

Managing both:

The Marist Fathers International Mission Fund (MFIM) ABN 91 030 510 250
and
The Australian Marist Centre for Overseas Aid Fund (AMCOA) ABN 87 382 823 140

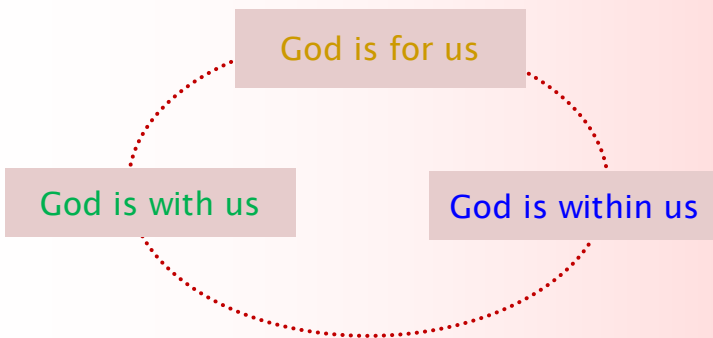
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Marist Mission Centre is a signatory to the *Code of Conduct* of the *Australian Council for International Development*.



"The Christmas Story"



Christmas tells a wonderful story of the gift of God's love, presence and action in our world and in our lives. Christmas draws us into the very reality and mystery of God and each other.

God is for us:

The angels sing: 'Glory to God in the highest and peace on earth to all of goodwill'. God is reaching out to all of us in love and great joy in the person of his Son. God's gift to us is the gift of Jesus - this is the Christmas story. God is on our side not watching and waiting to condemn or judge but to encourage and reveal to us the depth of God's love and compassion for us and for all people. God for us, we call you Father.

God is with us:

Emmanuel, the name given to Jesus means 'God is with us'. The deep longing of the people for God was: 'when will you come to visit us ... when will you dwell amongst us'. This longing is fulfilled at Christmas with the birth of Jesus in the stable at Bethlehem. Jesus walks with us in our daily lives, supporting us in our hopes and struggles and showing us how to live in peace with each other. God with us, we call you Jesus.

God is within us:

Mary said 'Yes' to the invitation to become the mother of Jesus and 'she conceived of the Holy Spirit'. The same Holy Spirit descended upon Jesus at his baptism and set hearts on fire for all at Pentecost. We are gifted with the same Holy Spirit whose presence in us continues to prompt and guide us to grow in friendship with God and to live as brothers and sisters with each other. God within us, we call you Holy Spirit.

Your generous support of the works of mercy and compassion through the Marist Mission Centre continues the story of God's love and mission in a very real and practical way. For your support we are most grateful.

On behalf of all at the Marist Mission Centre we wish you and your family the blessings and joy of Christmas.



Fr. Paul Sullivan sm
Chairperson
MMC Advisory Committee

Thanks to MMC Friends

As a sign of our appreciation for the generosity of all MMC Friends, we will celebrate a weekly Mass for your intentions at the community Mass on each Thursday morning at Montbel - the residence for retired Marists at Hunters Hill.

MMC Friends are still welcome to arrange for individual Masses for your own intentions and for November Masses for deceased family members and relatives.

Timor Leste

'Dying at Home' with care & compassion

A Training program in Tetum language for village health workers

Care & Compassion

A STORY OF THE HEART *by Dr. Helen-Anne Manion OAM*

"In 2002 I met with Maria Dias, Founder Director of PAS Clinic in Dili, Timor Leste, and heard a tragic story of her dying brother in hospital, crying out in vain to go home to die in his village with family. When we told her about our Dying At Home Program she said, "I must bring this to my people". Dying At Home Program was established in 1980 by Gerard Manion and me, a unique program teaching best care of dying loved ones to empower families, their friends and neighbours to do this precious work of love. A program with profound effects, especially building compassion and loving care skills".



Our dream was realized in October 2016 with our first training program in Dili, with all teaching materials translated into Tetum, training 46 enthusiastic, dedicated Leaders who grasped their mission to families in their communities, to build a new culture of care for the dying person and family. They go forth to establish Dying At Home Program for families in their own villages and towns.

Maria's goal is to establish Dying At Home Program in many districts.

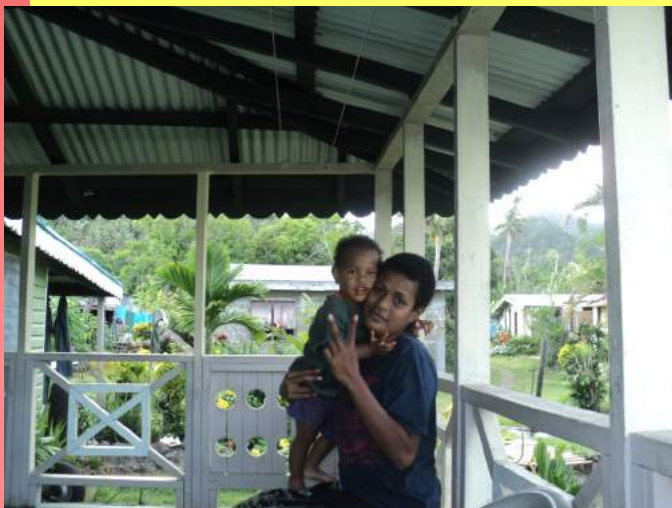
For more photos and details of this program visit Website:
www.dyingathome.org



Fiji....Cyclone Winston

From tents to houses and repair of churches

Thanks to your generous donations many families have been helped to repair or build houses.

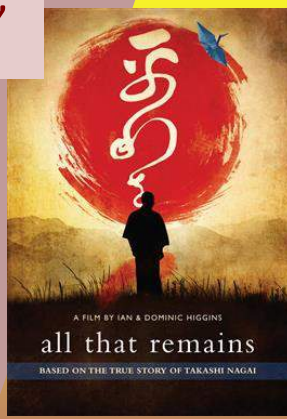


Fr Ben McKenna sm, Provincial, Marist Fathers Oceania said that the people are most grateful for your generous support in response to the devastation caused by Cyclone Winston.



DVD - "All That Remains"

A Song for Nagasaki, a bestseller book by Fr Paul Glynn sm has been made into a movie called "All That Remains". It is available as a DVD only from Ignatius press. All books by Fr Glynn sell for \$10.00 plus postage from MMC and all proceeds go to the destitute in the Philippines and Thailand.



Happy children despite all odds

Cameroon.... Our Lady of Consolation

Children with Special Needs

The Marist Fathers conduct a facility for children with disabilities and special needs called 'Education for All'. In some cultures children with disabilities are regarded as a source of shame and 'bad luck' for the family and so are neglected. They are like the poorest of the poor. MMC has funded education and rehabilitation equipment so that these children will have a sense of inclusion and belonging in their community.



Front view of Our Lady of Consolation Centre for Children with Special Needs (OLC)



Myanmar - Canon Photocopier



St Joseph's Catholic Seminary, Yangon, Myanmar requested assistance to buy a new photocopier for their library. The seminary has a big number of seminarians and a very limited number of source books for the students. MMC was asked to fund a new photocopier so that all students could access reading material as part of their studies. Mr. Hans Arns from Sydney has been assisting the seminary in their library.

I would like to make a donation to
MARIST MISSION CENTRE



Online donations can be made at
www.maristmissions.com or by completing this
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My details are: (please print clearly)

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Preferred greeting e.g. Bill / Peggy _____

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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

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

WWW.MARISTMISSIONS.COM

Trinity Prayer

God For Us, we call You Father,
God With Us, we call you Jesus,
God Within US, we call you Holy Spirit.

You are the Eternal mystery
That enables, enfolds, and enlivens all
things,
Even us, and even me.

As it was in the beginning, is now,
And ever shall be. Amen

**Prayer: Adapted from Richard Rohr, OFM,
Centre for Action and Contemplation**

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.

