

Marist Fathers Australian Province

Provincial Circular

No 1 - Feb 2020



From the Provincial

Brothers

In the coming month the province will begin our preparation for the Assembly and Chapter. From out of these two encounters, hopefully, will arise a structure of governance for the Society of Mary in Australia that will enable us, in our present reality of diminishment, to continue to carry out our mission according to our capacities and with the grace of God.

I invite each one to give prayerful consideration to the discussion document "A Proposal". Discuss it among yourselves and so prepare to attend, wherever possible, the scheduled facilitated community meetings.

Ritual of sorrow

On March 21, together with Peter McMurrich, Kathleen Fleming, and confreres with connections to the Marist Regional College, Burnie, I will participate in a ritual of acknowledgement and sorrow to recognise the sexual abuse that had taken place at Marist College and in the Burnie Parish in the past, particularly under the watch of the Society of Mary.

The day has been planned by the

Marist Regional College 'Seek the Truth' Committee drawn from College staff and board members, survivors, parishioners and Peter McMurrich representing the province.

The hope is that this will be a significant step in the healing process so necessary for survivors, for the Burnie community, the Church in Tasmania and for ourselves. Please pray that, with the help of God's grace, this hope may be fulfilled.

Pray that Mary, merciful and compassionate, under whose banner we had sought to serve at Marist College, will intercede for us all.

Contemplative lives

At the last General Chapter, much emphasis was given to the call for Marists to live contemplative lives, individually and in community.

As we enter the Lenten season we might respond to that call even more. In a recent publication, *Contemplating Christ: The Gospels and the Interior Life*, p.40, Vincent Pizzuto writes:

"Without a commitment to a deep spiritual practice, the ability to recognize oneself and the world as begotten by love is too often masked by the scandalous proliferation of injustice, violence, and suffering . . ."

But the Christian contemplative does not have the luxury to shrink from these stark realities or to be paralyzed by them, and this is why a commitment to the contemplative life can never be a flight from the world, can never be an escape from conflict and suffering, or, much worse, a cocooning in on oneself. It is, rather, a flight precisely from the illusion of disunity, the illusion of separation that dominates the overarching narratives of our world.

Contemplation cultivates an intuitive awakening to the divine union that grounds the very core of our being. Thus, with Paul, the contemplative can gaze with unflinching honesty at their own capacity for hatred, injustice, and violence, confident in God "who saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our own works but according to his own purpose and grace" (2 Tim 1:8)."

By the time of the next Circular we will have already celebrated the great Paschal Feast.

In the celebration of those holy days may your commitment to the Risen Lord be strengthened, your hope in the coming of the Kingdom become more certain and your love of God and your brothers and sisters burn more intently through your exercise of the gifts of the Spirit.

Tony



MARIST DAY OF SORROW



Please join us, our families and College community to acknowledge past sexual abuse.

A ritual will be held on Saturday, 21st March 2020 at 11:00am at the Burnie Emu Valley Rhododendron Gardens.

Details www.mrc.tas.edu.au/mdos

Provincial Diary

4 March

Shaping the Future of the Catholic Church Symposium

17 March

Provincial Council Meeting

20-21 March

Ritual of Sorrow, Burnie

21 April

Provincial Council Meeting

Provincial Council

At its recent meeting the Provincial Council treated the following:

- Preparations for the Assembly and Chapter;
- Community discernment meetings on restructuring;
- Prioritised ministries;
- Health and Ageing coordinators;
- Sale of properties;
- Marist Charism and Culture group;
- Current professional standards matters;
- CPSL Audit;
- Ritual of sorrow, Burnie;
- Provincial retreat;
- Marist Mission Centre.

Notifications

Government Restructuring Community Meetings.

The first of the meetings are scheduled as follows:

- Montbel, Hunters Hill: Thursday, March 5, 4.00-5.00pm
- St Patrick's, Church Hill: Wednesday, March 11, 6.00pm
- Herston: Thursday, March 12, 5.30pm.

Confreres who intend to join one of these meetings please advise the local superior of intention to attend.

Financial Leadership Workshop, Rome.

Our Business Manager, Andrew Biddle, will be attending a meeting of bursars and finance managers at the General House in Rome from February 23 – March 1.

After the meeting he will take the opportunity for a break in Italy before returning to the office on Monday, March 16.

Please hold any business you may have with Andrew until his return.

Appointments

Peter McMurrich: The Archbishop of Sydney has appointed Peter Assistant priest, St Patrick's, Church Hill, from 1 April 2020.

Personnel

Kevin Redmond: Kevin is now a member of the Society's international mission. He left Sydney on Feb 01 for a 7-month cross-cultural experience in the Philippines and Thailand.

His time will be spent between the Marist missions in Mindanao, southern Philippines, and amongst migrant workers from Myanmar at Ranong, Thailand.

Kevin's experiences will be part of his

preparation for the international mission venture planned for 2021 at Marayong in western Sydney's Parramatta diocese. Email: kevinredmondsm@gmail.com.

News

Change of Provincial for New Zealand:

On January 31 David Kennerley handed over the reins to Tim Duckworth as provincial of New Zealand.

Tim's leadership team is made up of Kevin Conroy, Vicar, Thige O'Leary, Assistant Provincial, and Pat Breeze and Kevin Mowbray completing the Provincial Council.

We wish the new men all the best for the coming years.

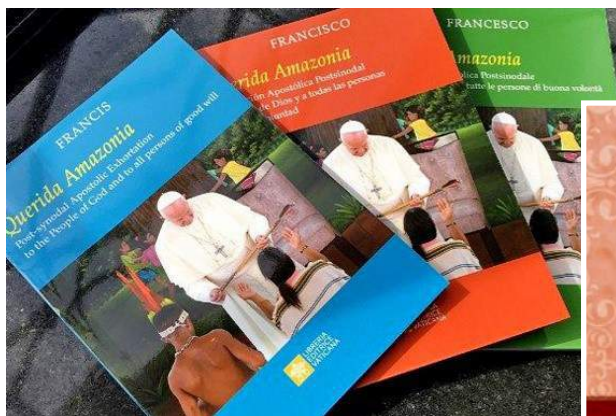
La Neylière:

Michael Jacques, nursing a fractured shoulder, obtained in Japan on the eve of his departure for France, and Paul Mahony, honing up on his hand gestures to communicate with the French, have begun the Colnian



Above: **Tim Duckworth**, NZ provincial. Left: **Kevin Redmond** with **Chris Ganzon** in Davao. Below: Aussies at La Neylière: **Paul Mahony**, **Ray Chapman**, **Ben McKenna**, **Michael Jacques**





Renewal Program under the guidance of Ray Chapman.

CPSL Audit:

As you may recall last year Catholic Professional Standards Ltd (CPSL) commenced an audit of the Province.

The audit is focused on compliance with the National Catholic Safeguarding Standards which constitute a framework to promote the safety and well-being of children.

During the first week of February the auditor spent three days at the Province Office and met with a number of our confreres.

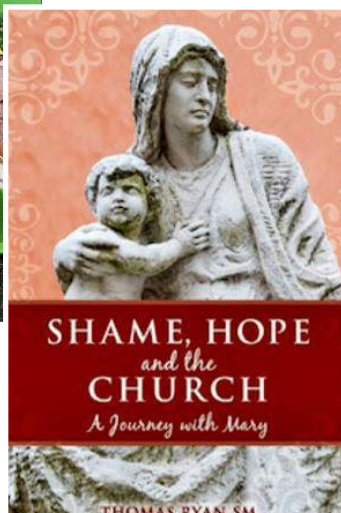
We are very grateful to those who readily participated in the face to face and phone interviews with the auditor. Additionally we acknowledge the work of Peter McMurrich in completing the self-assessment tool and arranging the audit visit.

CPSL will now prepare a draft audit report, including audit findings and recommendations, which we expect will be received in April. Once the audit report is finalised it will be published on the CPSL website – <https://www.cpsltd.org.au/>.

Publications

'Querida Amazonia'

'Everything that the Church has to offer must become incarnate in a distinctive way in each part of the world, so that the Bride of Christ can take on a variety of faces that better manifest the inexhaustible riches of God's grace. Preaching must become incarnate, spirituality must become



incarnate, ecclesial structures must become incarnate.' §6.

How to interpret 'Querida Amazonia'? A very helpful companion to reading Pope Francis' recent Apostolic Exhortation is the commentary by Antonio Spadaro in *La Civiltà Cattolica*: www.laciviltacattolica.com/querida-amazonia-commentary-on-pope-francis-apostolic-letter

'Shame, Hope and the Church - a Journey with Mary'

Tom Ryan advises that his latest book is nearing publication. Electronic readers, [click here](#).

Advertising

Provincial Retreat 2020

Because of the high rate of activity for the province this year, there will be only one provincial retreat.

The 2020 retreat will take place at Maryvale/Montbel from the evening of Sunday, October 11 to the afternoon of Friday, October 16.

The retreat will be led by Fr Brian Cummings sm, from New Zealand.

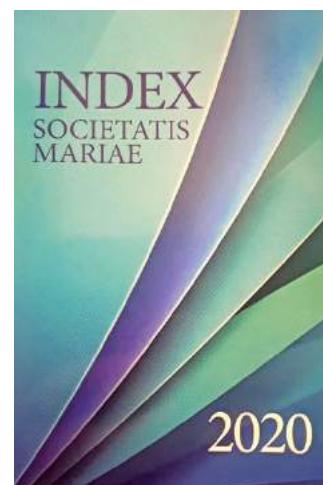
Catholic Religious of Australia offerings

CRA is offering a suite of seminars in March and April in Sydney and Brisbane created by the CRA Health and Well-being Committee. See attachments.

Index & Directory

All should now have received their copies of the Australian and New Zealand Directory 2020 and the Society Index 2020.

Please take care in disposing of your old copies, shredding them if possible. There is strong suspicion that in cases of online scams of Marists, where the scammer seems to have inside Society knowledge, the information has been taken from discarded indexes.



Deaths

Fr Henry Graystone sm
Europe, died 17.12.2019
Fr Normand Martin sm
USA, died 23.12.2019
Fr Kevin Manning sm
New Zealand, died 30.12.2019
Br Clement Bonhommeau
Oceania, 23.01.2020
Pat Moore, brother of Harry
died 11.02.2020
Fr Myles Moriarty sm
Europe, died 20.02.2020



Currumbin Bookings

The self-contained flat at Currumbin is available for bookings for Marists and their families. Bookings are made through the Provincial office. Current bookings are:

Feb 1-29

Peter McMurrich (Family)

Mar 1-6

Tom Ryan

Mar 15-21

Jim Hargrave

Apr 13-27

Gavin Foster

Jul 4-18

Gavin Foster

Please ensure if you stay at Currumbin you leave the place neat and tidy. It is the responsibility of those that use the facility to take care of it. On a number of occasions, the property has had to be cleaned by the people entering rather than those that have enjoyed the facilities. This is particularly the case with the flat – if you use it, before you go you should vacuum it, clean the bathrooms, clean benches, mop down tiled areas, and dispose of garbage and perishables.

The upstairs section of Currumbin is for the exclusive use of professed Marists. The exception is for approved group use eg. Marist Charism Group planning meeting, where the usage is notified to confreres well in advance.

Attachments

- CRA seminar information



Pictured above with his wife, **Su Su, Timothy Ekhlokweh** ('Timo' to his friends) is now an Australian citizen.

Born in Karen State, Myanmar, in 1988, Timo's story reflects the success of the Marist Mission Centre's sowing seeds of hope, education and development along the Thai-Burma border for over twenty years.

Following his citizenship ceremony on Dec 18 in Brunswick, Melbourne, Timo commented: 'I especially want to thank MMC for being such a great support when we had nothing to live on or study with in the refugee camp. MMC offered great influences to me and helped a lot of young Karen to grow up with faith and education. Thank you, thank you!'

Below: Hostel students (Timo, second from left) helping MMC's 'The Other Half' program visitors at Maera Moo camp. Right: Twelve new BP-ers are participating in the latest Bridge Program—and its Skype sessions.



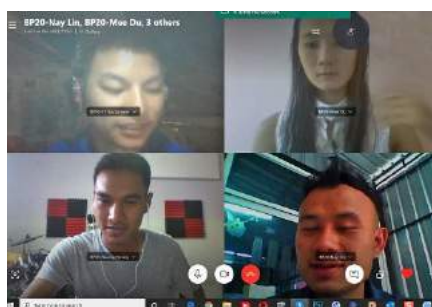
JPICC Corner

Provincial Committee
for Justice, Peace
and
Integrity of Creation

JPICC

First meeting of the Marist Family JPICC Committee for 2020 will be on Mar 07 at Villa Maria.

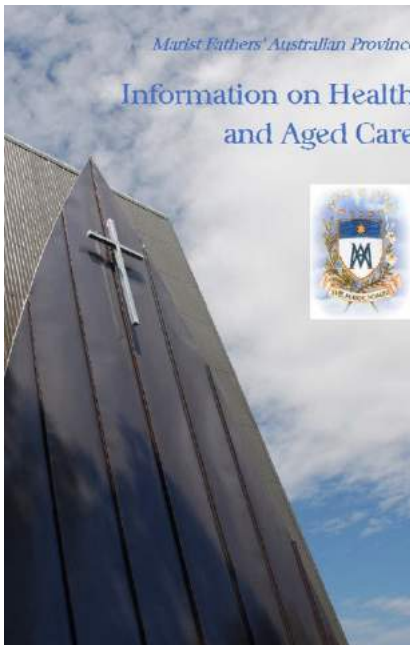
The Committee will be exploring practical ways of implementing Pope Francis' 'Laudato Si', especially its implications for the Pacific Rim.



And also...



Clockwise from top left: Ben McKenna visiting Jim Esler at Marsfield. | Kevin Redmond en route to the Philippines and Thailand. | Peter McMurrich's testimonial dinner. | Villa Maria lawn, before and after the rains. Note the patch near the tool shed, tenderly cared for by Paul Glynn throughout the drought.



Clockwise from top left: Aged Care booklet is now online on the province website's Members' Page. | **Terry Garrett's** 'street library' outside Maryvale. | **Our Lady-after-the-rains**, Villa Maria. | Newly-professed Marists, **Lesley Kinana** (Oceania), **Niklas Rodewald** (USA), **Hemi Ropata** (NZ), **Clinton Kube** (Africa) and **Leonard Amora** (Oceania), surrounded by friends at Davao. | Post-bushfire beehive production in the Hunters Hill-Ryde Men's Shed.



ACHIEVING A HEALTHY WORK/LIFE BALANCE

EVENT DETAILS

Date: Saturday March 14, 2020

Time: 9.30am-3.30pm

Venue: Norths Leagues Club

Address: Cnr Abbott & Palmer Streets,
Camberay (SYDNEY)

Take a 202, 207, 230, 263 bus from North Sydney Station; walk from North Sydney Station: 30 mins or drive and park for free at the Club (car park entrance in Palmer Street)

Speaker: Di Adamson

REGISTRATION

Fee: \$150.00 per person

RSVP deadline: Monday February 24

Complete registration form, return to:

events@catholicreligious.org.au

Enquiries:

events@catholicreligious.org.au

ACHIEVING A HEALTHY WORK/LIFE BALANCE

Following suggestions from leaders and discussions with younger religious in 2019, the CRA Health and Well-Being Committee is offering a day for younger religious under 65 years.

Striking a healthy work-life balance is a challenge even in the best of times. Adding to the pressure, today's portable electronic devices have obliterated the line between work and home. Today we may feel pressured to be available around the clock.

Achieving a healthy work-life balance requires managing our professional and personal life in sustainable ways that keep our energy flowing, our minds and bodies healthy and our whole selves happy and content.

It means giving due attention to all the things that enrich and fulfill us, including our spiritual life, our ministry, health and fitness, community, family and relationships, hobbies and passions, intellectual stimulation, rest and recreation.

We will spend our day with Di Adamson of Adamson & Associates



Dianne Adamson completed her nursing training at the Royal Adelaide Hospital and gained extensive experience before being appointed Director of Nursing in 1987 at Longueville Private Hospital. In 1990, she became CEO and under her direction the hospital set new Australian benchmarks.

Dianne has studied extensively in communication, leadership, counselling and coaching including a Master Practitioner course in Neurolinguistic Programming and Acceptance and Commitment Therapy. She belongs to many industry associations and is an Associate Fellow at the Institute of Management. Having presented nationally and internationally, she shares real life experiences and practical strategies that can be applied immediately. Di informs, challenges and entertains the spirit of those who listen to her and has presented very successfully for CRA and individual congregations around Australia.

NATIONAL SEMINAR DAY FOR YOUNGER RELIGIOUS UNDER 65 YEARS

14 MARCH, 2020 SYDNEY

REGISTRATION FORM

EVENT INFORMATION

Date: Saturday 14 March, 2020
Time: 9.30am to 3.30pm [tea/coffee 9am-9.30am]
Venue: Norths Leagues Club, Cnr Abbott & Palmer
Streets, Cammeray NSW
Format: Seminar with interactive table discussion
Fee: \$150 per participant, including lunch

Achieving a Healthy Work/-Life balance

- Event confirmation will be emailed once payment has been received and venue details will be advised.
- See website for cancellation and substitution policy.
- For more than 1 member, please photocopy form.



REGISTRATION

PERSONAL DETAILS

Congregation:			
Phone/Mobile:			
Title + Full Name:			Email:
Dietary Requirements:			

IT IS ESSENTIAL TO RETURN THIS REGISTRATION FORM TO CRA
so that we know to look for your BPoint payment.

PAYMENT OPTIONS

CREDIT CARD

Please go to **BPoint** for online credit card payment and type **March 14** into the event box: <https://www.bpoint.com.au/pay/CRA> You can print a receipt from BPoint.

REGISTRATIONS CLOSE: Monday 24 February 2020

RETURN FORM BY: Monday 24 February 2020

by email: events@catholicreligious.org.au

by post: CRA, PO Box 1518, North Sydney NSW 2060

CHEQUE

Payable to Catholic Religious Australia. Please attach cheque to the completed registration form and return by mail.

CANCELLATION

Numbers are notified 7 working days before the seminar; refunds are available until 8 working days before the seminar.

CRA NATIONAL HEALTH & WELL-BEING SEMINAR DAY IN BRISBANE

UNDERSTANDING AND SUPPORTING RELIGIOUS WITH DEMENTIA

EVENT DETAILS

Date: Wednesday April 22, 2020

Time: 9.30am-3.00pm [Tea/Coffee from 9.00am]

Venue: Mercy Place

Address: 371 Simpson's Rd, Bardon, Qld

PRESENTER

Ms Elaine Bray

ALZHEIMERS QUEENSLAND

REGISTRATION

Fee: \$150.00 per person

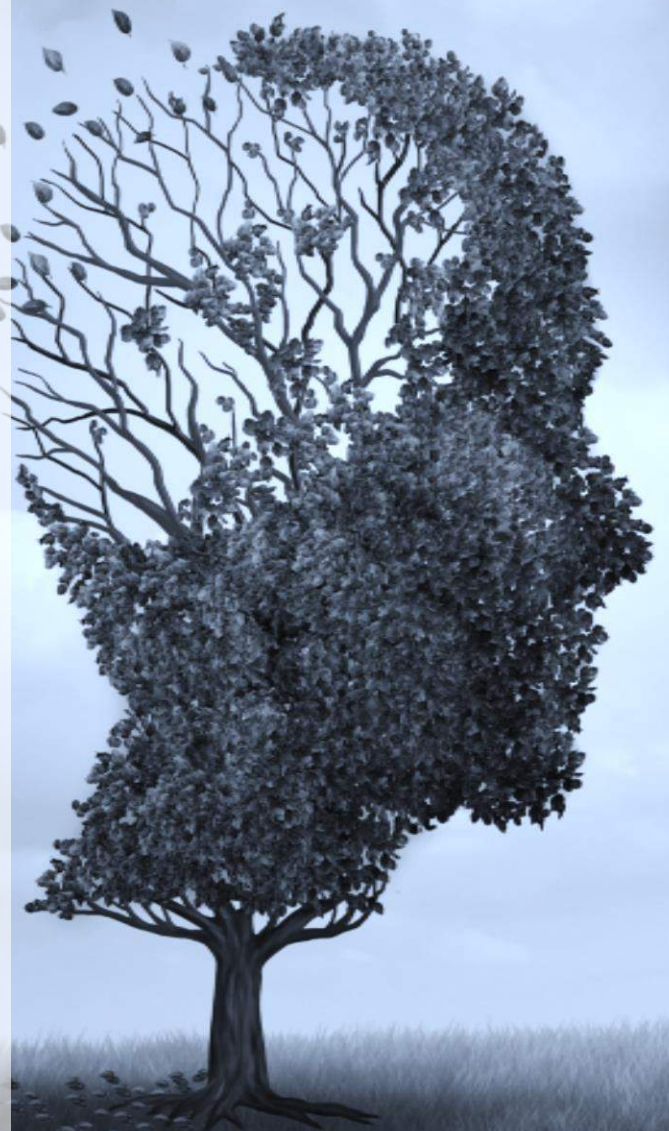
RSVP deadline: Wednesday March 18

Complete registration form, return to:

events@catholicreligious.org.au

Enquiries:

events@catholicreligious.org.au



CRA NATIONAL HEALTH & WELL-BEING SEMINAR DAY IN BRISBANE

SUPPORTING RELIGIOUS WITH DEMENTIA TO LIVE WELL

Elaine Bray, Alzheimer's Queensland Director of Care, will explore recognising the early onset of dementia, addressing the issues that emerge, the challenging behaviours with which religious can present and offer some communication skills and management techniques to advantage the carer.

Elaine presented for a short time at our April 2019 seminar day in Sydney and we have invited her to spend this day with us due to the feedback we received about how appreciated her short presentation was.

Alzheimer's Queensland's primary aim is to maintain the quality of life of people with dementia and their caregivers, to support the desire of most people to remain living in their own home as long as possible and assist families and caregivers to facilitate this.

Alzheimer's Queensland is working to transform national, regional and global dementia policies to enable people with dementia and their families to live well today and reduce the risk of dementia for future generations.

22 APRIL, 2020 BRISBANE

REGISTRATION FORM

EVENT INFORMATION

Date: Wednesday April 22, 2020
Time: 9.30am to 3.00pm [tea/coffee 9am-9.30am]
Venue: Mercy Place,
371 Simpson's Rd, Bardon Qld
Format: Seminar with interactive table discussion
Fee: \$150 per participant, including lunch

UNDERSTANDING AND SUPPORTING RELIGIOUS WITH DEMENTIA

- Event confirmation will be emailed once payment has been received and venue details will be advised.
- See website for cancellation and substitution policy.
- For more than 1 member, please photocopy form.



REGISTRATION

PERSONAL DETAILS

Congregation:			
Phone/Mobile:			
Title + Full Name:			Email:
Dietary Requirements:			

**IT IS ESSENTIAL TO RETURN THIS REGISTRATION FORM TO CRA
so that we know to look for your BPoint payment.**

PAYMENT OPTIONS

CREDIT CARD

Please go to **BPoint** for online credit card payment and type **April 22** into the event box: <https://www.bpoint.com.au/pay/CRA> You can print a receipt from BPoint.

CHEQUE

Payable to Catholic Religious Australia. Please attach cheque to the completed registration form and return by mail.

REGISTRATIONS CLOSE: WEDNESDAY 18 MARCH, 2020

RETURN FORM BY: WEDNESDAY 18 MARCH, 2020

by email: events@catholicreligious.org.au

by post: CRA, PO Box 1518, North Sydney NSW 2060

CANCELLATION

Numbers are notified 7 working days before the seminar; refunds are available until 8 working days before the seminar.