for Marcellin, something in which we invest much and expect much. And so we look for ways to plan liturgies that can uplift the hearts of all who take part. I had the privilege to attend one such liturgy at St Gregory’s College, Campbelltown, last Friday when they celebrated the College’s 90th Anniversary, and will do so again this coming Friday when Lavalla Catholic College, Traralgon, celebrates its 60th. Both schools know well what it means to seek to touch and lift hearts in their liturgical celebrations.

It’s a Gospel hallmark, joy. Pope Francis, in *Evangelii Gaudium*, suggests to us that it might be THE hallmark of the Good News of Jesus, at least the one that most honestly and powerfully reflects someone who has come into touch with the Divine at the heart of all life. It is a language that everyone understands, joy. In his homily for the canonisation of Saint Teresa of Calcutta two days ago, the Pope reminded people of a maxim of Teresa: “Perhaps I don’t speak their language, but I can smile.” So, too, for us: we don’t always make sense of the “language” of one another, sometimes especially that of the generation we teach. But, if nothing else, let them see us as people of joy. First, as this. Whatever might be our age, our distance from their world, or our misgivings, they’ll understand.

*Nisi Dominus*

**Brother Michael Green FMS**  
NATIONAL DIRECTOR

## COMING UP...

9 Sept	Remar Red Helm Inservice, VIC	14 Oct	Marist Leaders Next Gen1, Sydney
11-14 Sept	Footsteps 2: Making Jesus Known and Loved, Mittagong	16-19 Oct	Marist Solidarity Retreat, Alice Springs
16 Sept	Marist Leaders Next Gen1, Melbourne	17 Oct	Our Daily Bread, Sunshine Beach
16 Sept	Remar Red Helm Inservice, NSW	18 Oct	Marist Leaders Next Gen1, Forbes
16-18 Sept	Young Marist Formation Weekend	20 Oct	In the Marist Way, Marist Youth Care, Blacktown
23-25 Sept	Year 11 NSW-ACT Forum, Mittagong	21 Oct	Our Daily Bread, Sale
24 Sept-3 Oct	Brothers Retreat, Mittagong	23-26 Oct	Footsteps 1: Making Jesus Known and Loved, Mittagong
6-10 Oct	Senior Brothers Retreat, Mittagong	28-30 Oct	Care for the Soul Retreat, Mittagong

### FAREWELL TO SALLY MCENIRY



Sally McEniry, MYM Regional Co-ordinator in Brisbane, is concluding in her role during September.

Since 2014, Sally has brought a passion for Christian evangelisation and formation with young people to Marist youth ministry in QLD and northern NSW. This included Connect evenings for Year 11 and Year 12 students, the annual Student Leaders' Gathering, Marist Forums and support of school retreats.

In 2014, Sally created and led the Get Real Alternate Schoolies Immersion (GRASI) Program, which invited Year 12 student leavers to participate in a 2-week immersion to the Philippines, giving them an opportunity to encounter real experiences of global poverty. This is now a major event on the MYM calendar.

With young adults, Sally developed opportunities for them to deepen their faith and friendship through Marist Exchange, the Young Adult Lenten series and Café scripture sharing. As a member of the Marist Youth Ministry Council, she was part of the organising committee for the Marist Youth Festival 2015, the annual Marist Pruning Retreat and preparing our booth and presentations at the IGNITE Festival in Brisbane.

This year Sally accepted responsibility for organising and leading our young Marist Pilgrims to France for the International Gathering of Marist Youth in Lyon and WYD in Krakow, Poland.

As MYM Regional Co-ordinator, Sally has drawn together a team of energetic young assistants who have helped her in organising youth ministry events during this time.

We thank Sally for her terrific contribution in making Jesus Christ known and loved among young people and for her creative passion in sharing the Catholic faith with them, especially through social media and technology. Sally will shortly take up a new role in Campus Ministry with ACU in Brisbane.

We wish Sally every blessing in her life and ministry into the future.

Brother Greg McDonald FMS  
National Coordinator, Marist Youth Ministry

### LAVALLA & CHAMPAGNAT JOURNAL FINAL EDITION 2016



A reminder the cut-off date for the final edition of Lavalla and the Champagnat Journal for 2016 is **Wednesday, 14 September 2016**. All content should be emailed to Brother Tony Paterson at [tony.paterson@marists.org.au](mailto:tony.paterson@marists.org.au). A preference for WORD documents and high resolution photographs (jpg) is important. Names with photographs would be gratefully received and this needs a clearance from parents/guardians if students are involved.

Usually the blanket permission that parents sign at the commencement of the year in most schools in most states and territories is fine but there is some variation, and principals are in the best position to decide. Circulation to schools will be made in Week 1 or Week 2 of Term 4. Any variation to quantity required or changes in addresses should be sent to Brother Tony Paterson as soon as possible.

Contact: Brother Tony Paterson  
E [tony.paterson@marists.org.au](mailto:tony.paterson@marists.org.au) | M 0409 538 433

### MARIST BICENTENARY CELEBRATIONS IN 2017



The celebrating of the bicentenary of the Fourvière pledge earlier this term marked the beginning of a bicentennial year for all of us as Marist educators. In 2017, we mark the bicentenary of the founding the Marist Brothers (2 January) and later in 1817, the first Marist school.

To help us all as Australian Marists to celebrate this milestone there will be a range of events, programmes and resources of which schools can avail themselves. These include:

- Bicentenary lapel pins that can be worn by staff and students all year
- New programmes offered by the MLF team
- The inaugural "Marian Lecture Series" in May, put on by the Marists and offered to the wider Church as one way of our nurturing the Marian principle of the Church
- A national tour of specially commissioned bicentennial paintings
- Resources to celebrate the Feast of St Marcellin on 6<sup>th</sup> June
- Regional bicentenary celebrations near to The Assumption in August

Click [HERE](#) to see how Marists in Australian will be celebrating two hundred years of Marist education next year.

# MARIST MISSION AND LIFE FORMATION



## BEING MARIST CONFERENCE 24 - 26 August 2016

Coming from all states of Australia with a Marist presence, thirty three support and care staff gathered at the Marist Centre Melbourne for the biennial *Being Marist Conference*. Echoing the Holy Year of Mercy, the theme, "Being Marist – The Face of Mercy", was adopted for the conference. Beginning with a review of the hopes and experience of the Holy Year, the conference explored how the role of support and care can provide a Marist face of mercy to those to whom they minister. Reflecting on the experience one participant wrote: I learnt how the Marist charism relates to my role within the school community and gained an insight into how some incidents are dealt with within our school community. I now realise that the question, "What would Marcellin do?" is a good question to ask when dealing with some difficult issues.

## OUR DAILY BREAD - RED BEND CATHOLIC COLLEGE

A beautiful sunny spring day greeted the Red Bend Catholic College staff for their participation in the *Our Daily Bread: Praying as Marists* program. Scripture as Prayer and Art as Prayer were the two modules experienced along with the Introductory session. The prayer experiences included an Ignatian Imagination prayer and a Visio Divina based on the Storm on the Sea of Galilee Gospel story.

Photo: Jo Donnelly, Tod Healey, Clare Wilson and Bev Rousell



## STAFF SPIRITUALITY DAY - Marist College North Shore

Adriana Bakija, Karen McRae, Jamie Collins and Rod Herbert

The Hermitage at Mittagong was the venue for the Marist College North Shore Staff Spirituality Day. A number of the staff spent the previous night together enjoying community by sharing a meal. Staff presented four of the *Praying as Marists* modules the following day.

## CARE FOR THE SOUL RETREAT

The *Care for the Soul* retreat offers participants a quiet and reflective space away from the busy nature of daily life. A variety of input, prayer experiences, spiritual accompaniment and silence will be offered during the retreat. The retreat will conclude with the Eucharist on the final morning.

## CONFERENCE LOCATION

The Hermitage, Mittagong

## DATES

28 - 30 Oct 2016

## REGISTER AT:

<https://maristschools.ismartsoftware.net/iRegister/Courses/>

**REMINDER!**

## GOLD RETREATS VIC & NSW

*'You are the light of the world' Matthew 5:14-16*

August has been a huge month for Gold Retreats in both Victoria and Sydney. Over 182 Gold rowers came together from across the country to celebrate their Remar journey and to look to the future as Young Marists.

The Gold Retreats were facilitated by the Remar Ministry Team with the wonderful support of the regional Melbourne and Sydney Marist Youth Ministry teams, Marist Brothers and *Young Marist Volunteers*.

The retreat created a space where the rowers could celebrate their journey together through reflection, dialogue, prayer and individual caravel presentations. It was also a time where they could really think about the future and how the **Marist values** they have been formed in through Remar, may aid and support them on the journey.

*"I just wanted to say thank you so much for everything that you guys do. I'm not sure that you fully understand how much what you do means to young Marists all over the country. Remar has honestly changed my life and I am coming out a more faithful, genuine and confident person at the end of my gold crossing. .... Thank you for helping create positive change in my life."*  
Lily, Yr 12 - Notre Dame

Our hope is that the rowers take with them this rich Marian spirituality that 'empowers them, as committed Marists, to be agents of change in the world'. That they will continue to be a light for others and stay connected to our Marist Family.

*'Today's world deeply needs men and women who are mystics – people who are able to touch the mystery of all life, in an attitude of openness and surrender. Having experienced the love of God, they are witnesses of light among their fellow pilgrims, inspiring them to seek God.' – WFR 71*

Liz Wake  
National Remar Coordinator  
Melbourne Regional Coordinator Marist Youth Ministry



## RURAL HEALTH OUTREACH PROGRAM IN CAMBODIA GROWS IN POPULARITY



The number of patients accessing the health outreach program in Pailin is steadily increasing with more than 2,000 rural villagers attending clinics in the past five months.

The program, which is now in its second year, is an initiative of the Marist Brothers community in Pailin.

It has been established with the help and support of a lay Marist couple from Mexico—Doctor Estela Rodriguez and her husband, Rodrigo Sanchez, who volunteered almost three years of their time, working in Pailin.

The couple left Pailin in March, handing the outreach program on to a local doctor, Dr Sreyleap Mouen and her assistant, who is a midwife.

The program is endorsed by the Cambodian Ministry of Health and provides first aid and medical services to people from more than 25 disadvantaged communities.

Each week, clinics are held in Pailin and three outlying rural villages. They involve assessing and diagnosing patients, providing medicines and basic treatments, and community education about the importance of health and hygiene practices.

Brother Georges Palandre—the bursar of the Marist community in Pailin—says it is good news that the number of people accessing the clinic is increasing, but there are now concerns about whether the program has sufficient funding to continue.

Our project partners, Spanish funding agency [Manos Unidas](#), have supported the project for an initial two-year period, but Brother Georges is now appealing to Australian Marist Solidarity (AMS) and the support of our generous donors to enable the project to continue.

Please go to our [website](#) to find out more or to donate to the health outreach clinics operated by the Marist community in Pailin.