



## From Frank Malloy

*"I wish it need not have happened in my time," said Frodo.  
"So do I," said Gandalf, "and so do all who live to see such times. But that is not for them  
to decide. All we have to decide is what to do with the time that is given us."*

*J.R.R. Tolkien*

Dear Colleagues,

The above quote from *Lord of the Rings* is well known to many Tolkien fans and captures a moment of absolute desolation for the protagonist, Frodo Baggins. The words of the wise wizard Gandalf in response, reflect a deep understanding to the reader of our human frailty and vulnerability, yet they are words of hope. J.R.R. Tolkien was a devout Catholic who prayed regularly and attended Mass daily. Tolkien's experiences fighting in the trenches during the Great War influenced him immeasurably. In his works of fantasy are many allegorical intimations yet these were never explicitly acknowledged by the great author. Undeniable are his portrayals of good and evil in a host of imaginary characters.

Our "time", is presently occupied by the reality of the pandemic, associated restrictions on normal life, and the resultant economic recession. What we as Marist educators *decide to do with the time that is given us* defines the influence we seek to have with the young people and the families with whom we work. It is remarkable to see the manner in which our schools have successfully taken on the many complex challenges presented by the pandemic, most notably during the extended periods involving off-site learning. This is particularly evident in Victoria. Usually at this time of year schools are preparing for graduation Masses and ceremonies. The associated rituals that acknowledge and demonstrate appreciation for a Marist education and the unique gifts each student has brought to their experience of school are high points in the life of our schools. In the current climate, one can only be inspired by the lengths being taken by Principals and teachers to ensure their graduating students are properly recognised and school communities united in prayer for their futures.

As has been stated in recent newsletters, Australian Marist Solidarity is experiencing increased demand to assist our fellow Marists in developing countries throughout southeast Asia and the Pacific as a result of the pandemic. Other charities are also experiencing increased demands on their resources and service. Included in this newsletter is an invitation to further support AMS through the Australian Government's 'Donation Dollar'. Schools are strongly encouraged to support AMS through this initiative.

Finally, a reminder that all Marist schools are invited to pray *The Angelus* together each Friday at 12 midday. The link to the prayer can be found [HERE](#).

Yours sincerely,

**Dr Frank Malloy**  
NATIONAL DIRECTOR

## EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

**Director of Boarding** - St Gregory's College Campbelltown, NSW

Applications close 18 September 2020

Please [CLICK HERE](#) for more information.

When thinking university studies in Melbourne, think **Maristhouse**



Marist House is a residential program for young adults who are studying at one of the many universities in and around Melbourne. Whether from the city or the country, Marist House provides young people with a safe, stable and supportive environment in which to engage with their tertiary studies.

Contact us to arrange a tour.

Webpage: <https://www.maristyouthministry.com/marist-house-fitzroy/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/maristhouse/>



In the waters of baptism we are reminded that we are not born in a vacuum, nor do we journey entirely alone (though loneliness is often part of the burden). Being reborn, being made alive, involves being made into a community. So there are strings attached to this adventure. Far from being the spiritual journey of the solitary individual in search of God, it drags a people, a church, a nation, the human race, along with it.

- Alan Jones, "Journey Into Christ" (page 53)

## MT MARIA COLLEGE PETRIE: A FAMILY OF FAITH

What a great celebration of the faith life at Mt Maria College Petrie! All the staff gathered for a twilight formation program centred on nurturing the faith life of the young people at the college. By being witnesses to their faith, the staff at Mt Maria nurture their students' personal relationships with God. They offer authentic opportunities for them to experience God's love and faithfulness in their community. The program was followed by a community dinner and some most enjoyable games of trivia.



Photo L-R: Faith Cubillan, Breanna Irwin and Caitlin Puplett

## IN THE MARIST WAY: RED BEND CATHOLIC COLLEGE, FORBES



Unpacking the Marist story, reflecting upon the value we place on education and exploring how Marist life is lived at Red Bend Catholic College in Forbes, were just a few of the topics covered at a modified online version of the *In the Marist Way: New Staff Induction Program*. Social distancing protocols did not prevent a lively discussion from the group who included teachers, office, counselling, boarding and maintenance staff.

## A SMALL COIN, MADE TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE



Dear Marist friends,

The Australian Mint has recently released a new \$1 coin, the 'Donation Dollar.'

On one side, the new Australian \$1 coin has an image of Queen Elizabeth II. On the back it's stamped with a message: "Donation Dollar: Give to help others." The coin, the first of its kind in the world, can be spent like any other money. But its intention is to be shared with people in need and we are asking our Marist Schools Australia network to use this great new Aussie initiative to support the work of Australian Marist Solidarity.

We will be emailing all our AMS school contacts soon suggesting that we use September as Solidarity September to start promoting the collection of Donation Dollars for AMS. It's easy, students can bring in a donation dollar that they have received through normal coin circulation, or bring in another dollar coin, and donate it to AMS.

A poster and school fundraising resources have been created by the Royal Australian Mint and AMS for teachers to use and download. To access these please [click here](#).

If every student in a Marist school donated just \$1, AMS could finish the building work desperately needed at St Louis High School in Kiribati, which is the focus of our 2020 Schools Campaign.

Will your school help us reach our target by the end of the year? Start collecting today and we'll provide an update in each edition of MSA News to let you know how our progress is going as schools send in their donation dollars!

## AMS YOUTUBE CHANNEL





### Live Q & A Session

Featuring: Br Sefo, Principal Selaphina and students from St Louis High School, Kiribati



We speak live to Br Sefo, Principal Selaphina and students from St Louis High School, Kiribati, to discuss the many challenges and highlights of working with young people in such a remote location.



If you missed our Q & A sessions you can catch up by watching them on our YouTube channel.

To watch visit:

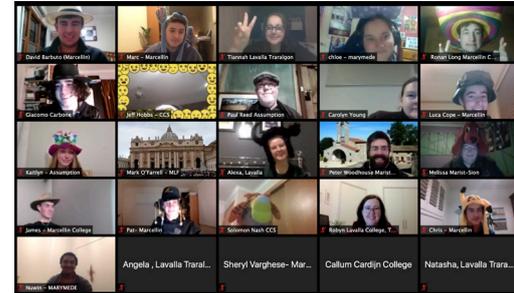
[http://bit.ly/AMS\\_YouTube\\_Watch](http://bit.ly/AMS_YouTube_Watch)

# MARIST YOUTH MINISTRY

Early September Update

## MYM Victoria and South Australia: Super Connect

Marist Youth Ministry recently hosted an online Super Connect for senior school students of Marist schools in Adelaide and Melbourne. Close to 50 staff and students from seven Marist schools (*Assumption College, Kilmore; Cardijn College, Noarlunga Downs; Lavalla Catholic College, Traralgon; Marcellin College, Bulleen; Marist-Sion College, Warragul; Marymede Catholic College, South Morang*) gathered online for an experience of community and celebration.



The evening was a brilliant opportunity for students to reconnect with each other through friendly trivia, guided reflections, and prayer. The Super Connect focused on the Marcellin's experiences of joy, paying particular attention to what is known colloquially as the **Happy Gang**. Students were invited to consider moments of extreme joy in their lives, and how part of Christian call is to share that joy others, forming - in a way - our own happy gangs.



Again, thanks to school staff and principals who make these events possible. We truly value the significant dedication you make to the formation of your students by committing to Marist Youth Ministry events.

## Lachlan Scott, Marist Youth Ministry Melbourne



Josh Ahn with JRS volunteer packing bread and fruit



Monica and Jeni amongst donated bathroom items

## MYM Sydney Volunteering

The 2019 graduands from St Patrick's College, Dundas, Monica Le and Joshua Ahn, along with Daniel Cooper, 2019 graduate from Parramatta Marist, have joined Marist Youth Ministry to support the Jesuit Refugee Service (JRS). JRS packs and distributes food and household items to people and families in need across western Sydney. Our young Marists have volunteered to pack goods at JRS headquarters at Westmead.

## Jeni Miller, Marist Youth Ministry Sydney



Daniel Cooper filling bags of rice for distribution



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GAME  
CHANGERS

Next MSA Newsletter: 20 October 2020

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MARIST YOUTH MINISTRY