



## From Dr Frank Malloy

Dear Colleagues,

Recently my dear mother who is fast approaching 87, went shopping for my birthday gift. The effort itself these days is quite an overwhelming act of kindness. Over the years I have received pretty regularly the ABC Cricket book for the season ahead, and a few cans of condensed milk, which was part of my diet as a very young fellow in order to gain weight. (It worked splendidly!) This birthday as the beautifully wrapped present was passed into my hands, the familiar shape of the condensed milk cans was sadly absent. Unexpectedly, the present was in fact a book by the Australian political journalist Greg Sheridan, titled "God is Good for You – a defence of Christianity in troubled times". Possibly it was intended as a clear and direct motherly intervention, but was accepted as a fascinating Advent reflection, and I commend it to you in this holy season.

Sheridan writes from the perspective of a Catholic who has deep respect for the Sikh religion in which, his wife and three sons believe. With great clarity of thought Sheridan seeks to situate Christianity in the context of modern Australia and the world. He posits refreshingly again and again the immense and positive impact of Christianity on human civilisation over the centuries, despite the serious and tragic failures among some followers.

As we approach the celebration of Christmas this year, we are drawn again to the wonder and beauty of the gift of Christ to the world in the most humble and unlikely circumstances. In Matthew's Gospel, the Angel of the Lord speaks to Joseph in a dream, recalling what had been spoken through the prophet:

*Look! The virgin is with child and will give birth to a son  
whom they will call Immanuel. A name which means  
'God-is-with-us'.*

Increasingly Christmas as a celebration seems to be losing its roots. A way we might untangle the true meaning of Christmas from the commercial extravaganza, is to consider again and *celebrate* the real impact of Jesus, 'God-is-with-us', in the world today. Whilst acknowledging the tremendous work of all the Christian Churches, it is worthy to note the Catholic Church is the largest non-government provider of welfare, health and education services in Australia. Catholic Social Services aids some 450,000 people annually, while the St Vincent de Paul Society's 40,000 members form the largest volunteer welfare network in the country. Catholic Health is the largest non-government provider grouping of health, community and aged care services in Australia. These do not operate for profit and represent about 10% of the health sector in the nation. Catholic schools educate approximately 760,000 students in more than 1,700 schools, and 37,000 students in Catholic Universities. Overseas development and support through Caritas and other organisations such as Australian Marist Solidarity provide personnel and millions of dollars annually to programmes and emergency relief for communities in need. These are mighty contributions motivated by Jesus, the one we believe remains ever God with us.

As we conclude the 2018 school year I thank every person who has contributed so generously in our Marist schools to the education of our young people. On the next page are listed people from our schools who were recognised in appreciation at one of the three Marist Schools Australia Annual Mass and Dinner celebrations held this term in Brisbane, Sydney and Melbourne. Their contributions are without exception, inspired examples of Christian life.

May you enjoy the peace that Jesus brings this Christmas season with family and loved ones.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "F. Malloy".

**Dr Frank Malloy**  
NATIONAL DIRECTOR

## COMING UP...

5-8 Dec

Savouring the Silence Retreat - Mittagong

### MSA AWARDEES

Congratulations to all those that received the **Appreciation for Outstanding Service to Marist Education** recently at the MSA Mass and Dinners held in Brisbane, Sydney and Melbourne.

Shana Bennett - Sacred Heart College Adelaide  
Craig Bissell - Champagnat Catholic College Pagewood  
Br Anthony Boyd - St Joseph's College Hunters Hill  
Br Darren Burge - St Augustine's College Cairns  
Bernard Burgess - All Saints College-St Peter's Campus Maitland  
Niall Coburn - St Peter Claver College Riverview  
Michael Connolly - Mt Maria College Petrie  
Jo Donnelly - Red Bend Catholic College Forbes  
Margaret Dunn - Trinity Catholic College Auburn  
Sharon Gardiner - Marist-Sion College Warragul  
Veronica Grant - Marist College Ashgrove  
Charlie Hansen - St Augustine's College Cairns  
Ann Hunt - Marist College Canberra  
John Kelly - Sacred Heart College Adelaide  
Mike Laux - St Teresa's Catholic College Noosaville  
Therese Ledesma - St Patrick's Marist College Dundas  
Jennifer Lindsay - Newman College Perth  
John Loadsman - Trinity Catholic College Lismore  
Wayne Lobo - Marcellin College Randwick  
Damien Millar - St Gregory's College Campbelltown  
Martin Mooney - Marist College Eastwood  
Cassie Mowbray - St Francis Xavier's College Hamilton  
Jennifer Pendlebury - Assumption College Kilmore  
June Robertson - St Teresa's Catholic College Noosaville  
Maria Tipaldo - Trinity Catholic College Auburn  
Susan Turner - Marist College North Shore  
Allana Vedder - St Michael's Primary School Daceyville  
Sakaraia Vuki - Parramatta Marist High School Westmead  
Lesley Willis - St Augustine's College Cairns  
Mark Wright - St Francis Xavier's College Hamilton

### PROGRAMS AND EVENTS 2019



ONLINE REGISTRATION  
IS OPEN  
FOR  
2019 PROGRAMS

### MARIST RESOURCES

**NOW ONLY AVAILABLE AT  
THE HERMITAGE MITTAGONG**

Telephone: 02 4872 1911

Email: [reception@thehermitage.org.au](mailto:reception@thehermitage.org.au)

Website: [www.thehermitage.org.au](http://www.thehermitage.org.au)

## CONGRATULATIONS TO TOM DUNCAN - ASHGROVE COLLEGE OLD BOY

On Friday 16 November 2018 Tom Duncan (Ashgrove Old Boy 2011) was ordained to the Diaconate by Bishop of Toowoomba, Robert McGuckin in the Chapel of ACU, Banyo. Tom has been studying at the Holy Spirit Seminary Banyo. Since becoming a Deacon he has been appointed to the Parish of Highfields, just outside Toowoomba. Originally from Miles west of Toowoomba, Tom was a Boarder at Ashgrove. Although Tom was initially drawn to Franciscan spirituality, Tom's decision to pursue seminary training for the Toowoomba diocese was prompted by the shortage of Priests in that very large rural diocese. Tom says, "When I went to Marist College Ashgrove as a boarder I was uprooted from the circles of family and friends I was so used to. This forced me to discover a more concrete sense of myself and what was important to me. One of those things was faith. Going to Sunday night boarders' mass every week I had a growing sense of God's presence in the Eucharist and a feeling of the transcendent. I think that ultimately put me in the right space to hear God's invitation to be a Priest. Talking to Fr Pius Jones sm, our College Chaplain, also had a great influence on me".

Pictured at Tom's ordination are left to right: Ms Madonna Spillane one of Tom's teachers at Marist College Ashgrove, Tom Duncan, Mr Daniel Bull, friend of Tom Duncan and currently a staff member at Ashgrove, and Fr Tom Zaranski. Tom Zaranski, also an Old Boy of Ashgrove (2004), studied Economics after leaving school, worked part time as a Boarding supervisor at Ashgrove and was ordained a Priest in the Archdiocese of Brisbane at the end of 2017. At Tom's ordination to the Diaconate, his priestly stole was placed over him by Br Roger Burke fms of the Ashgrove community, friend and mentor to Tom and a teacher of Latin to the seminarians. Following ordination to the Diaconate Tom was appointed to the Brisbane parish of Manly. Since becoming a Priest Tom has been stationed at Ipswich, west of Brisbane.

Marist College Ashgrove is proud of these two young men, the commitments they have made and the obvious affection they each have for their alma mater. The College wishes them well in the exercise of their Priestly ministry and we thank them for their generous service of the local Church.



**Luke McMahan**  
Head of Mission  
Marist College Ashgrove

## MARCELLIN TECHNICAL COLLEGE IS NOW A CAMPUS OF CARDIJN COLLEGE

Cardijn College is pleased to announce that Marcellin Technical College has merged with Cardijn College and will be known as Marcellin Technical, a campus of Cardijn College. Marcellin Technical will continue to specialise in trade, vocational and technical education.

Since 2016, Cardijn College and Marcellin Technical College have worked in partnership to provide the best Catholic education to students of the southern suburbs, whatever career pathway they choose.

Over the past 18 months, many of the core support functions of Marcellin have been centralised at Cardijn. A combined board assumed the governance of both schools which facilitated a streamlined approach to services such as finance, marketing and communications, maintenance and ICT.

Marcellin Technical offers trade, vocational and technical training to students who wish to undertake an Australian School-based Apprenticeship (ASbA) concurrent to completing their SACE.

Cardijn College, in collaboration with southern region Catholic Primary Schools, will continue to strengthen partnerships to enable students and their families to be consistently supported throughout their transition from primary to secondary education.

This model of education ensures the continuity of pastoral care and student development from early learning, primary and middle schooling, into senior school and beyond.

For our students who commence an ASbA at Marcellin and then transition to a full apprenticeship, we offer a unique model of pastoral care. This model fosters an ongoing relationship with apprentices through our onsite RTO, MTC Training, once they have completed Year 12.

There are exciting plans for the future of Marcellin with the introduction of new courses to students from 2019 including Hairdressing, Cosmetics, Early Childhood Education and Individual Support (Ageing) and the establishment of a STEM laboratory.

Cardijn College will also undergo an expansion as we welcome our first intake of Year 7 students in 2019.

It is an exciting time for Catholic education in the southern suburbs. Families can be confident that their child's individual needs will be catered for, no matter where their skills and ambitions lead them and that a high-quality Catholic education is accessible and achievable for every student.

**Dr Paul Rijken**

Principal/CEO

Cardijn College

Marcellin Technical Campus





## NOW AVAILABLE

In preparation for the 'Holy Today!' theme for 2019, a resource book has been developed and is now available [online](#).

This e-document includes staff/student prayers and points of reflection, liturgical resources, music suggestions, as well as a comprehensive list of suggested material to supplement the annual theme.

With a wide range of resources that bring prayer and Scripture into everyday life in a thought-provoking and lasting way - the *2019 Theme Resources* is a simple way to help us build our relationship with God and embrace the 2019 Marist Association theme.



## GREAT EXPECTATIONS

*In his new letter, Rejoice and Be Glad, Pope Francis is calling the whole church "to be saints and not to settle for a bland and mediocre existence." What better time to think about growing in holiness than Advent, the "season of expectation"?*

What did you wake up to on Christmas morning when you were a child? Joy? Expectation? Something to look forward to? What was it?

As children we really didn't know. St. Paul says, "When I was a child...I thought like a child...But when I became an adult, I put an end to childish ways" (1 Corinthians 13:11).

Then Paul described the fullness of life as loving knowledge of God: "For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then we will see face to face. Now I know only in part; then I will know fully, even as I have been fully known."

This is what adults look forward to. This is what Advent promises and Christmas previews. This is the description of holiness: union of mind and will and heart with God.

Christmas is the promise of holiness. Maturity is understanding what that is.

In Advent we wake up to a world filled with promise. A world where God is acting to share himself with us. We step out of bed into a world of divine life.

Expect great things. Believe you can know God.



## Step into my shoes in 2019

Dear Colleagues,

Thank you for your support in 2018 across the Marist Schools Australia network for the projects and programmes of AMS across 23 countries in Asia, the Pacific Islands and Africa. Our breadth of coverage with Marist colleagues in these regions, both lay and Brothers, has expanded because of the commitment of MSA to prioritizing this Marist aid and development agency among all the diverse appeals for help that you receive each year. This is a much valued partnership that changes the lives of young people and their communities in the developing world.

The 2019 campaign "Step into My Shoes" invites all people in our Marist school communities to walk with children on the margins of life. Developing empathy and compassion means the contemporary Christian virtue of solidarity has building blocks in place.

Some of the resources available for the campaign are included in this pack and we hope you would pass them to your staff members responsible for fund raising and educating in solidarity. As this varies in MSA schools, be it the Director of Mission, APRE or a special committee, then I hope you can pass this letter and material to whomever is responsible before the close of term.

Australian Marist Solidarity is an international non-government organisation that has a niche stemming from our Marist origins of being educators. As the short video produced for this year's campaign shows we believe that education is a prime lever for the alleviation of poverty in a community. Your partnership with AMS then assures us that we can deliver on this focus.

May the year close well and the year ahead be filled with promise for your school community.

Yours in solidarity,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Br Allen Sherry".

Br Allen Sherry fms  
CEO, Australian Marist Solidarity

## MARIST YOUTH MINISTRY QUEENSLAND

Over the past couple of weeks I was able to attend a number of school's graduation ceremonies. Finishing 12 years of education is certainly something to celebrate. I felt privileged to witness how these celebrations carry meaning and traditions within their communities. I was especially struck by a parent's address done by Julie Cross, whose son Thomas, was graduating from Mt Maria College Petrie.

Julie spoke about witnessing Thomas, who has autism, being included and also celebrated during his time at school. After Julie and Thomas visited Mt Maria, prior to him commencing, she wrote the following poem about what she witnessed:

***The Loving Pass...***  
*by Julie Cross (Kent)*

*He walked up to the kids on the Basketball Court  
With such confidence, just like he had been taught  
I was surprised to see him go and do it  
On his own I have so often seen him sit  
I held my breath for what felt like forever  
Please let him play, for him this is just so clever  
How would he get their attention?  
What would be their reaction?  
He clapped his hand and opened them wide  
Inviting them to throw him a pass out to the side  
I am still holding my breath almost blue in the face  
The pass was thrown in exactly the right place  
His face lit up as he went for the shot  
He missed but you see it mattered not  
The game was most definitely already won  
When they passed the ball and welcomed my son*

I think if St Marcellin had witnessed this moment he would have fist pumped the air and exclaimed that this is what it is all about!

Julie then went on to describe what inclusion means to her: *'Inclusion isn't something we talk about, it's something we do. Inclusion isn't about making him (Thomas) be like everybody else, it is about celebrating everybody's diversity, everybody's uniqueness and about letting it shine out loud.'*

This experience of celebration and inclusion would not have been possible without the concerted effort of staff. The work our staff do in assisting our students to feel known and loved by God is paramount to our identity as Marists. So thank you to all the staff who have supported this mission and who, in a special way, have supported Marist Youth Ministry this year. You are appreciated!



Mt Maria Year 12 Graduating Class of 2018





### A Message from Br John McMahon...

Dear Friends, Colleagues and Brothers,

We hope you are having a good close to the year. Marist Tertiary students continue to increase in number each year. We are pleased to inform you that, beginning in 2019, two Marist Tertiary Leadership programs will be available online. They are MT401 Marist Educational Leadership and MT402 Leadership from a Marian Perspective.

To undertake these Units, students need to attend a Marist Centre in Brisbane, Sydney or Melbourne on the specified dates. Face to face learning will take place along with national online discussions. The discussions will focus on the Australian Catholic University accredited material presented by the presenters at the Centres.

The program dates are:

#### **MT402 Leadership from a Marian Perspective**

4 & 5 May and 25 & 26 May 2019

#### **MT401 Marist Educational Leadership**

8 & 9 July and 11 & 12 July 2019

Thank you for your ongoing support of Marist Tertiary. We wish you God's special blessings for Christmas and New Year.

With best wishes,

**Br John McMahon**

National Director

## Upcoming Programs

**Mixed Mode Learning**, face to face and online, will be available in 2019 for our two leadership programs. Locations will be:

1. Marist Centre Ashgrove in Brisbane,
2. Marist Centre Mascot in Sydney or
3. Marist Centre, Brunswick in Melbourne.

A presenter and/or tutor will be located at each Centre during the four days.

Marist Leadership Programs 2019

#### **MT103 Marist Leaders Next Gen 1**

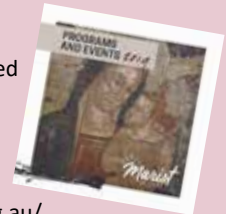
A face to face program being held at Marist Centre, Melbourne 9 & 10 May, 2019.

Our 2019 programs booklet '**Programs and Events 2019**' has been launched.

The Marist Tertiary Programs are detailed on pages 18 and 19. The programs can be accessed on our website

<http://www.mte.org.au/>

or if you would like to express interest in a 2019 program, please email us at [tertiary@marists.org.au](mailto:tertiary@marists.org.au)



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#### **Website:**

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

**Registration:** [www.msa.edu.au/registration-for-programmes](http://www.msa.edu.au/registration-for-programmes)





## Marist Educational Leadership Program

*The delivery of the course was engaging...*

### MT401 Marist Educational Leadership Program in Canberra

Early this year, an enthusiastic group of Marist educational leaders met at Marist College Canberra to engage in the Marist Educational Leadership Program together. The program was facilitated by Br John McMahon and Dr Jennifer Elvery and the group met over two weekends, the 4th-5th August and 25th-26th August 2018. The participants included Megan Finnigan, Loretta McNaught, Brian Shaw and Leesa Callaghan from Canberra and Finton Keane from Sydney.

As a small group, we worked through the challenges contemporary educational leadership offers and examined the very meaning of leadership. Marcellin's unique style of leadership was explored, in addition to various theological perspectives on leadership.

The delivery of the course was engaging and allowed us to form a close bond in our small group. The professional conversations that we shared were affirming and the content was highly relevant to our daily practice as educational leaders. This enabled us to immediately take up what we had learnt and incorporate it back into our schools.



Brian Shaw, Megan Finnigan, Jennifer Elvery, Finton Keane, Loretta McNaught, Leesa Callaghan and John McMahon at the Marist Educational Leadership Program in Canberra in August 2018.

We celebrated the conclusion of the course by attending Mass together and celebrating at dinner. We sincerely wish to thank Br John McMahon and Dr Jennifer Elvery for making the course such a rewarding experience for us all.

### Loretta McNaught

Teacher, Marist College Canberra

### Marist Leaders write about the practice of Educational Leadership

#### How do we develop a balance between learning and performance?

We are always learning and, as leaders, we can find ourselves always performing. Through trial and error, we can practise consciously taking time to "switch off" (especially when we are home) so that we can reflect and increase self-awareness. This will give us space for deep learning and a break from performance mode. (Finton Keane)

#### How do we use language today as leaders?

The answer to this question is not a simple one, but is something we need to consider when communicating with others we meet in a school setting. We need to consider modelling and encouraging positive communication styles. We need to ask questions of ourselves such as "Do I use positive language that clarifies, motivates, and inspires?" It is important that we make others feel respected and valued. Use words of inclusion, e.g. "team", "our", "colleagues", "teammates". Use words of empowerment, e.g. "targets", "goals". Use words of success that energise others, e.g. "performance", "achievement". (Megan Finnigan)



### Questions and Responses from Weekend 2

Participants identified some grey areas in leadership, workshopped some responses and then wrote up their preferred resolution option/s. The contributions are in the voices of each participant.

How do we, as middle leaders, react when more senior management make a decision and do not provide adequate explanations of the decision that are made and which affect your area, or your understanding of the situation?

Proposed resolution:

- Talk with other middle leaders detailing your concerns or issues. Ask for help for possible solutions and actions.
- Do research on the issue to have facts and appropriate data available.
- Find out reasons why these decisions were made.
- Talk privately with senior leaders explaining your situation, ask for help and try and find a consensus solution. (Brian Shaw)



*"If you want to teach young people, first you must love them - love them all equally"*

*St Marcellin Champagnat*