

## From Frank Malloy

Dear Colleagues,

### Lest We Forget

So often, history comes alive by learning about a particular person. This last week we have celebrated Anzac Day and remembered the many thousands of lives affected by the conflict of war. As the marches were held last Sunday, a sea of stories, some brave, many sad and most extraordinary seemed to be floating past.

Younger Australians have a sense of the historical importance of Anzac Day, but many are not familiar with specific events and stories of our wars which help to make real the great suffering and sacrifice of so many people.

What sort of men and women offered their life for the defence of Australia? Ordinary men and women who rose to perform extraordinary deeds. One such man was a young Catholic, Ralph Honner. He was a gifted sportsman who played Premier Aussie Rules and Rugby in his early twenties in Perth. An excellent student, Ralph became a teacher, then studied and practiced law. Married, with two children when war broke out in 1939, Ralph volunteered for the AIF. He fought in North Africa, Greece and Crete as a junior officer and narrowly avoided capture after Crete fell to the Germans. Ralph returned to Australia in March 1942. For the next two years he led Australian battalions in Papua New Guinea as a Lieutenant Colonel with distinction. Ralph was awarded the Military Cross for bravery and only ceased fighting when seriously injured by a bullet that shattered his hip.

Throughout his time in the army, Ralph held firm to his Faith. He was renowned for never asking a soldier to do something that he would not do himself. Indeed his intelligence, bravery, compassion and loyalty inspired hundreds of Australian soldiers and was communicated most obviously by his actions. In the citations for his award of the Military Cross, Honner was described as having led his company with "conspicuous skill and complete disregard for his personal safety".

Another citation describing Honner read "Ralph Honner is the best Company Commander I have known in this or the last war. Throughout the campaign, he has led his men with courage, cheerfulness, calmness and skill".

Honner's reflections on war are enlightening. He wrote "That glory is not the exultation of war but the exultation of man sublimated in the fiery crucible of war, shining faithfulness and fortitude and gentleness and compassion elevated from all dross."

Ralph Honner's life was shaped by the experiences he had during the war. Physically crippled, he walked with the aid of a stick for the rest of his life. He worked for the Government in aiding returned soldiers until his retirement in 1968. Ralph also became involved in politics and was the first Catholic to be elected as President of the NSW Liberal Party. Ralph was a champion of Government aid for Catholic schools and his contribution to this cause was significant. Ralph was appointed Australia's Ambassador to Ireland from 1968-1972.

In reading the excellent biography of Ralph Honner, "We Band of Brothers" by Peter Brune, one comes to know a man who held the values that we share here at Marist Schools Australia. His Faith was strong. His Faith sustained him through the most arduous experiences. His Faith was a gift that he passed onto his children. Two entered religious life, one became a doctor and one an officer in the Australian Army.

Ralph Honner is but one of many thousands of Australians to have put himself second to the needs of others in the most profound way. We enjoy the fruits of that sacrifice everyday and that is why each Anzac Day, we as a Nation say "We will remember them."

Yours sincerely,

**Dr Frank Malloy**  
NATIONAL DIRECTOR

## EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

St Joseph's College, Hunters Hill, NSW - Head of College

Please click [HERE](#) for more information

Applications close 21 May 2021

St Gregory's College, Campbelltown, NSW - Director of Teaching and Learning

Please click [HERE](#) for more information

Applications close 30 April 2021

The John Berne School, Lewisham, NSW - School Psychologist

Please click [HERE](#) for more information

Applications close 3 May 2021

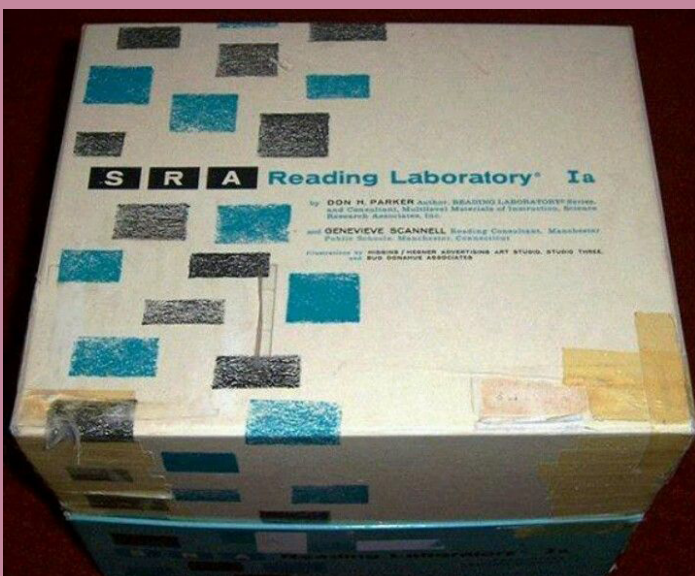
## REQUEST FOR READERS

A call for assistance from Brother Matthew Green has been received. Brother Matthew works in the Formation House at Baucau, East Timor.

There are very few accessible English reading materials available for the Postulants. Brother Matthew is seeking to secure any SRA Readers schools may still have that are no longer utilised. These would be perfect as they are well designed and organised according to ability levels and self directed progression.

If there are any unused or discarded sets lying in the back of a library or resource room, these would be gratefully received.

Please contact [sally.dillon@marists.org.au](mailto:sally.dillon@marists.org.au) if you can be of any assistance.





## *Breathe*

*Elizabeth Steinglass (extract)*

When I am a spinning  
swirl of leaves,  
I tell myself to...

Breathe in.

Breathe out.

Breathe in  
like a diver  
setting out  
under water.

Breathe out  
like a singer  
holding a long, last note.

Breathe in  
your connection  
to the earth.

Breathe out  
your worries  
and fears.

Breathe in  
gratitude for all your  
breath can do  
when you think to slow it down.

Breathe in.

Breathe out.

### SOME RECENT BREATHE PROGRAMS...



**Left to Right:** Marist College Ashgrove staff Hanif Afzally, Damian Nelson and John Lambourne



**Above:** Steve Littleton and Caroline Smith of Marist College Ashgrove

**Liz Spry**, from Marist College Ashgrove, commented: "I welcomed the opportunity to take some time and space to reflect on how the world, nature and all humans are connected. To concentrate and connect with our breath. To visualise the interconnectedness of our breathe and consider how we are breathing life into others."



**Above:** The staff at Catholic College Sale participated in Breathe: the Spirit of Life. It was an opportunity to stop, take a breath and ponder, more deeply, the interconnectedness of our lives. **Left to Right:** Laura Considine, Lee Metcalf, Leo Freeman, Steve Gugan, Mahendra Kapoor and Julie Cockman



## CRISIS OR OPPORTUNITY? THE POST-COVID CHURCH



Please join Christopher Lamb as he reflects on the pontificate of Pope Francis to reform the Catholic Church and its relevance in the Australian context.

Christopher is a religious affairs journalist and Vatican expert who has lived in Rome as correspondent for The Tablet. Since 2013 he has travelled widely and been close to Pope Francis. He has distilled Francis' message to the wider church and world in his recent book, *The Outsider: Pope Francis and His Battle to Reform the Catholic Church*.

**TUESDAY 11 MAY**

6:00pm-7:30pm (AEST)

**REGISTER HERE**

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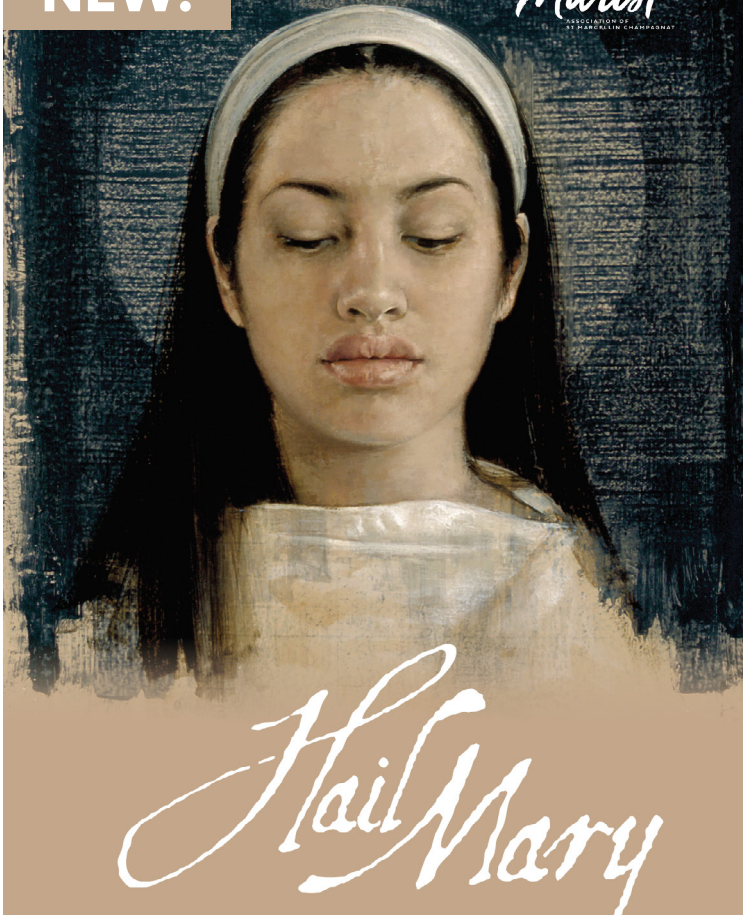
ONLINE 2021  
**MARIAN LECTURE**  
ONLINE 2021



*Building a 'future church' together  
as one people alive in God*

**NEW!**

Marist  
ASSOCIATION OF  
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*Hail Mary*

Reflections on the Mysteries of the Rosary  
FOR INDIVIDUAL & GROUP REFLECTION

### A Resource by Br Mark O'Connor fms

**HAIL MARY: REFLECTIONS ON THE MYSTERIES  
OF THE ROSARY**  
*FOR INDIVIDUAL AND GROUP REFLECTIONS*

As we enter the month of May, we offer a series of faith reflections by Br Mark O'Connor FMS. Like us, Mary the first disciple, also had to struggle daily with darkness, uncertainty and doubt: 'as she pondered... in her heart.' (Luke 2)

Focused on a selection of the Joyful, Sorrowful, Glorious and Luminous mysteries of the Rosary, this collection sensitively addresses the Marian mysteries in the contemporary context of our post-modern world. Each article is followed by a number of questions for personal enrichment in a variety of parish and school settings.

**Commences:** Wednesday 5 May 2021  
**Duration:** Seven weeks  
**Mode:** By subscription - each short meditation emailed weekly

**SUBSCRIBE HERE**

Image Credit: 'Study for a Virgin' by John Nava Image © John Nava, www.johnnava.com



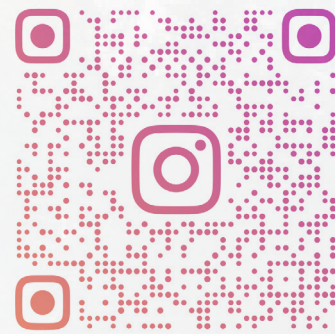
# Marist Brothers Vocations Social Media

The Vocations Office attempts to engage directly with people, especially young people, about the life of the Marist Brothers and the possibilities of living one's discipleship in intentional ways, including, but not limited to, as a Marist Brother. One main way we do this is through social media.

The purpose of these accounts is to build a contemporary understanding of Marist Brothers life, mission, and spirituality, as an access point for personal vocations awareness and consideration. The current social media accounts are on **Instagram (@fmsbrothers: Marist Brothers Life Aus)** and **Facebook (@MaristVocations: Marist Brothers Life)**.

The type of content that is generated and distributed on these accounts include the presentation of Marist Brothers in Australia and international contexts, material that highlight the centrality of Jesus Christ in the life of Christians, the life and spirituality of Marcellin Champagnat and Mary, the mother of Jesus, mission-aligned information that is relevant and specific to the mission of the Marist Brothers, and information about the purpose and value of vocational discernment and its processes.

It also includes a prayer focus released on Sunday nights, for personal and communal use.



FMSBROTHERS



Young Marist Lauren with Br Dennis Cooper

Resources about the spirituality, mission and community of the Marist Brothers in Australia are available via these platforms.

If you are interested in having your school or personal account follow and be kept up to date with the Marist Brothers in Australia, like, follow, subscribe! Schools are also welcome to share any of the content on your own social media accounts.

The Vocations Office is also looking for people to contribute to the social media content through developing contemporary, relevant, and dynamic content.

If you would be interested in exploring the possibilities of this, please contact Br James Hodge via email: [james.hodge@marists.org.au](mailto:james.hodge@marists.org.au)

# AUSTRALIAN arist SOLIDARITY

## Thank you Joeys



AMS Board member, Br Paul Kane, was delighted to attend the recent Resurrection Liturgy at St Joseph's College, Hunters Hill (tag) to receive a cheque for AMS from the Lenten Appeal. He is pictured here with one of Joeys students and with Director of Mission, Lesley Maher.

*If your school has recently held an event to support AMS, we would love to hear from you! Please email [ams.communication@marists.org.au](mailto:ams.communication@marists.org.au) and tag AMS in any of your social media posts about the initiative.*

## Follow us!

-  [@MaristSolidarity](https://www.facebook.com/MaristSolidarity)
-  [@AusMSol](https://twitter.com/AusMSol)
-  [Australian Marist Solidarity](https://www.linkedin.com/company/Australian-Marist-Solidarity)
-  [@AusMSol](https://www.instagram.com/AusMSol)
-  [Australian Marist Solidarity](https://www.youtube.com/Australian-Marist-Solidarity)

## AMS Student Ambassador Briefing



Our inaugural **AMS Student Ambassador Briefing** will take place on **Tuesday 4th May from 1:00 – 1:45pm AEST.**

Please register your student leaders, service captains and your solidarity/social justice club members to gather with other students from across the country to find out more about the work of Australian Marist Solidarity and in particular our 2021 Schools Campaign to support the work of Marists in Timor-Leste.

A special highlight will be hearing live from one or two young people from Timor Leste!

Register [here](#) to receive the zoom link for your students to join the briefing.

## AMS Community Gatherings

The AMS team is thrilled to be gathering with our friends in Adelaide and Sydney in a few weeks.

**Sacred Heart College** will be hosting us from 4:30 – 6pm on **Wed 19th May**

**Parramatta Marist** will be hosting us from 4:30 – 6pm on **Thurs 27th May**

Please register [here](#) to join us, hear updates from our partners in the region and connect again in person so that we can say thank you for all your support.

## Prayer request

You will have heard about the devastating increase in COVID-19 cases in India in recent days. There are also still incredibly challenging situations in Bangladesh, Papua New Guinea and Cambodia and we are seeing increasing concerns in Timor-Leste, the Philippines, Thailand and most recently Fiji. Please keep our Marist communities in these countries in your prayers and indeed all those who continue to suffer from the pandemic. A useful teaching resource to search the latest available COVID19 global data is <https://covid19.who.int/>. You can also search this data by country.



# MARIST YOUTH MINISTRY

April Update

*Dear Colleagues,*

Welcome to Term 2! MYM is pleased to offer more great opportunities for your students to engage with. Even though the majority of our events are online, feedback has proven the students are enjoying these moments of connection.

This Term we will host another MYM Formator's Workshop (June 10th) for all Game Changers Mentors across the country, more information to follow within the next few weeks.

Kind regards,

Edwin Bakker  
MYM National Coordinator

## MYM NATIONAL

- June 10 **MYM Formators Virtual Workshop**

## MYM QLD/NT

### FORUMS

- 14th May **Year 11 Forum**

### CONNECT NIGHT

- 28th May **Connect Night**

### GAME CHANGERS

- 27th May **Year 10 Game Changers Regional Retreat**
- 14th June **Year 7 Game Changers Regional Retreat**
- 17th June **Year 11 Game Changers Twilight**



Year 8 Regional Retreat Day QLD



## MYM SYDNEY

### FORUMS

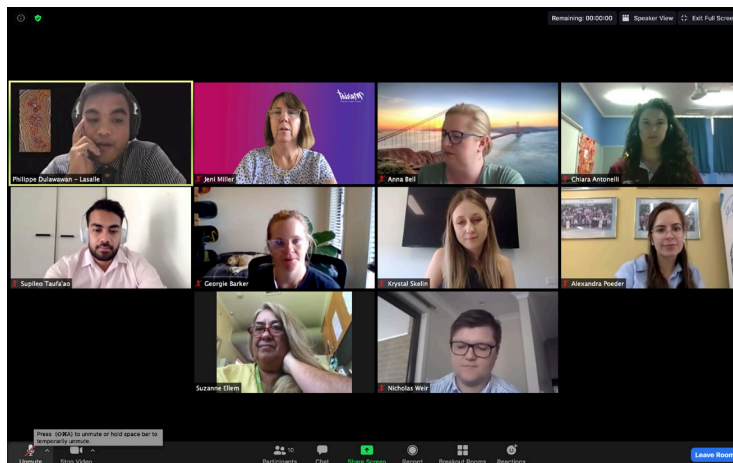
- 30th April – 1st May **Year 12 Social Justice Forum (Online)**

### LOCAL MARIST CONNECTS

- 2nd June **Eastern (Randwick) local Marist Connect**
- 11th June **Macarthur local Marist Connect**
- 18th June **Eastwood local Marist Connect**

### GAME CHANGERS (Online)

- 7th May **Year 8 Regional Retreat**
- 14th May **Year 12 Regional Retreat**
- 21st May **Year 7 Regional Retreat**





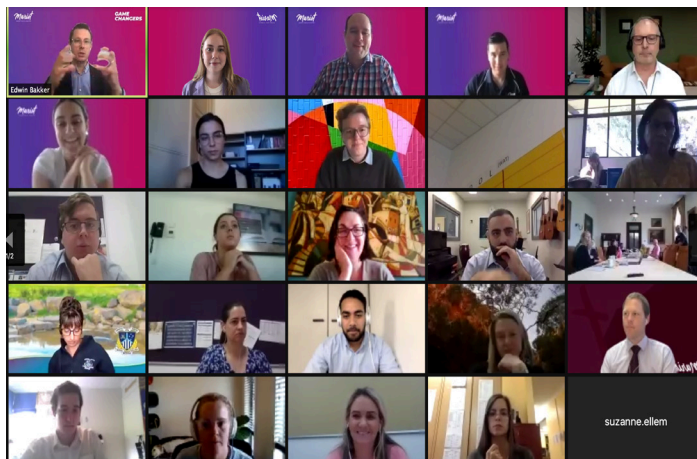
# MYM VICTORIA

## MARIST CONNECT

- 27 May **Marist Connect**

## GAME CHANGERS

- 18th June **Year 7 GC Regional Retreat**



MYM Formators Conference

# MYM PERTH

## MARIST CONNECT

- 4th May **Marist Connect**

## GAME CHANGERS

- 30th April **Year 11 GC Regional Retreat**
- 14th May **Year 8 GC Regional Retreat**

**Want to learn more about  
Game Changers and our  
newest branding?**

Head to our socials!



### FACEBOOK

Marist Game Changers  
Marist Youth Ministry



### INSTAGRAM

@maristgamechangers  
@maristyouthministry



Next MSA Newsletter: 11 May 2021

