



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

Living across from the Royal Exhibition Building in Melbourne, one witnesses a curious passing parade of humanity. There's usually something on most weekends – car shows, bridal fairs, homeware exhibitions, wine and food festivals, tattooists' conventions. The craft beer weekend is usually one to mark in the calendar. But in these last few weeks it has been anxious university students who have been the most frequent visitors to the grand old building.

It's been examination time.

Reckoning. Calling to account. No hiding. It's once again that season of the year when the fruits of labour, or lack of them, are picked and sorted. Over past weeks, our Year 12s have gone through it, and now students in other year-levels are jumping through to our carefully-constructed hoops that evaluate their efforts over the term and the year, and help them to re-calibrate for what's ahead. Exams are written and corrected, assessment tasks turned in and read, reports compiled, feedback provided, gold-stars given out.

And also for you and me. Most schools have practices, of varying degrees of formality and structure, for reviewing the work of members of staff and for setting directions for the time ahead. We also have them on our little MSA team. So, too, principals will be preparing annual reports, business managers will be acquitting and budgeting, editors of school magazines will be sifting and drafting, and speech nights and prize-givings will take place.

So, how did we all do?

Smiley emojis aplenty, from this vantage point. And I'm not an easy marker. It is for each of us, however, to ask that question for himself or herself, and for us to ask it collectively as schools, as Regions, and at the level of the Marist Association of St Marcellin, under which MSA operates.

As for any assessment piece, it is well for us to have given thought to the range of criteria by which to reflect on our effort and achievement. But one criterion should jump out from all the others, one that goes to the heart of our purpose as Marists: how effectively have I shared in *Mary's work of bringing Christ-life to birth* this year – in myself, in my students, in my school or work-place? If that is too global or too abstruse, let's break it down into more observable measures: to what extent have I allowed myself, and helped others, to be more joyful? more giving? kinder? more empathetic? more forgiving? more thankful? more prayerful? more resilient? more encouraging? fairer? more compassionate? less judgemental? less cynical? less self-centred? more hospitable? Is there more faith, more hope, and more love about because of me, in me? Each of these qualities, the Scriptures tell us, is a sign of the reign of God here and now or, what in our Marist spirituality, we call "Christ-life". For God is love, and the person who lives in love, lives in God. (1 Jn. 4:16, from possibly St Marcellin's favourite book in the Bible). Simple, really.

Goodbye, Farewell and Amen.

Nisi Dominus

Brother Michael Green FMS
NATIONAL DIRECTOR

COMING UP...

22 Nov	Association Council meeting	5 Dec	Marist Solidarity Christmas Gathering, Sacred Heart College
24 Nov	Leaders' Day, Sacred Heart College	15-17 Dec	District of the Pacific Assembly, SHC, Auckland
27-29 Nov	Student Leaders Gathering, Melbourne	15 Dec	NT, WA final day of school
1 Dec	In the Marist Way, Marist Youth Care Blacktown	16 Dec	QLD, ACT, SA final day of school
1-3 Dec	Remar Red Embarkation, Sacred Heart College	20 Dec	NSW, VIC final day of school
3 Dec	Annual MSA Mass & Dinner, Melbourne	22 Dec	Marist Centre Brisbane Christmas Closure
4-7 Dec	Student Leaders Gathering, Sydney	23 Dec	Marist Centres Melbourne & Sydney Christmas Closure

PRINCIPALSHIP AT CHANEL COLLEGE GLADSTONE

Congratulations to **Susan Bunkum** on her appointment as the next Principal of Chanel College, Gladstone. Ms Bunkum is currently the Deputy Principal at Guilford Young College, Hobart.

2017 PROGRAMMES & EVENTS

REGISTRATION NOW OPEN



Registration for the 2017 Programmes and Events is now open and filling quickly.

To register follow the link - <https://maristschools.ismartsoftware.net/iRegister/Courses>

If you require any assistance, please contact Rolien Faber register@marists.org.au or 02 9218 4007

For instructions on how to use the online registration system, click on the link below.

[Quick Instructions for Booking Officers](#)

MARIST BICENTENNIAL LAPEL PINS

Almost every MSA School has taken up the opportunity to order the lapel pins for staff and students. Last week we placed an order for 44,000 of them! They should be delivered to schools in the first week of December.

2017 MARIST NETBALL CARNIVAL

Next year, the 23rd Marist Netball Carnival will be hosted by Red Bend Catholic College, Forbes. Principal, Brother Michael Flanagan extends an invitation to all schools to participate. Read letter of invitation [here](#)

CREATING POSITIVE CHANGE

Marist Youth Care has changed its name to **Marist180**.



While we continue to work with young people, our expanded programs increasingly include people from other groups who are also excluded from social and economic opportunities. **Our reach now also extends beyond Western Sydney** into Queensland, Victoria and the Australian Capital Territory. These changes to our approach and reach have given us the opportunity to choose a new name, one that reflects these developments and our spirit, in a fresh and modern way. The concept of '180' is intended to communicate our work as **agents of positive change**, assisting people to turn their lives around and develop a new outlook. The name Marist180 represents our vision, mission and values. There has been no change in management and we will be providing the same services on which we have built our reputation. Other than our name change, **it's business as usual at Marist180 and we look forward to continuing our relationship with you.** For more information please visit our new website marist180.org.au

Cate Sydes
Chief Executive Officer

MSA BIENNIAL CONFERENCE DATE CLAIMER

MARIST MISSION AND LIFE FORMATION



FOOTSTEPS 23 - 26 October 2016

Marie Salinger, Genevieve O'Reilly, Lucienne Camenzuli, Bernadette McPhee, David Sullivan



Adam Kitungano, Nic Lee, Keith Chidiac, Josline Elhage, Louise Colbran, Simon Mikkelsen



Ben Reynolds, Genevieve O'Reilly, Paul Mitchell



Josline Elhage

REGISTRATION SITE

The registration site for the 2017 programmes opened on Monday 14 November offering a range of staff programmes and retreats.

The 'Savouring the Silence Retreat' is a new offering in 2017. This retreat will include a variety of input, accompaniment and prayer experiences, concluding with Eucharist on Sunday. As indicated in the title, this retreat will be offered as a silent and reflective experience.

REGISTER AT:

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

LIVING THE GLOBAL MINDSET OF SAINT MARCELLIN



The partnerships between MSA schools and the Marist Solidarity offices of AMS, MAPS and MVA have been strengthened markedly during 2016. This is the result of the commitment of school leadership teams and staff to giving a higher priority to the Marist Solidarity offices as the official MSA international solidarity and mission outreach. Fundraising is a very competitive space with schools inundated with many genuine requests and not undue pressure from local diocesan appeals also. The AMS board and team members based in Brisbane are deeply grateful for the MSA schools now contributing to project partnerships and also distributing the solidarity education resources developed by our team.

A new AMS schools' kit will be available in January, 2017 and the team will make direct contact with APREs, Directors of Mission or others indicated to us as responsible as our link persons in each MSA school. The 2017 theme will be that of the Province and Marist Association: AWAKEN. It will have the tagline added for solidarity: Marists in Solidarity.

Solidarity partnerships are about making a difference to young people and their families' lives in the 18 countries of Asia and the Pacific Islands where the Marist Solidarity offices now work with local initiatives. Many of the 147 projects registered with us currently are small projects with a low annual budget and clearly identifiable outputs. For the latter, many reflect too the Sustainable Development Goals that the global family is trying to implement through collaborative efforts. Our team have these SDGs clearly in mind as our Marist origins reflect in Marcellin's call to "go to all dioceses of the world" and thus we share a global mindset in our Marist DNA. This is then what will hopefully be at the heart of much of what we celebrate as part of the Bicentenary Year of Marist foundations.

May the year ahead be full of promise for the readers of this MSA newsletter and may you keep Marcellin's global dream before your students in the coming year. The future of its implementation is in their hands.

Brother Allen Sherry fms CEO, AMS for the Marist Solidarity Team (Ashley Bulgarelli, Michael Coleman, Br Mark Fordyce, Sister Anne Kelly and Kate Slesarewich) and the Marist Centre Administration team (Helen Quirk and Kristen McLean).



INTRODUCING THE 2017 REMAR MINISTRY TEAM



Hi I'm Nicola Broeren and I have recently graduated from Lavalla Catholic College, Traralgon.

I have joined the Remar Ministry Team because this once in a lifetime opportunity will give me many chances to help the community around me in a fun and faithful environment. I am most looking forward to connecting with people of all ages and getting a new perspective on the world around me.



Hi I'm Dan Litjens and I have recently graduated from Newman College in Perth.

I have joined the Remar Ministry Team because I want to give back to the program which gave me so much. I am most looking forward to finding my vocation through a year of service and ministry.



Hi I'm Georgia Martin and I have recently graduated from Newman College in Perth.

I have joined the Remar Ministry Team because I want to be able to recreate the same enjoyable Remar experience that I had for the young Rowers of today. I am most looking forward to working with and in the Marist community of Australia!



Hi I'm Zack Pizzingrilli and I have graduated from Assumption College Kilmore this year.

I joined the Remar Ministry team because I love being a support for growth with youth, and I love helping them become the best people that they can be. I am most looking forward to developing lifelong friendships with my co-workers, and assisting those in the community less fortunate.

Liz Wake
National Remar Coordinator
Marist Youth Ministry Regional Coordinator