



Confreres,

You will soon be inundated with documents to read in preparation for the Assembly, including my own report. So I will spare you till then and invite you to reflect with Pope Francis in 'awe and contemplation' during this *Season of Creation*, which nicely falls in our spring-time:

#### ***A prayer for our earth***

All-powerful God, you are present in the whole universe and in the smallest of your creatures. You embrace with your tenderness all that exists. Pour out upon us the power of your love, that we may protect life and beauty. Fill us with peace, that we may live as brothers and sisters, harming no one. O God of the poor, help us to rescue the abandoned and forgotten of this earth, so precious in your eyes. Bring healing to our lives, that we may protect the world and not prey on it, that we may sow beauty, not pollution and destruction. Touch the hearts of those who look only for gain at the expense of the poor and the earth. Teach us to discover the worth of each thing, to be filled with awe and contemplation, to recognize that we are profoundly united with every creature as we journey towards your infinite light. We thank you for being with us each day. Encourage us, we pray, in our struggle for justice, love and peace.

*Laudato 'Si*

Pray for me,  
Tony.

#### **District Superior's Diary**

Sep 3: District Finance Committee  
Sep 17: District Council  
Sep 21: Meeting of Marist Family leaders  
Sep 26: Professional Standards and Safeguarding Panel  
Oct 1-4: District Assembly & Chapter of Election  
Oct 4: Jubilarians' Mass & Luncheon  
Oct 15: District Council  
Oct 19-26: MAP Meeting & NZ visit.

#### **District Council**

At its July and August meetings the Council treated the following:

- Professional Standards matters
- Professional Indemnity Insurance
- Proposed Constitution for MMC Ltd
- District Assembly 2024
- Aged Care policy
- Villa Maria Complex
- Herston
- Assembly/Chapter preparations
- 'Road Map' for the management of our finances into the future
- Vocations policy

#### **Calendar**

##### **Sep 21**

Marist Laity Australia Conference

##### **Oct 1-4**

District Assembly & Chapter

##### **Oct 4**

Jubilarians' Mass and Luncheon

## Deaths

*Please pray for ...*

**Fr James (Jim) Harding SM** who died on Jul 24

**Br John Stevenson SM** who died on Aug 09

**Fr Fredrick Kado SM** who died on Aug 13

**Fr Denis O'Hagan SM** who died on Aug 14

**Bro Iosefo Cakaunivalu SM** who died on Aug 17

**Fr Jim Harding SM, priest, doctor and friend.**

*Extracts from the Words of Remembrance of Maureen Rogers, friend.,*

Jim had a difficult start in Bougainville when soon after his arrival, the priest running the station there retired to USA leaving Jim, totally unprepared, in charge with the bare foundations of a new hospital and pastoral as well as medical responsibilities. Then began twelve years of incredibly challenging and valuable work. He was doing difficult medicine often near and sometimes over the edge of his competence, with limited resources, coordinating the building of the new hospital and trying to look after his own and others' spiritual life.

He spoke gratefully and warmly of the incredible support he had both practically and emotionally from



his co-workers at Moratona. Brother Bill and Brother Ambrose and their Buka carpenters performed miracles in building the hospital. He had many wonderful nurses - initially a lay missionary, then SMSM Sisters and Bougainvillean sisters led by his dear friend Sister Margaret. Sister Brigid who worked as a cook at Moratona was a particular support and distracted him from his many concerns with skilful card games.

Totally burnt out, he left Moratona after 12 years. He left behind him a working new hospital with splendid staff quarters. many lives saved and numerous lives enhanced by his expertise and compassion, both medical and pastoral.

When he was at Saint Patrick's, he became a real Rocks man and made many friends both at St Brigid's and at the Captain Cook hotel across the road where I think he really engaged in a pastoral ministry of a sort. He greatly appreciated Garry Reynolds' support when he had to make the difficult move from Saint Patrick's to Montbel. He absolutely loved Paul Mahony who cared for him so beautifully at Montbel and Marsfield. While he still could, singing with Gerry Arbuckle on the phone was a highlight of his day. A dear friend at Marsfield was Sister Clare with whom he had hours of precious silent communication. For many months he despaired that he couldn't pray and it was wonderful that both Sister Clare and Father Pius Jones were there and praying for him and with him when he left this earth.



## JPICC Corner

District Committee for Justice,  
Peace and Integrity of Creation

The **Marist Family JPIC Committee** has decided to cancel the proposed September event, *'From Darkness to Light'*, planned to address issues of domestic violence.

It has become increasingly evident that this crucial topic is so close to the experience of potential attendees that there is an understandable reluctance to attend a public event, reflected in low registrations.

The Committee meets in October to continue its review and begin planning for 2025.

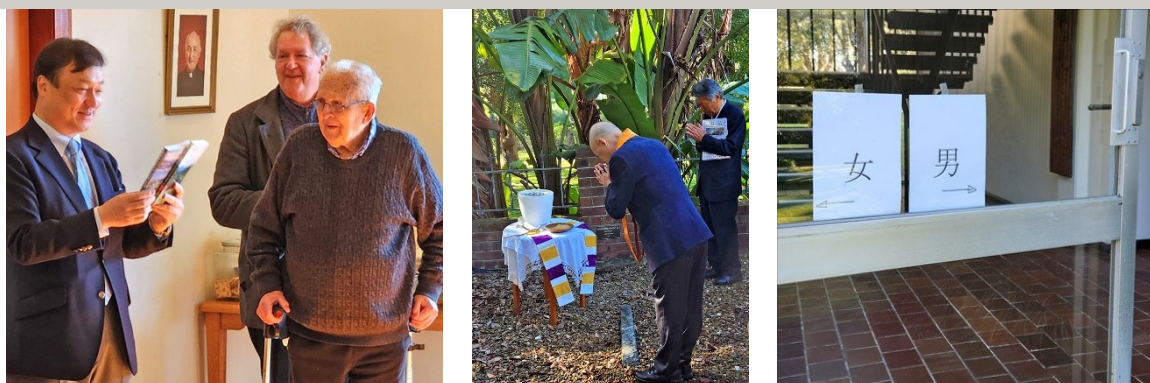




Above, from left: **Michael Moore** and **Mater Redemptoris** community, Perth. | **John Begg** with **Hansford Mane** (Solomons) in Brisbane. | **Floyd Gatana** visiting Paddington, with **Gerard Hall**. Below: **Kiwis**, **Kev** and **Peter Head**, at Montbel. | **Marayong** team, **Floyd Gatana**, **Dennis Levi** (helping for two months), **Kevin Redmond**. | **Floyd** and **Dennis** (and pies) at the **Robertson** pie shop. | **Jim Carty** with **Ambrose Kakatai** (Bougainville) at Montbel.



Above: '**Aliki Langi** and friends at Tongan event, Hunters Hill. | **Brian Wilson** at Catholic Care's 30th anniversary, St Joseph's Hostel. | **Paul Glynn**, **Paul Mahony** and furry friend, Montbel. | **Sam Tukidia** (Fiji) en route to Rome. Below: Exchange of gifts during Japanese group's visit to Montbel | ... and **Tony Glynn's** grave. | Guest-friendly toilet signs at Chancel House.



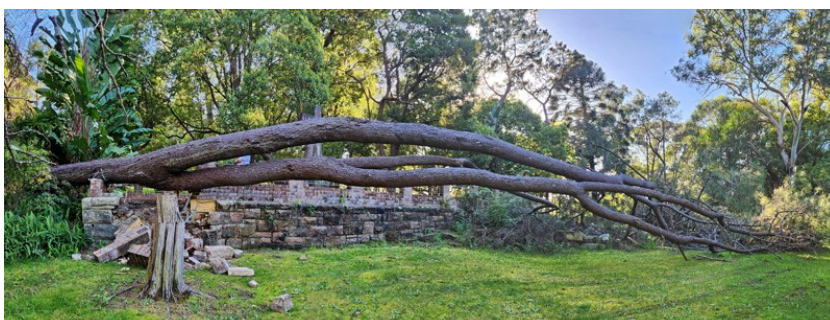




Above: Marist Charism & Culture immersion at Villa Maria... | ... concluding Mass, HNM church, with **Gavin Foster**.  
Below: Villa Maria lounge room: **Kev Head** and **Gavin Foster**... | ... and pre-assembly gathering.



Above: At Montbel, book launch of **John Thornhill's** selected texts. Below: The ducks are back at Montbel pond. | Pot plants in Montbel's foyer, courtesy, Kerrie Sanders.



Above: Wind damage, Villa Maria mission cemetery... | ... and casualty, Fr Joseph Herring's 1936 grave.





Above: Blessing and congratulations for **Bernie McFadyen**, 60 years ordained. | Birthday cake for Tom Ryan, with **Paul Pearce**, Montbel. Below: Bangladeshi bishops and friends visit MMC... | ...and St Peter Chanel's chapel.



Above: **Marist Laity Australia** and Family members meet at Villa Maria. | **Michael Rego's** nephew, **Anthony de Salis** (2nd from right) and family in Canberra, in full remission from illness and running marathons after prayers through **Jean-Claude Colin**. Below: Fourvière celebration with Marist camino across Sydney Harbour Bridge... | ... and session at Hunters Hill.





## International



Above: **John Larsen** with **Asia District** members.... | ... and at the **International Novitiate, 'Eden', Davao**. Below: **John Larsen** with aspirants from Myanmar, **Daniel Wai Htet Kyaw** and **John Htun Htun Win**. | non-Filipino Marist aspirants **John** (Myanmar), **Joseph Nguyen** (Vietnam) and **Daniel** (Myanmar). | **Lauro Arcede** with students at **St Peter Chanel's** formation community, Davao.



Above: **Chris Ganson** and **Gil Casio** with student community of **St Peter Chanel's** formation house. | Lobby of **SPC** community. Below: **John Larsen** at conferral of **Minor Orders**, Rome. | **John Hopkinson** with **Misioneros Maristas** co-founders, Bolivia.



Below: Deacon **Clinton Kube**, to be ordained in **Bob Barber's** former parish, **Bambili, Cameroon**, on **Sep 17**. | District of **South America** Chapter group. | **Larry Sabud** and **Arnold Garferio**, well protected after a charity run in **Ranong**.

