



From Dr Frank Malloy

Dear Colleagues,

Teaching moments

As the first flush of the new school year recedes and the rhythm of the term and learning programmes is well established, inevitable among students will be misunderstandings, disagreements, and bruised relationships. With a learning agenda that is so acutely time bound, such “disruptions” can be extremely frustrating for teachers and school leaders. Whilst a constant reminder of the imperfect nature of our human condition, importantly for Marist educators, such disruptions provide profound teaching moments with the young people in our care. Emotions experienced by students are often raw, new, and perplexing, potentially galloping ahead of reason. Physically, a young person’s growth is obvious, whilst their emotional development less so. The work of the teacher in bringing disputes to an end, and restoring relationships through listening, understanding, compromise, apology, and forgiveness is priceless.

Saint Marcellin instinctively understood the immense potential of the teacher to educate and provide a Christian example through their daily engagement with students. Marcellin¹ observed to the early Brothers,

“Education does not consist in either discipline or teaching; it is not imparted by courses in politeness or even religion, but by constant daily contact between students and their teachers, by personal advice, attention to details, encouragement, corrections, and all other sorts of lessons to which this uninterrupted contact gives rise. Of all the lessons you can, and indeed must, give your pupils, the first and principal one, the most meritorious for you and the most efficacious for them, is your example. Education is assimilated more easily and makes deeper impression by way of the eyes than by way of the ears.”

Marcellin presents a vision for Christian education echoed in every Church document on Catholic education published since Vatican II, some 120 years later. Rather than accommodating “disruptions”, we Marists are encouraged to embrace the “opportunities” to teach and learn Jesus’ way, in the everyday lives of our students. May we be especially attentive to these opportunities during this period of Lent.

Today is International Women’s Day. In response to the call for submissions to the 2021 -2024 Synod of Bishops, Australian Researchers from Newcastle University, Tracey McEwan, Kathleen Phillips, and Miriam Pepper have completed what is believed to be the largest [survey](#) of Catholic women in history involving 17,200 participants from 104 different countries communicated in 8 languages. Aligned with the theme of the Synod, the research is designed to provide clear insights from women to inform discernment and decision making, *“For a Synodal Church: communion, participation, and mission”*.



The Australian Catholic Bishops’ Conference 2022-23 Social Justice Statement is titled *RESPECT* and urges us as Christians to confront violence and abuse. President of the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference, Archbishop Tim Costelloe SDB, in his foreword to the [document](#) emphasises a destructive reality in Australian society, the injustice and abuse suffered by women and children.

Those who suffer such abuse are most frequently women and children while the perpetrators are most frequently men. But no matter who suffers such violence, and who perpetrates it, the damage to the lives of the victims and survivors of such abuse is real, destructive, and long-lasting.

The virtue of solidarity challenges us to support those who are seeking justice in the face of such widespread violence. The teaching of Christ urges us to promote

continued next page

relationships marked by respect and freedom rather than coercion and control. The message of the Gospel is not a message of domination of one person over another but a message of mutual esteem and kindness.

Importantly, the Australian Bishops on their website also highlight this day by acknowledging the need for greater inclusion of women in decision making and leadership roles within the Church ([https://socialjustice.catholic.org.au/event/international-womens-day-2023-03-08/.](https://socialjustice.catholic.org.au/event/international-womens-day-2023-03-08/))

PRAYER

God, whose love and goodness gathers us in:
we pray for women all over the world,
especially those challenged by poverty and other injustice.
Stir us to know women's dignity.
Quieten us to listen to women's voices.
Awaken us to see women's realities.
Strengthen us to stand for women's rights.
Fill us with hope to make a better future together.
Amen.²

Yours sincerely,



Dr Frank Malloy
NATIONAL DIRECTOR

1. Opinions, Conferences, Sayings and Instructions of Marcellin Champagnat
2. <https://www.caritas.org.au/resources/library/international-women-s-day-reflection/>

MARIST SCHOOLS AUSTRALIA BOARD REPORT



From the Chair

*I am delighted to announce the appointment of a new Director to the MSA Ltd Board. **Ms Pam Betts** is an eminent Australian educational leader. She is respected throughout Australia as an influential and highly effective Catholic educator. Pam has extensive school and system leadership experience in both Diocesan and Religious Institute and Ministerial PJP schools and education authorities. A founding Regional Director for EREA, most recently Pam was the Executive Director for Brisbane Catholic Education, with responsibility for 146 schools throughout the Archdiocese of Brisbane. Pam performed in this role with distinction until 2021. Pam was instrumental in progressing the involvement of MSA in the development of a new Marist school in Aura. Importantly Pam consistently ensured the agreement between MSA and Brisbane Catholic Education was a priority for Marist schools governed by BCE.*



We look forward to the many gifts Pam brings to the important governance responsibilities of the Board for Marist Schools Australia.



Professor Brother David Hall FMS
Chair of the MSA Ltd Board

REMINDER

LAVALLA MAGAZINE

Please use Lavalla to share some news from your school with the rest of Marist Schools Australia.

The cut-off date for contributions for the 2023 editions of Lavalla are:

Wednesday 5 April 2023: Issue 1

Friday 22 September 2023: Issue 2

All submissions should be sent to Br Michael Flanagan (michael.flanagan@marists.org.au). Further information can be found [HERE](#).

Sub Tuum Praesidium reprint now available

The first print run of the Marist Brothers' sesquicentenary history, *Sub Tuum Praesidium*, sold out three months after publication in 2022. The reprint is now available for purchase from The Hermitage Mittagong. Reviews in several journals have all been positive. For more information see the below flyer.

Sesquicentenary of the Marist Brothers in Australia

A New History!

Sub Tuum Praesidium Marist Brothers in Australia 1872-2022

by

Julian Casey, John Luttrell, Peter Rodney and Neville Solomon

The religious institute of the Marist Brothers of the Schools has educated thousands of young Australians since the first four brothers arrived in 1872. That influence continues today in the 56 schools of Marist Schools Australia, in youth ministry, in youth care provided by Marist180, in the outreach of Australian Marist Solidarity and in thousands of lay Marists, colleagues and ex-students.

For all of these, 'Sub Tuum Praesidium' has been their traditional hymn for occasions of solemnity and celebration.

The authors, all Marist Brothers, write from a broad experience of the Marist mission locally and internationally.

Provincial Peter Carroll sees this history as significant for the Marist sesquicentenary in Australia – an opportunity 'to celebrate achievements, apologise for our failures and give thanks to God and all those who have supported us in our life and mission'.



Part social history, part personal memoir and part pastoral theological analysis, it sure-footedly achieves its objective of providing a window onto a religious order of educators, as it discerned the signs of the times in Australian society and church over the past 150 years.

Mark O'Connor FMS

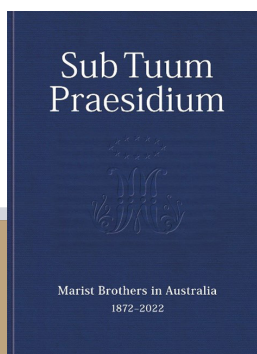
Vicar for Communications, Parramatta Diocese

This book is a detailed history of the Marist Brothers in Australia over the past 150 years. It contextualises Marist people and works within the social and political history of Australia and the Church. It portrays the characters, the tensions, successes and failures, as the Institute has followed its mission through changing circumstances. A valuable resource and inspiration for all of us who name ourselves "Marist".

Jennifer Elvery

Deputy Leader

Marist Association of St Marcellin Champagnat



ISBN 9780646853253
576 pages, hard cover
Published by Marist Brothers
Australia.
Released June 2022.

RRP \$50
+ postage

How to Order Your Copy...

Available at Marist Resources
The Hermitage, Mittagong

CLICK HERE TO ORDER

or go to www.thehermitage.org.au
Search under 'Shop' for 'Marist Resources'





We are called in Baptism to be God's people. This means that we are called to live full and holy lives and we are called to be people of the Gospel in our communities.

Yes, we are a holy people, and we are all called to live out that holiness in whatever circumstances we find ourselves.

Participants of the first 2023 Footsteps: making Jesus Christ known and loved program.



Staff from Catholic College Sale gathered together for Created & Called:
Rachel Bown, Paul Lee, Julia Moulton, Jeff Hobbs, Julie Cockman and Shannon Nash.

One participant commented that the program emphasised that our lives, our actions, and our everyday demeanor magnify Christ's example.



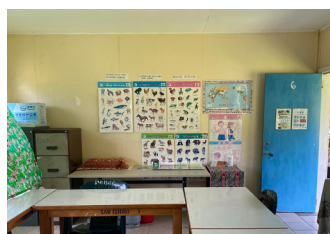
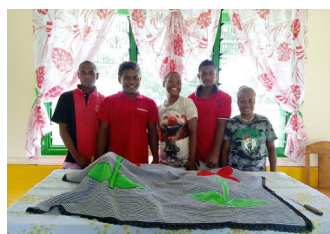
Celebrating the St Francis Xavier College School Leaders 2023
Oscar Roberts, Thomas Dever, Sophia Bechly, Maria Kamanda, Lucas Stace, Maise Armstrong, Destiny Wilton and Rohan Gresham

Australian Marist Solidarity NEWS

A visit to see newly built “Lifestyle Kitchen” in San Isidro, Solomon Islands and the foundations of a soon to be built chapel, goes off without a hitch.

Last month, AMS visited San Isidro Care Centre in Northwest Guadalcanal. Originally founded by the Marist Brothers in 2007, it is currently run by the Marist Missionary Sisters and is home to roughly 40 students who are living with hearing and speech impairments. The student cohort and teacher faculty represent the rich ethnic diversity that makes up the Solomon Islands, with both groups relocating to the centre from the outer provinces.

AMS has supported the building of a “Lifestyle Kitchen” where students are able to learn general home economics, catering for small business practices and general hygiene.



Top row L-R: Students with Teacher Janny Saukeni in the Lifestyle Kitchen during morning tea & an example of a student classroom at the centre.

Bottom row L-R- Sr Sonia outside the “Lifestyle Kitchen” & Comms and Engagement Officer with staff from San Isidro.

The centre also experiences a gender imbalance, with only nine females currently enrolled compared to the 31 males. With the installment of the new kitchen, the centre hopes this will encourage parents to enrol their daughters to learn these life-skills and hopefully in turn, give back to their communities.

In the Solomons, people living with a disability do not always receive adequate care and education that would allow them to participate as active members in society. Finding alternative paths to generate income and independence is how AMS wishes to best support the students of San Isidro, so that they can live out their fullest potential.

Current constructions for a Chapel are underway, which are expected to be completed by the end of the year. The Chapel will serve a dual function where alongside mass, community gatherings and school celebrations will also be held. Courses taught at San Isidro are Sign Language, English, Maths, Health, Life Skills, Christian Education, Carpentry, Joinery and Agriculture (growing vegetables and fruits, animal husbandry, growing cash crops and marketing).

Student Briefing 2023: AMS is calling on all enthusiastic students to register for this exciting event!

On the 14th of March, AMS will be hosting a student briefing where students can learn about the role of being an AMS Student Ambassador within their schools and communities! In this one hour session, students will be able to meet and greet with other like-minded students and learn about the role of being an Ambassador. They will be given the opportunity to

brainstorm and share ideas on how to best fundraise for AMS and the program partners. With that being said, we are excited to announce that three students from program partner St Joseph’s Mabiri, Bougainville will be attending during a live Q & A session. In this exchange, participants can hear first hand about life at St Joseph’s, education in the Bougainville context and what activities students enjoy engaging with at school. To register, please access the link: <http://bitly.ws/ADfi>

AMS 2023
Student Briefing

AMS Student Ambassadors will have an overview of their role, hear from the program partner and share ideas and plans for 2023

14th MARCH 2023
12.00 PM

ONLINE EVENT

REGISTER NOW!

Australian Marist Solidarity logo

School Ambassadors Kit 2023

AMS is proud to present its School Ambassador Kit for 2023! In the student kit, students can learn firsthand what the job entails as an AMS Student Ambassador.

There are many benefits to signing up for this program, including meeting and working with other Marist school students, gaining new skills in event planning, fundraising and the charity sector, growing your leadership skills, and most importantly, knowing that your support is helping vulnerable young people to achieve their education dreams. You can access

the kit here, complete with links to learning resources, videos and the AMS Schools Campaign Kit 2023. [Link: http://bitly.ws/AW2X](http://bitly.ws/AW2X)



2023 Schools Ambassador Campaign Kit



Australian Marist Solidarity NEWS

Thank you to Marist College Ashgrove for hosting a Lenten Fundraising Day 2023!

On the 24th of Feb, Marist College Ashgrove hosted its Lenten Fundraising Day during first break. Students were invited to don "free dress" and enjoy the food trucks on campus!

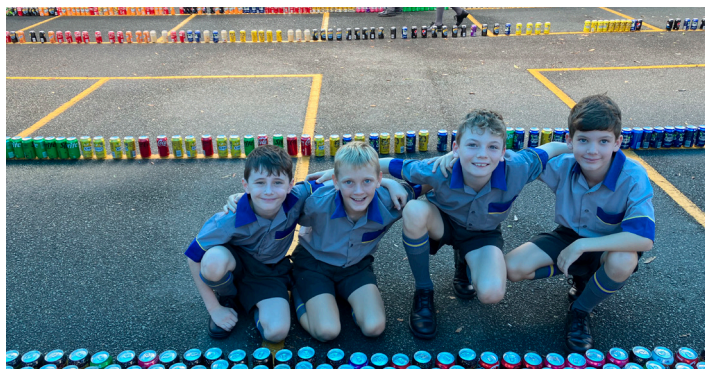
MCA Primary collected approximately 3,400 cans of soft drink to be sold during our Lenten Fundraising day. They were lead by their dedicated teachers and the passionate Mission Captains.



Primary school students showcasing the selection of soft drinks on offer at the 2023 Lenten Fundrasing at MCA.

Lent is celebrated throughout the world by Christians to mark the beginning of Lent with Ash Wednesday. The significance of this ceremony humbly reminds us that we are on earth to give blessings and thanks for everything that God has given us, especially the gift of Jesus. Lent allows us to prepare ourselves in prayer, to help others in need and to challenge our behaviours towards ourselves and unto others.

On behalf of AMS, we would like to thank MCA for their ongoing support for AMS and our program partners. Due to your fundraising efforts, we are able to continue funding programs that bring young people towards the centre from the margins through access to education.



Primary school students showcasing the selection of soft drinks on offer at the 2023 Lenten Fundrasing at MCA.



Newly restored building at Sts Joachim and Anne Kindergarten, ready to receive students.

Program update: Sts Joachim and Anne Kindergarten.

We are thrilled to announce that building restorations made at Sts Joachim and Anne Kindergarten in Tonga are now complete! The Kindergarten will also serve a dual function as a community hall for youth, students and women!

Since the closure of all catholic primary schools in Tonga almost half a century ago, the quality of catholic education has been in decline. Many parishes in

Tonga have begun the process of establishing their own kindergarten and elementary school. The overall goal of the program is to start addressing the issue of the decreasing standard of education in the local area through the opening of a new kindergarten to begin to develop the educational skills of the local residents.

The Kindergarten caters for 35 students, 20 girls and 15 boys who are 4-5 years of age who reside in surrounding villages.



Back view of Sts Joachim and Anne Kindergarten after the much needed renovations.

Connect with us to find out more.

 australianmaristsolidarity.net.au

 [@australianmaristsolidarity](https://www.instagram.com/australianmaristsolidarity)

 ams@marists.org.au

 [@MaristSolidarity](https://www.facebook.com/MaristSolidarity)

 AUSTRALIAN
Marist
SOLIDARITY

MARIST YOUTH MINISTRY

MYM MELBOURNE- MARCELLIN COLLEGE

GRACE WAKE

It's been a hectic start to the year down in Melbourne, with the MYM Melbourne team heading to Marcellin College twice in just as many weeks! Regional Assistants Sabrina and Grace helped Marcellin staff "re-launch" Game Changers with the current Game Changers students, which proved a great way to reconnect with each other and start the year in a refreshing and reflective way.

One student was quoted saying

"It was good to see different aspects of the program. I will definitely get involved this year!" - Nathan, Year 12



Looking forward to our next event, our Marist Connect Night, on 9 March!

MYM BRISBANE- TERM 1 CONNECT NIGHT

ADAM BURNS

Our year got off to a cracking start with the Term 1 Connect Night. Drawing nearly 30 students from 4 schools, the night was filled with games and laughter as students reconnected for the first time in 2023. The MYM team led students through a process of setting SMART goals, before reflecting on the importance of self-compassion in light of Christ's commandment to love others as yourself (Mt 22:37-39).



Our next events are our Marist Youth Forums, 8th-10th March

February 16 saw the first meeting of the Marist180 Board for the year, held at St Joseph's College, Hunters Hill. It was also an opportunity to:

- Have senior leaders and managers from Marist180 join Board and Committee Members for a meal and table fellowship
- Hear and recognise the strong support, affirmation and commitment that the Marist180 Board has for the important services and programs that Marist180 staff generously provide
- Commission the senior leaders and managers in their 'Marist' work and ministries as another year gets underway
- Farewell, recognise and express gratitude for the contribution of two Board members as they conclude their time as Directors, Rosemary Smithson and Isaiah Dawe (Isaiah was unable to attend in person).

The evening and gathering was rich, enjoyable and a tangible expression of gratitude, to Board Directors, Committee members, senior leaders and managers, for their efforts, energy, service and commitment to the Mission, Vision and Values of Marist180.

We thank the many people who brought the evening together and contributed in specific ways, especially Derilene Martin, Adriana Garcia, and the staff at St Joseph's who provided the welcome and wonderful table hospitality.

