

Managing both:

The Marist Fathers International Mission Fund (MFIM) ABN 91 030 510 250
and

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Marist Mission Centre is a signatory to the *Code of Conduct* of the Australian Council for International Development.



From the Chairperson of MMC...

"The Name of God is Mercy"

At the beginning of this year Pope Francis published a small book called 'The Name of God is Mercy'. For Francis, mercy captures the depth and mystery of who God is - the heart of God is rich in mercy and full of compassion. We see mercy lived out in the life, parables and mission of Jesus. Time and time again Pope Francis returns to this central theme of mercy.

Pope Francis has declared this year as a '**Year of Mercy**' and is always speaking out on behalf of the powerless, the homeless and refugees no matter if he is in Rome or visiting countries such as Cuba, Mexico, Greece and Armenia. He has welcomed refugees into the Vatican.

Pope Francis has just completed his visit to Poland where he celebrated **World Youth Day** with thousands of young people from around the world including walking through the Gate of Mercy with young people. At the closing Mass he challenged the youth that God is demanding 'real courage' from them: the courage to exercise the power of mercy and forgiveness to heal the world and to believe in a new humanity.

'People may judge you to be dreamers, because you believe in a new humanity, one that rejects hatred between peoples, one that refuses to see borders as barriers and can cherish their own traditions without being self-centred or small minded', he said.

200 years ago on the 23 July 1816 a group of 12 young men dared to dream to become instruments of mercy in the spirit of Mary. Some were ordained the day before, all walked up 800 steps to the Shrine of Our Lady in Lyons, France, to dedicate their lives to Mary as Marists. We are part of that dream today. In the same spirit of these early Marists, Pope Francis and the young people at World Youth Day, we are all called to believe in a new humanity: a humanity that is shaped by mercy.

We can see the mercy of God being lived and practiced in the projects supported by the Mission Centre through the generosity and support of our donors. For your support we are most grateful and we assure you of the support of our prayers.



Fr. Paul Sullivan sm
Chairperson

Dear Lord,

*Help us to be your ears
to listen to the cries of the
poor.*

*Help us to be your voice
speaking out love and
acceptance.*

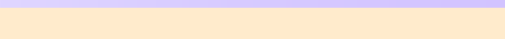
*Help us to be your feet
walking beside those in
need.*

*Help us to be your hands
to clothe, feed and shelter
them.*

*You came for the Least, the
Lost
and last of this world.
Lord, hear our prayer.*

Amen

(From: www.lords-prayer-words.com)



Our Beloved Dead

Eternal rest grant to them o Lord ...

Each November, Catholics remember with prayer their deceased family and friends. The enclosed envelopes are for names of your deceased loved ones and if you so wish for Mass stipends to help support our retired Marist Missionaries.

MMC Advisory Committee...

Fr. Bob Barber, Provincial of the Marist Fathers has appointed a new MMC Advisory Committee. The role of the Advisory Committee is to make recommendations regarding the eligibility, assessment and approval of projects and to ensure that all projects and funds are managed in accordance with government and Marist Fathers policies and compliance procedures. As can be seen from their brief profiles these people bring a wide range of experience and skills to the Committee. On your behalf I acknowledge their generosity and welcome them to the work and ministry of MMC.

Margaret Walker

After some decades working in accountancy for both accounting practices and commercial firms, I began working for the Marist Mission Centre in 1990 and, after working with 3 Executive Directors over 12 years, I left to pursue other interests. I spent the following years working for Catholic Religious Australia and the Marist Sisters and retired from the workforce 18 months ago. I am now back at the Marist Mission Centre working part-time during the transition phase.

Richard Croall

For many years I've followed the Marist Mission & when asked to join an expanded group I was delighted to do so. I have had experience with helping set up a children's school in East Timor and a refuge for homeless girls in India. I was also involved with setting up of the Patricia Ritchie Institute & Cottage at the Mater North Sydney. I have retired from corporate life which involved running a large manufacturing & distribution company. I spent two years in National Service, including 12 months in Vietnam, which made me really appreciate this great country.

Tony Biddle

I was born in Glen Innes and educated by the Sisters of St. Joseph and the Marist Fathers at Woodlawn College Lismore. I was the fourth generation involved in the family butchering and grazing business & in 1987, after 109 years, we sold and I moved my family to Brisbane, then to Sydney to become the Business manager of the Catholic Theological Union in 1989. I moved to St Augustine's College, Brookvale as the Business Manager and in 1999 moved back to Hunters Hill to become the Provincial Business Manager of the Marist Fathers. I retired in 2014 but continue to be involved in committee work for the Marists.

Sr. Gail Reneker sm

As a Marist Sister I was initially involved in ministries of secondary education and formation of novices. Since 1990 I have spent a significant number of years in Congregational leadership in Australia and Rome. This ministry provided me with opportunities to be directly in touch with many needy people in our world and ways we might respond as Marists.

Br Allen Sherry fms

Allen is a Marist Brother based in Brisbane and he is CEO of Australian Marist Solidarity (AMS) an NGO for development focused on education and youth projects in Asia and the Pacific. In this brief is also co-ordination of the team of Marist Asia Pacific Solidarity office (MAPS is an office for small youth and church projects) and Marist Volunteers Australia (MVA). Allen has been involved in project work, fund searching and project management for the Marist Brothers, and as a consultant to other congregations, for over 20 years. He was the inaugural directors of the Brothers' international office called Bureau of International Solidarity. Allen is currently a member of four other boards of NGO's.

Andrew Biddle M.SchM., Grad Dip Arts (RE), Dip Teach (Pri), GCBA

I was a leader in education and learning for 25 years in Queensland, prior to accepting the role as Business Manager for the Marist Fathers at Hunters Hill in 2014. I held the positions of boarding supervisor, classroom primary teacher, Assistant Principal Religious Education, Deputy Principal and Principal from 1988 to 2013. During this time I was privileged to experience an association with Marist Schools for 16 years.

Fr. Paul Sullivan sm B. Com.

Fr. Paul spent the last twenty five years in ministry with the Aboriginal people. The past 12 years were with the Aboriginal Communities in the Diocese of Lismore, NSW. For the previous 12 years he was the Director of Alcohol Awareness & Family Recovery based in Darwin that included an outreach to remote Aboriginal communities. Prior to this he was involved in Marist Formation Programs and Education.



Left to Right: Margaret Walker, Richard Croall, Tony Biddle, Sr Gail Reneker sm, Br Allen Sherry fms, Andrew Biddle

From Davao City, Philippines...

A Shelter for Street Children Balay Pasilungan - Mercy in action

Balay Pasilungan is a ministry of the Marist Fathers and is a care centre for homeless and abandoned street children. It endeavours to reach out to care for children who through no fault of their own find themselves without care. Fr. Lionel sm walks the city streets every Friday where he meets and works with the most vulnerable of the street children.

The live-in shelter also offers education, meals, clothing, medical care, sports, spiritual and values formation, case management and family integration. The Marist Mission Centre supports this program.

'A little boy's prayer is answered'...

The statue of the Holy Family is located in Fr. Lionel's office and this small boy would often ask to come into his office so that he could 'rub' the statue of Mary as his way of prayer in the hope of finding his own mother.

"When his mother was located it was discovered that she was experiencing mental health issues and had struggled to care for her son." - Fr Lionel



Boys getting ready for an outing

The boys are looking forward to a day of fun, play and recreation. A healthy lifestyle has been built into the program for students and staff.

A day out...

Recollection Day with Fr Lionel...

Time for quiet reflection, sharing and listening to the 'good news' of Jesus - a time to hear that God's love for them is very real in the midst of their experience of homelessness and abandonment.



Art Therapy

Art therapy is a wonderful way to enable the boys to begin to tell their story. The boys have a sense of shame about their families and need to be in a safe place before they can share their stories. Telling their own story in their own way is the beginning of hope and healing for the boys.



8th Birthday of Triplets - a prayer before the party...

The shelter is like a family for the boys. Celebration of birthdays is a very special and wonderful time for all the boys at the Care Centre especially where they have lost contact with their own family of origin.



YES



I would like to make a donation to
**MARIST MISSION CENTRE
(MMC)**

My details are: (please print clearly)

Title: _____ First name _____

Preferred greeting e.g. Bill / Peggy _____

Family name _____

Address _____

Suburb/Town _____

State / Postcode _____

Phone (____) _____

Mobile _____

Email _____

Australian Marist Centre Overseas Aid (AMCOA)
(donations are tax-deductible)

Marist Fathers International Mission (MFIM)
(non tax-deductible - Religious purposes)

Please send me information on Estate Planning

My donation:

\$25 \$50 \$100 \$250 \$500 Other _____

I enclose cheque money order cash

I would like to make a direct debit from my credit card:

Monthly Quarterly Half-yearly Once only

Visa Card Master Card

Card No. _____

Name on card _____

Expiry date _____

Signature _____

Date _____

Pls. Post: Marist Missions, Locked Bag 5002, Gladesville, NSW 1675
Or Fax to (02) 9816 1737 or donate online at

WWW.MARISTMISSIONS.COM

Do We Have Your Correct Email Address?

As you know, the price of postage has risen dramatically in the past couple of years and the delivery speed has been reduced. As a result, we would like to keep in touch by email in the future where that is possible.

If you currently receive the Newsletter by email, we know that we have the correct details on the system.

If not, then please take the time to send us your details including:

Your donor number that appears on the mailing slip.

Your name.

Your email address.

You can email us at

donations@maristmissions.com

with the subject 'Donor Email Address'.

If you do not have an email then do not worry, we will continue to send you the printed copy.

A big thankyou from Bishop Jean Bosco Baremes

Port Vila, Vanuatu

Accommodation centre for in-service training of teachers...

This new accommodation centre will also provide meeting spaces for both teachers and principals. The Bishop of Port Vila, Bishop Jean Bosco Baremes is sincerely grateful for the support provided by MMC. He was quoted saying, "thanks to MMC and its donors for their generosity, Port Vila will make a positive recovery from the devastation caused by Cyclone Pam."

