



# MSA Newsletter

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



From Dr Frank Malloy

Dear Colleagues,

Wisdom in the traditional teachings of the North American Indians, like so many indigenous cultures, often presents a very different worldview. In the 1980s a popular poster depicted the image of an Indian Chief or elder with a full head-dress, under which were written the words,

*"In every deliberation, we must consider the impact on the seventh generation... even if it requires having skin as thick as the bark of a pine."*

*From the Great Law of the Iroquois*

Many of us may remember this poster when we were students or young teachers. Such an important reference point for decision-making seems at odds with so many developments in our rapacious modern world.

As we celebrate 200 years since Marcellin founded the Marist Brothers it is clear he was a person of foresight similar to that aspired to by the Iroquois. 200 years represents on average approximately 7 generations. Marcellin's vision for there to be Brothers in every Diocese throughout the world providing Christian education to young people, was one that would necessitate generations to fulfil. In Marcellin's own life time the vision was at times seemingly destined to fail.

In this Bicentennial year we look back with immense gratitude for the many people who have given themselves completely to God's work through the "Marist project". Our Australian Marist theme for 2017, "Awaken", urges us to foresight. The birth of the Marist Association of Saint Marcellin Champagnat is a critical initiative we hope and pray is inspired by the Holy Spirit, and will foster communities of faith filled Marists to serve others for many generations to come. The beginnings of Marcellin's Marist Project in 1817 were not without significant growing pains, yet where need was greatest the Project flourished.

Just last week, at the invitation of the Director for Catholic Education in the Northern Territory Mr Michael Avery and Bishop Eugene Hurley, I addressed the staff of their education office, who work across the vast geography of the Territory and most often in very isolated Indigenous communities. Bishop Eugene and Michael asked that I explain the concept, vision, and progress of the Marist Association as the Marist presence in the Territory is highly valued, as is the presence of many other Religious Orders by the Indigenous people. The work of the Marists at Santa Teresa and Alice Springs continues to be vital. How might such vital work look in 5 years time? How might it look in 10 or 20 years time? Will the Marist Association be able to provide support for the important work of Catholic education in these places? There is great hope and trust that this will be the case.

The final sentence from that Iroquois law which is less often quoted, provides a profound challenge as we look ahead to the next 200 years of Marist life and work in Australia.

*"Look and listen for the welfare of the whole people and have always in view not only the past and present but also the coming generations, even those unborn faces of the future Nation."*

Yours sincerely

**Dr Frank Malloy**  
NATIONAL DIRECTOR

## COMING UP...

25-27 Aug Remar Gold Retreat NSW  
26-27 Aug Marist Educational Leadership Program  
27-30 Aug Footsteps1 - Mittagong  
1 Sept Remar Red Helm Inservice QLD  
4 Sept Marist Leaders Next Gen 1 Brisbane  
6 Sept Marist Oratory Competition  
7-8 Sept Marist Deputy Principals Meeting, Adelaide

8 Sept Remar Red Helm Inservice VIC  
10-13 Sept Footsteps2 - Mittagong  
15 Sept Remar Red Helm Inservice NSW  
6-8 Oct Remar Red Leadership Camps QLD  
8-10 Oct Marist Boarding Conference, Kilmore  
13 Oct Marist Leaders Next Gen 1 Sydney  
15-18 Oct Marist Solidarity Retreat

### MARIST YOUTH MINISTRY: NATIONAL REMAR COORDINATOR

Marist Youth Ministry is inviting applications for the position of National Remar Coordinator commencing in 2018, based in Brunswick, Melbourne.

The National Remar Coordinator has primary responsibility for the delivery of the Remar program in Years 10, 11 and 12 throughout Australia and accepts responsibility for developing the organisational structures and personnel which enable and support the program.

Follow this [link](#) for further information.



## Called to be Leaders

### MARIST DEPUTY/ASSISTANT PRINCIPALS MEETING

Marist Schools Australia will host the Inaugural National Marist Deputy/Assistant Principals Meeting with guest presenter, Australian Catholic Educator, Dr Mark Turkington.

**Thursday 7 September - Friday 8 September 2017**

**Brother Joseph McAteer Centre  
Sacred Heart College  
195 Brighton Road, Somerton Park, Adelaide**  
*(own arrangements for all travel and accommodation)*

[REGISTER HERE](#)

### LAVALLA / CHAMPAGNAT JOURNAL

**Reminder!**

A reminder that the cut-off date for contributions to the next edition of Lavalla and the Champagnat Journal is this **Friday 25 August 2017**. Contributions should be sent to: Br Tony Paterson at Mascot. The email address is: [tony.paterson@marists.org.au](mailto:tony.paterson@marists.org.au).

The response to date has been excellent. Thank you to all. This edition will be the only one for this year and it will be longer than usual. We anticipate that this edition will be ready for circulation in late September 2017.

By way of advanced notice, we are also working on the first edition for 2018 appearing in March next year. It would be good if we could give some consideration to this now, and to possibly look at some reports on the achievements and projects that various ministries will undertake in the final part of this year.

I will be away for some weeks from 21 September this year, and hence the desire to have the current edition 'signed-off' before I leave. Thank you, Tony Paterson.



**BICENTENARY MASSES  
MELBOURNE, SYDNEY, BRISBANE  
12 AUGUST 2017**



# MARIST MISSION AND LIFE FORMATION



## FOOTSTEPS 1, 6 - 9 August 2017

Thirty four staff from eighteen schools from across the country gathered at the Hermitage, Mittagong to share and deepen their understanding and experience of being Marist at the Footsteps 1 program. Three glorious days of sunshine contributed to the high spirits and energy that brought the group together as family in the Marist way.

## AWAKEN - SALE

On Tuesday 8 August, Catholic College Sale came together for the Awaken program. The staff had a rich and engaging program on their Sion Campus. The afternoon session was followed by Mr Jim Quillinan who spoke about "Education as not just the pursuit of knowledge, rather it is a journey of the spirit".



## AWAKEN - ALICE SPRINGS

The relative warmth of the Centre was a reflection of the warmth of the staffs that make up the campuses of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Catholic School, Alice Springs. The staffs from the Primary/Junior, Middle and Senior campuses gathered at the Traeger Campus at the beginning of the new term to participate in the Awaken presentation. Members gathered in their campus groups to discern the special qualities aimed for within their area of pastoral care. An overview for the whole of OLSH values and desired outcomes was then observed and prayed for. How appropriate to remember the words of St Marcellin as he remembered the friends and young Brothers he corresponded with in the words, "I leave you in the sacred hearts of Mary and Jesus."

In the afternoon, a very large group gathered for a presentation of the program In the Marist Way. After experiencing the Marist way over several months, the participants had a very prepared understanding of what it is to be Marist at OLSH.



## TERM 3 CONNECT GATHERINGS

The focus of the Connect gatherings this term is a call to students to be a saint in their own life time! Following Pope Francis' words and following the examples of people who have been named saints in the Roman Catholic Church, we can all live our lives looking at ways to make the lives of others better. All students have been invited to help support Marist Youth Ministry 'supply' good quality second hand clothes for the Marist 180 Community Wardrobe. This wardrobe is for the young homeless clients of Marist 180. Good casual clothes along with corporate wear for job interviews and employment is needed.

The Connect gatherings have given Marist Youth Ministry a chance to wish Year 12 students that have attended our many Connects and Forums over the past two years of their Marist education, all the best for the future. It is not farewell though, MYM invites all Year 12 students to continue exploring their faith with us post school by attending our monthly Exchange gatherings at Eastwood. All Year 12 students are invited to our Christmas Exchange on 10 December starting at 6pm at the Brothers Community House at Eastwood.

Thank you to Marcellin College, Randwick for hosting the local Connect on Wednesday, 23 August.



Thank you John Therry Catholic High School for hosting the **Macarthur Connect** on Friday, 11 August.



Thank you to Marist College **Eastwood** for hosting the local **Connect** on Friday, 18 August. Thank you Br Justin Guthrie and Br Mark Murphy for cooking us a great BBQ!



Marist Youth Ministry sadly joined other **Marist 180** staff to farewell **Sinead Coakley** on Friday, 11 August. In one year Sinead has managed to connect Marist Youth Ministry and many schools with those on the margins. Thank you for showing us the way Sinead! We will miss you.



### Forbes Leadership Day

On 2 August, the MYM Team travelled to Forbes to work with their Year 11 students on what it means to be a Year 12 student leading the school in the Marist values of 'in the way of Mary, simplicity, presence, love of work and family spirit' in order to make a difference in 2018!



**Jenifer Miller**  
MYM Regional Coordinator, Sydney

## VIZHALANMEDU NURSERY AND PRIMARY SCHOOL

The Marist Brothers have been working in India since 1974. They have developed three schools in the Tamil Nadu state in Southern India. Vizhalanmedu Nursery and Primary School is an English language Marist school and was opened in June 2015 after strong support from AMS donors and St Patrick's College, Dundas (NSW). The school serves a rural population and currently has an enrolment of 140 students.

As is often the case in remote schools in India, many socially-ostracised young people are living with the lasting effects of India's old caste system. For example, most people in the village of Mangamanuthu are referred to as Dalits, or 'Untouchables' and they live in very poor conditions with limited ability to access education. Vizhalanmedu Nursery and Primary School caters for students placed in this position so that one day they may be able to break the cycle of poverty.

In these communities, Australian schools can create a massive change. Recently, St Thomas More Primary School (Sunshine Beach) raised approximately \$2000 for Vizhalanmedu Nursery and Primary School to buy basic yet vital classroom furniture as well as sports and recreation equipment.

For more information on our projects in India or to contact us please visit:

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



Picture courtesy of Connor Ashley.

### Tony Skinner

Communications Coordinator, Australian Marist Solidarity