

## From Frank Malloy

Dear Colleagues,

As we come to the end of the 2020 school year, it is timely to reflect. Thinking back to January, across the country our land was scorched by bushfires. This catastrophe followed one of the worst extended periods of drought in history throughout many parts of Australia. Following the fires, the COVID-19 pandemic crept across the country in March and April. These events, and most particularly the pandemic, impacted on our schools in ways we could never have imagined.

The global pandemic presented many unexpected challenges. The most striking memory of what is being commonly termed, an “extraordinary year”, is the *extraordinary leadership* exercised by Marist educators throughout the 19 Dioceses in which we work.

School leaders and staff have been incredible in what they have achieved. As the first wave and shock of the impact of the pandemic was felt across the country, what stood out most prominently was the faith of our leaders and the hope they instilled in their school communities. Outstanding leadership was also evident in abundance among our teachers and staff, moving to offsite learning through a variety of modes, most of which was online. The process took extraordinary courage, patience, tenacity and perseverance. It involved long hours of careful and imaginative preparation. We didn't always get it right at first, but the common experience across our schools was that we became more and more effective in engaging our young people in their learning despite the challenges. As the assessment processes are completed at various stages, it is hoped the efforts of students and staff are well reflected in the results.

Nowhere in the country have the effects of the pandemic on schools been more severe than in Victoria. Colleagues across the country join in admiration and recognition for our Victorian Principals and colleagues. To undergo two lockdowns of such extent has brought to bear considerable hardship for the whole Victorian community. The lasting memory of 2020 for many families will be the compassion, care and professionalism of the school staff who have supported them so ably.

As the largest provider of Catholic boarding in Australia, our Marist Colleges with student resident communities faced unique challenges that required repeated representations to Government and Health authorities in order to manage the dynamic and fast changing environment. Their influence in providing appropriate direction for decision making cannot be underestimated and has been recognised by both sides of Federal Parliament.

Thank you for the many kindnesses and generous acts of support throughout this year. On behalf of the Marist Schools Australia Leadership Team, may you enjoy the peace and joy of Jesus this Christmas with your family and loved ones. The following prayer is commended to you during this holy season.

*In a still serenity of spirit, Lord  
Let me reflect your face.  
Look upon me –  
Look out from within me –  
Only ever upon the surface of my life  
Let your face be seen.*

Yours sincerely,

**Dr Frank Malloy**  
NATIONAL DIRECTOR

## EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

**The John Berne School, Lewisham, NSW** - Secondary Teacher Mathematics/HSIE/PDHPE

Applications close - 8 December 2020

Please [CLICK HERE](#) for more information

**Red Bend Catholic College, Forbes, NSW** - *please see advertisement below*



Red Bend Catholic College is currently seeking suitably qualified dynamic candidates for teaching roles in 2021.

Red Bend Catholic College is currently seeking candidates for the following teaching roles:

- English
- HSIE
- Religious Education
- PDHPE
- Mathematics
- Science
- TAS – Timber & Metal (VET Construction)
- Learning Support Teacher

Applicants should contact the Executive Assistant to the Principal for an application package [employment@redbendcc.nsw.edu.au](mailto:employment@redbendcc.nsw.edu.au)

The preferred applicants will be required to have NESA accreditation to teach in NSW and a NSW Working with Children Check. Red Bend Catholic College is committed to child safety through the Marist Schools Australia Child Safeguarding Standards. Successful applicants will be required to demonstrate a willingness to support the Marist and Mercy traditions of the College.



## MLF TEAM CHANGES 2021

We take this opportunity to recognise the wonderful work of three of our MLF team members who will be leaving us and wish each of them the very best in their various ministries next year.

**Anna Nasr** will return to her role as Religious Education Coordinator at St Joseph's College, Hunters Hill.

**Catherine Foley** will return to the Brisbane Catholic Education Office in a new role as BCEO Spiritual Direction and Mission Senior Education Officer - Catholic Identity.

**Ryan Gato**, after seven years as a member of the team and the last three years at Assistant Director, will begin in the role as 'Education Officer: Formation for Mission' for the Catholic Schools Office of the Maitland-Newcastle Diocese.

We are grateful for the everything they have shared with us in their work of growing Marist life and mission during their time as members of the formation team.



We also welcome Nathan Ahearne and Br Tony Leon who will be working with the MLF team commencing next year.

**Nathan Ahearne** is currently 'Assistant Head of School - Mission and Formation' at Marist College Canberra and has accepted a secondment for 2021.

**Br Tony Leon** is currently leading the young adult community at Burwood in Sydney while assisting the Provincial on various projects. Tony will be involved in a number of formation programs and initiatives being offered by the team in 2021.

**John Hickey** will return to the team after one year as Acting Headmaster at Marist College Bulleen in Melbourne. Welcome back John!



Thank you for all your involvement and participation in Marist life and formation over the year and we wish everyone a very safe and blessed Christmas.

**MLF Team**



# AUSTRALIAN arist SOLIDARITY

A SMALL COIN, MADE TO  
MAKE A DIFFERENCE



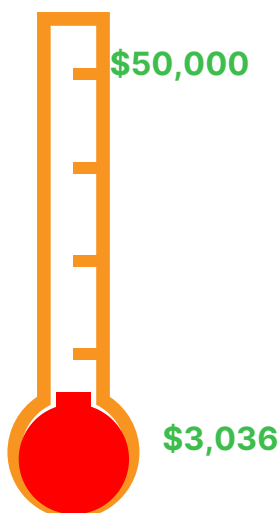
Dear Marist friends,

Thank you to those who have participated in our Donation Dollar initiative. We have received funds from three schools and know that a few more will be adding to our total soon.

If you have any loose change lying around as you tidy up when schools close, AMS would be very happy to take it off your hands!

Donation Dollar will be back in 2021 and we look forward to sharing more about this great Australian Mint initiative with you in the new year.

*Thank you*



## 2020 CHRISTMAS APPEAL

BE PART OF OUR STORY OF HOPE THIS CHRISTMAS

### CHRISTMAS DONATION GIFT CARD

MAKE A DONATION IN LIEU OF A GIFT  
THIS CHRISTMAS AND GIVE VULNERABLE  
CHILDREN A GIFT OF HOPE.

AMS would like to thank Marcellin College  
Bulleen for their time and support in producing  
this card

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

Please note, orders need to be received by Saturday 12  
December to guarantee delivery before Christmas



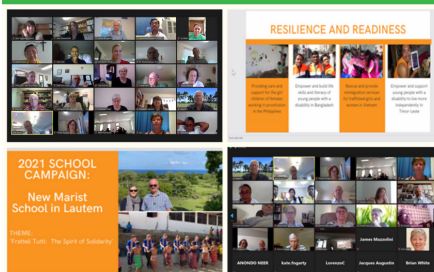
### PROJECT UPDATE



### St. Michel's Technical College, Vanuatu

Joining the recently completed Technical Workshop and Classroom, the boys toilet block has been completed and officially opened this week.

### THANK YOU !



#covidcantstopgood

A huge thank you to everyone who joined us online for our 2020 Virtual Christmas Gathering!

It was magnificent to see so many people from across the country gathered together to celebrate the inspiring work being done by our partners in 2020 and to hear about some of our plans for 2021. We are also deeply grateful to those of our partners who were able to join the call from across the region too.

## MERRY CHRISTMAS

Thank you to everyone for your generous support this year. We wish you a wonderful Christmas and a safe and happy start to 2021.

From the AMS team





# MARIST YOUTH MINISTRY

Late November Update

*Dear Colleagues,*

As we have commenced this beautiful season of Advent, I have taken some time to reflect on 2020 and how it has provided us with ample of opportunities to be present with the people around us. The year was a “Wild and Precious” one, with moments of connections between MYM staff, school staff and students across Australia. Hundreds of Year 11 and 12 students gathered for our **MYM Connects** across the country, while Young Adults from all over the world would gather monthly for **MYM Exchange nights**.

Term 1 2020 saw the commencement of **Game Changers**; 15 schools, 34 GC Youth Groups and 444 students engaged in the program. Even though, most events had to be cancelled or had to go virtual, GC students continued to connect with each other, providing a sense of community and presence in the midst of the challenges. The Year 10 GC La Valla Leadership Online Experience was a great success and the final Remar Gold Retreat was a great celebration of Year 12 Rowers, connecting one final time.

As we swift our focus to 2021, 20 schools plan to commence Game Changers, with over 800 students in 66 youth groups. To assist our formators in the school communities, I am pleased to announce Prof Br David Hall FMS, will be our keynote guest speaker at the annual **MYM National Formators' Conference** on February 15 and 16 (registrations will open this week). Besides Br. David, there will be a number of engaging workshop presenter to explore and contextualise various relevant Youth Ministry topics.

MARIST YOUTH MINISTRY  
*Formators' Conference*



**REGISTER NOW!**

*breathe*  
the Spirit of life



*Marist*  
MARIST YOUTH MINISTRY

Furthermore, MYM will continue to provide opportunities for all students to participate in our events such as Connect Nights, Forums, SLG and school visits. However, if there is anything else we can do to support your school community, please do not hesitate to connect with your MYM Regional Coordinator.

Finally, I would like to say **thank you** to all Principals and staff to walking the MYM journey with us, we appreciate your support and we look forward working with your students in 2021. Also a word of gratitude to the Brothers around the country, it is a privilege to minister alongside of you, your life and devotion to your vocation is an inspiration.

Merry Christmas to you and your families,

**Edwin Bakker**  
National Coordinator



@maristyouthministry  
@maristgamechangers



Marist Youth Ministry  
Marist Game Changers



*Marist*  
MARIST YOUTH MINISTRY

# STUDENT LEADERS GATHERING

## Victorian and South Australian SLG

On the 23rd and 24th of November, Marist Youth Ministry (MYM) hosted an online Student Leaders Gathering for 2021 student leaders of Victorian and South Australian Marist schools. It was a phenomenal opportunity for students to deepen their understanding of their call to service through leadership. We are extremely grateful to bear witness to the enthusiasm and dedication of students in living out the Marist mission of making Jesus known and loved in their schools. Regarding the experience, this is what students and staff had to say:

- “I know as a school we are going to build on everything we learnt here, and it will carry in us for the rest of our lives.” – Matthew, student.
- One student remarked that the experience was a beautiful chance to “celebrate faith with each other”.
- “Our students loved it – it was personal, relevant, inspirational and fun.” – Julia, staff.
- “The gathering was extremely valuable and a wonderful experience for our leaders.” – Mel, staff.

A sincere thanks to the following individuals who shared their impressive journeys of leading joyfully through challenges:

- Mrs Julie Ryan (MSA Regional Director for VIC, SA, WA)
- Sam Kane (2016 Catholic College Bendigo College Captain)
- Rhianna Cruz (2020 Sacred Heart College Arts Captain)

Students were also privileged to take time in small groups to partake in a range of workshops from top class special guests. A sincere thanks to the following individuals for presenting their workshops:

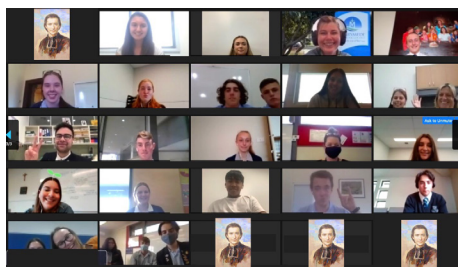
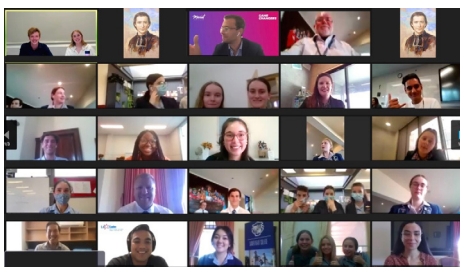
- Cara McGlaughlin (Sacred Heart College Youth Minister and alumni): Faith-Filled Leadership
- Sara Petruzzella (MYM Adelaide and Sacred Heart alumni): Leading with Empathy and Kindness
- Adam Burns (MYM Queensland): Team Dynamics of Dynamic Teams
- Gil Mein (MYM National): Leading with Balance
- Ella Beveridge (MYM Melbourne and Assumption College alumni): Let's Talk Communication
- Daniel Litjens (MYM Perth and Newman College alumni): Leading the Way in Negotiation
- Br James Hodge (MYM National): Breathe, the Spirit of Life
- Phillipe Dulawan (Director, Young Lasallians): A Rising Tide Lifts All Boats – Empowering Leadership

Thanks, too, to Br. Tony Leon for leading a session which explored how to lead with a Marist Heart. Your passion and enthusiasm are infectious, and our student leaders are deeply enriched by the gifts you share.

The future is looking bright for the wonderful Class of 2021 and these phenomenal student leaders who are prepared to roll up their sleeves in traditional Marist fashion. I'm sure Champagnat would be proud!

As always, we extend our heartfelt thanks to school staff and principals who continue to support their students and Marist Youth Ministry. Your dedication and efforts do not go unnoticed. Best of luck for a wonderful 2021.

**Lachy Scott**  
**Marist Youth Ministry Melbourne**







## New South Wales and Canberra SLG

The MYM Sydney Team thoroughly enjoyed working with student leaders from 19 Marist schools across NSW/ACT on Monday and Tuesday, 23 – 24 November.

Despite being online, students engaged whole-heartedly in all the sessions over the two days. Students had a chance to learn about the leadership qualities of our Marist heroes, Marcellin, Mary and Jesus and compare these to world leaders today. Parramatta Marist High school narrowly beat Trinity Catholic College Auburn to controversially take first place the Amazing Grace competition! Students had a chance to express concerns regarding leadership responsibilities to a panel as well as take time out in contemplation to reflect.

The highlight of the event was joining with the 9 schools in the MYM Southern Region to celebrate the 2 special days with a Closing Liturgy. It was wonderful to be joined by the Deputy Provincial, Br Darren Burge as well as the two Regional Directors, Mrs Julie Ryan and Dr John Robinson.

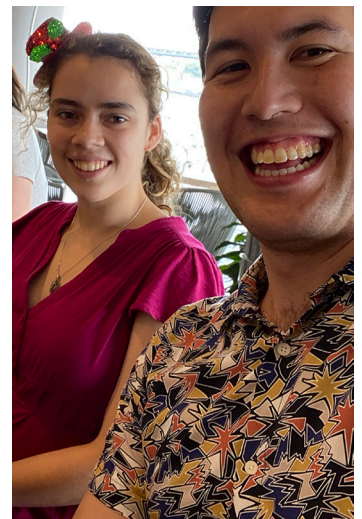
**Jeni Miller**  
**Marist Youth Ministry Sydney**



### **Blessings from the MYM QLD Team**

Based on my rough handle on Latin, “advent” breaks down as “to come”; and we can certainly recognise that same sense of unknown, anticipation, excitement and adventure throughout the year that has been. So, during this time of preparation and journey towards Christmas, our team here in Brisbane share our gratefulness for the support, encouragement and collaboration from the Marist school communities in QLD and the NT. We wish all staff and students a blessed and peaceful Christmas, and we can’t wait for the adventure that lies ahead in 2021.

**Adam Burns**  
**Marist Youth Ministry Brisbane**



### **Blessings from the MYM Sydney Team**

Thank you to all the staff that have supported our programs and supervised students at our events during 2020. We wish you and yours all the best for Christmas and many blessings for 2021!

**Jeni Miller**  
**Marist Youth Ministry Sydney**



## *Jacob's Well*

Jacob's Well is an article series written by Br James Hodge FMS. This series began as formational opportunity for the National Marist Youth Ministry team over the COVID-19 lockdown period in March-April 2020, but has continued to be a nourishing source of information for Young Marists and Teachers in Marist Schools.

Find them on the Marist Youth Ministry website:  
<https://maristyouthministry.com/jacobs-well>