



MSA Newsletter

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



From Dr Frank Malloy

Dear Colleagues,

In this first week of Lent, in 2018 there has been sustained criticism of the Catholic Church. The focus on the Church's temporal assets, quantified globally in today's market, suggests total figures which are staggering. What has been missed in much of the commentary is the purpose and nature of these "assets", which are largely made up of land and buildings owned by various groups within the Church. As we are acutely aware in our schools, these assets exist in order for people in the Church to exercise valuable works in health, welfare, education, and worship. Much of the land was originally donated, or in effect "collectively purchased" by members of the faithful over many years and with future generations of Catholic families very much in mind. In Australia, many of the buildings have been constructed by volunteer labour and with generous financial donations. This "intergenerational" mindset of Catholics has fostered the physical development of many Catholic institutions in Australia over the past 200 years.

There are countless stories within the rich histories of many of our Marist schools, which illustrate a firm, patient and tenacious commitment to a vision for a school that in some cases took more than a lifetime or two to be realised. Boarders sleeping on open verandahs, multiple classes in Parish halls, demountable classrooms, which in time became "mounted" with rust and vegetation, are just some of the common lived realities. In his brilliant book, "Worth the struggle", Brother John Luttrell fms tells the history of the growth of numerous Catholic schools from their humble beginnings. Consistent in this narrative is the generosity, foresight, and vision of Australian Catholic men and women since 1820. At the core of their sacrifice was a commitment to foster God's loving presence in the world. The vast majority of Church "assets" are enablers of that same commitment and have helped define the manner in which Catholics throughout the world have sought to answer Jesus' call to prayerful, God directed action.

In the midst of the criticism, the clarity of Pope Francis' Lenten message is encouraging. Pope Francis, urges us to experience Lent as a time of grace, inviting us "*to come back to the Lord wholeheartedly and in every aspect of our life.*" As followers of Jesus, the Pope reminds us that we are preparing for the "Fire of Easter".

Above all, I urge the members of the Church to take up the Lenten journey with enthusiasm, sustained by almsgiving, fasting and prayer. If, at times, the flame of charity seems to die in our own hearts, know that this is never the case in the heart of God! He constantly gives us a chance to begin loving anew.

(Pope Francis 6th February 2018)

May this Lent be a time when we Marists collectively throughout our schools and ministries, echo the words of Saint Marcellin, "see how they love one another".

Yours sincerely,

Dr Frank Malloy
NATIONAL DIRECTOR

COMING UP...

20 Feb	In the Marist Way: Perth	9 Mar	MYM Marist Connect: Macarthur
23 Feb	MYM Marist Connect: Brisbane	13-14 Mar	National Marist Principals Conference: Brisbane
25-28 Feb	Footsteps1: Mittagong	18-21 Mar	Footsteps1: Mittagong
26 Feb	In the Marist Way: Gippsland	29 Mar	Holy Thursday
26 Feb	In the Marist Way: Brisbane	30 Mar	Good Friday
2 Mar	Remar Red Caravel Day: VIC	1 Apr	Easter Sunday
9 Mar	Remar Red Caravel Day: VIC	2 Apr	Easter Monday

THE JOHN BERNE SCHOOL - ASX CHARITY FOUNDATION

The John Berne School stands to receive a donation of up to \$50,000 from the ASX Thomson Reuters Charity Foundation in support of their vital Counselling Program. As one of the Foundation's chosen charities to support in 2018, Berne is asked to sell a large number of Art Union Raffle tickets which will help raise some of the donation money. The donation amount that Berne receives will be determined by how many tickets are sold.

We would love your help in selling as many raffle tickets as possible. There are some fantastic prizes to be won, [CLICK HERE](#) to view prizes and to purchase tickets.



LAVALLA & CHAMPAGNAT JOURNAL

Please use Lavalla to share some news from your school with the rest of Marist Schools Australia, and/or consider submitting an article for the Champagnat Journal.

The cut-off date for contributions to the first edition of Lavalla and Champagnat Journal for 2018 is **Friday, 16 March**.

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

COMMISSIONING OF NEW HEADMASTER AT ST JOSEPH'S COLLEGE HUNTERS HILL

On Sunday 4 February, Dr Chris Hayes was commissioned as the new Headmaster at the St Joseph's College Family Mass of Dedication.



LENTEN RESOURCES

Some Lenten resources that may be helpful for you:

[Message of Pope Francis for Lent](#)

[Archdiocese of Brisbane](#)

[Archdiocese of Melbourne](#)

[Archdiocese of Sydney](#)

[Diocese of Broken Bay](#)

From the Regional Director ...



Julie Ryan -
Melbourne Regional Director

As a newcomer to MSA I have a great opportunity to view the goodness of Marist Education and while I have only visited some of the schools I am so impressed with how well the characteristic of Marist pedagogy are imbedded in the practices of schools.

Some of highlights are:

- There was a strong family spirit and great hospitality at Sacred Heart College Adelaide on 24 January when over 300 staff came together to start the year. They started with Principal, Steve Byrne challenging staff to model relationships and to remember that it is not what we say but what we do that will have the greatest impact on students and this was followed by the MLF team introducing the 2018 theme of 'An Audacious Hope'. This is an appropriate theme for SHC as 2018 marks the next stage of the amalgamation of Marymount and SHC.
- At the first assembly at Marcellin College on 8 February held to celebrate the achievements of the Year 12 students from 2017 classes we were reminded by staff and those being celebrated that this achievement was due to hard work and dedication. The boys winning awards also acknowledged the staff who accompanied them in a genuine and practical way were essential to their success.
- Travelling to Catholic College Sale and Lavalla Catholic College I quickly noticed the spirit of teamwork among staff. It was obvious at a Leadership team meeting where leaders were engaged in problem solving to work out what is the best for all students so that they are all loved equally. It was also apparent in the staff room at Sale, where staff were gathered around the table planning with the buzz of conversation reflective of teamwork.
- Walking through the learning spaces at Marist College Bendigo and watching teachers and students engaged in learning there were clear signals that students were being accompanied in their learning and that the family spirit was very much alive. Later Darren McGregor had the College Council working together in a practical way as they had to put together a jigsaw events in St Marcellin's life and the early day (since 2013) of Marist College Bendigo challenging those present to reflect on the journey.

These are mere snapshots of my experience in the first month but it is already clear that the practices in MSA schools are a living expression of Marist pedagogy. I look forward to seeing more as I venture further afield.



NEWMAN COLLEGE PERTH

On 8 February, our Newman College community gathered in celebration of the Eucharist at our PK-12 Family Mass. In gathering with over 3000 people, we celebrated publicly what it means to be an intentional community that is animated by the presence of the risen Jesus. In the Year of Youth, we highlighted the significance of such an event for our young persons and invited them to seek faith-filled opportunities, especially in light of the national Marist theme for the year centred around hope in our future (Jeremiah 29:11).

This annual event commenced our school year and also launched the Newman College Ministry Plan and our Vision for Learning Shine Through Discovery - let your light shine (Matthew 5:16). In his homily, the Most Reverend Timothy Costelloe, Archbishop of Perth, affirmed and encouraged our dual moral purpose as a Catholic and Marist educational community. We were fortunate to have eight priests from our neighbouring Parishes also concelebrate with us.

The College was pleased to also welcome Dr Frank Malloy, Dr Debra Sayce, Acting Director of Catholic Education, Western Australia, Marist Brothers Br Mark Fordyce, Br Terry Orrell, Br Noel Hickey, Br John Horgan and Br John Furlong, and special guests from the College Council as well as 24:7 Youth Ministry.

This was the second occasion for this annual event and it was greatly supported by staff, students and families who have embraced the call to community and have entered into this space that we as a proud Catholic community have sought to create.

Daniel Lynch, Deputy Principal :Mission & Catholic Identity, Newman College



MARIST MISSION AND LIFE FORMATION

In the Marist Way: New Staff Induction Innisfail

While the rain fell softly in Innisfail and the grass got impossibly greener, Good Counsel College enjoyed the *In The Marist Way Program* for their new staff members held on Wednesday 7th February 2018.

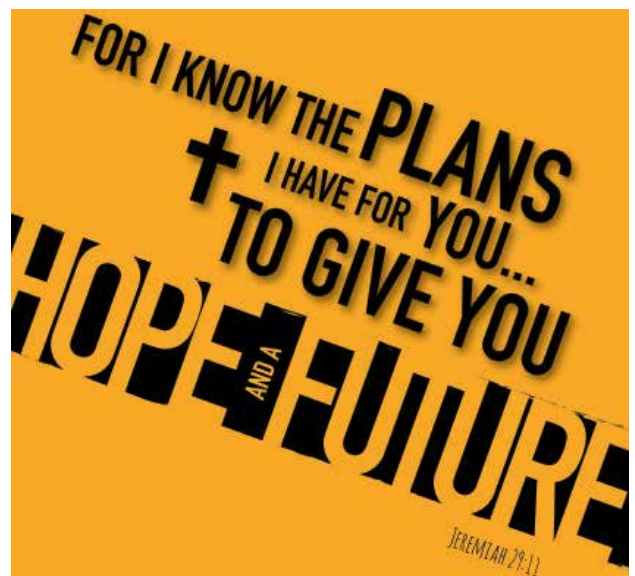
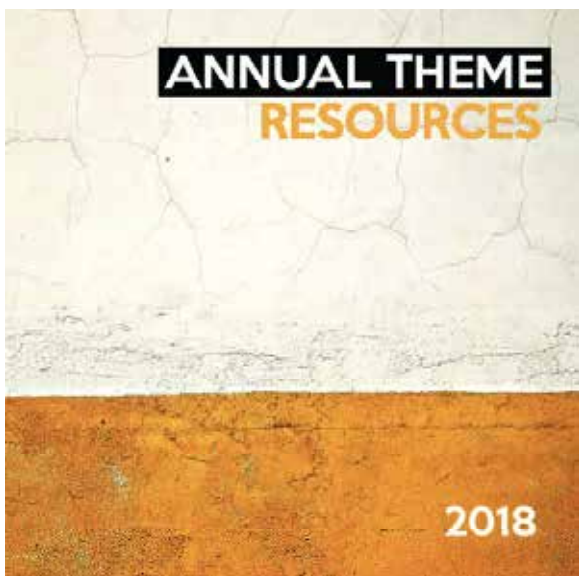


Left to right: Kellie Wheatley, Munveer Dhothar, Andrew McTaggart & Shynade Smith

An Audacious Hope Murgon

NUTURE, RESPECT AND FAITH comprise the School's vision and, in 2018, it is through the theme of 'Reach for the Stars' that the students and staff are encouraged to participate not only in the learning process but also in the school community and all it has to offer.

From Prep to Year 6 the students of St Joseph's Primary School are loved and educated by a dedicated staff who epitomize the Marist characteristic of Family Spirit in all they do. During their participation in the *An Audacious Hope Program*, it was clear how hope permeates everything; how the teachers and staff relate to their young charges; how the students gift hope to their teachers and each other and how each child is assured of their value – they matter.



A reminder that the 2018 Theme Resource Booklet and Theme images are available from the Marist Schools Australia website - msa.edu.au. The Theme Resource Booklet can be found on the link below:

[2018 Theme Resource Booklet](#)



UNLOCK EDUCATION
freedom to learn

Australian Marist SOLIDARITY 2018

Join us in support of young people across Asia and the Pacific like Barsha from Bangladesh.

FOR RESOURCES, VIDEOS AND MORE
 visit us online...

www.australianmaristsolidarity.org.au

Australian Marist Solidarity is today introducing our 2018 Schools campaign which focuses on the story of the first Marist school in Bangladesh and a student's family who can see a brighter future for their children, free of modern slavery in the tea gardens.

Shortly, MSA schools will be receiving a supply of posters and A5 information cards to assist with raising awareness for this vital campaign. There is also an introductory video and teaching aids available online: www.australianmaristsolidarity.net.au/schools-pack

Many thanks again to the MSA community for their valuable partnership with AMS and may 2018 be a year filled with promise for our community.

Media Enquiries: Tony Skinner, AMS Communications Coordinator
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LOCAL CONNECT GATHERINGS

Connect is a great way of bringing together Year 11 and 12 students from Marist Schools in their local region. Held once every term, the focus of the Connect evening is around a topical theme (justice, environment, discipleship, Marist spirituality), concluding with a prayer and meal together. The program is run by the Marist Youth Ministry Team. Connect is a great way of strengthening relationships and Marist ties among our senior students!

In Term 1 the following Connects will be held:

Sydney - there are 3 Local Connects in the following regions and schools:

Macarthur | Friday, 9 March | Mount Carmel Catholic College

Eastwood | Friday, 16 March | Marist College Eastwood

Randwick | Wednesday, 21 March | Champagnat College Pagewood

NB: The program starts at 5pm. Finishes at 7pm.
 Students will be given dinner and do not need to wear their uniform.



The **NSW Year 12 Forum** will be held on the weekend of Friday, 4 – Sunday, 6 May 2018.

Information and Consent forms will be sent to schools soon.



Mrs Jeni Millar
 Sydney Regional Co-ordinator Marist Youth Ministry