



# Provincial Circular

Marist Fathers Australian Province

Vol: 1 /2012

## Provincial's Letter

Dear Confreres

Pope Benedict, in his message for the World Day of Peace, January 1st, wrote about educating young people in justice and peace. It is an insightful and beautifully written message.

One paragraph moved me with its sensitivity to the current situation of many families. Pope Benedict writes:

*“We are living in a world where families, and life itself, are constantly threatened and not infrequently fragmented. Working conditions which are often incompatible with family responsibilities, worries about the future, the frenetic pace of life, the need to move frequently to ensure an adequate livelihood, to say nothing of mere survival—all this*

*makes it hard to ensure that children receive one of the most precious of treasures: the presence of their parents. This presence makes it possible to share more deeply in the journey of life and thus to pass on experiences and convictions gained with the passing of the years, experiences and convictions which can only be communicated by spending time together. I would urge parents not to grow disheartened! May they encourage children by the example of their lives to put their hope before all else in God, the one source of authentic justice and peace.”*

As religious, we can sometimes be isolated from these pressures that families are under. Yet, it is family life which sustains most people, and children can miss out on so much if their family does not function well.

In much of Australia, the phenomenon of “FIFO” workers is increasing. For those unfamiliar this this

phrase, it means: “Fly in, Fly out.” A worker (typically a man) lives for a week or so with his family, then flies to his place of work for three or four weeks before flying home again. The flight time could be ten hours or more, eg: Tasmania to Western Australia. While mining companies find the practice efficient and expedient, it can be extremely tough on the workers and their families. In a sense, the worker has no real community. He belongs nowhere. His wife and children spend weeks without him, perhaps for many years. The pay is usually good, but the human cost is high.

It also has an effect on the communities near the mining facilities. Rather than their benefitting from new families coming to their area, the workers come and go with no sense of belonging and no need to put down roots. As well, there is often little benefit to local businesses and infrastructure.



Australia Day has just passed. Let us reflect on how family life in Australia is going. Let us do all we can to encourage the treasure of parents and children being present with each other in love.

*Paul Cooney sm*  
Provincial

29th January 2012.

## Provincial Diary

### February

- 6 CLRI Executive meeting
- 20-21 Provincial Council meeting, Bilgola

### March

- 6 Finance Committee
- 7-8 CLRI Conference Sydney
- 14 Provincial Buildings Committee

## Sick

### Ron Josephs

Ron has spent the last six weeks in hospital, first at Royal North Shore Hospital and then Longueville Private Hospital. He is very seriously ill.

Ron has been in amazing spirits throughout his illness

but is in a great deal of pain and has become very weak. Ron always asks for us to keep praying for him.

### Michael Cumpston

Brother-in-law to our late confrere John Ryan, Michael Cumpston from Eureka (near Bangalow) was diagnosed with a melanoma last October and underwent chemotherapy and radiotherapy. His condition remains serious and Michael will be beginning a new kind of treatment in Lismore. Michael's wife, Pauline, has requested our prayers.

## Deaths

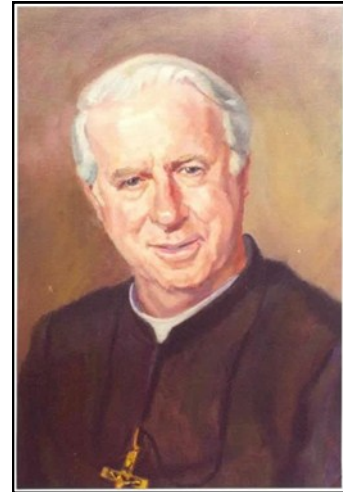
### Terry Dorey

Terry Dorey, a Marist scholastic at Toongabbie in the early 1970's passed away in Brisbane after a long battle with cancer.

### Br Charles Howard FMS

Br Charles Howard, the first Australian-born Superior General of the Marist Brothers (1985-1993), passed away on 14th January in his community at St Gregory's, Campbelltown. Br Charles was 87.

Br Emili Turi (Superior Gen-



eral) came from Rome to attend Br Charles' funeral. Br Séan Sammon (ex-Superior General) came from the United States to deliver the eulogy on behalf of the Brothers. Archbishop Philip Wilson of Adelaide, President of the Australian Bishops Conference and ex-pupil of Br Charles, was the Principal celebrant at the Requiem which was broadcast live around the world on webcast. These are indicators of the great love and respect shown to a man who over recent days has been called an education trailblazer and charismatic Catholic leader.

Australian Marist Fathers will remember Br Charles fondly for the 2002 Province Retreat he gave at Yamba, sharing his inspirational vision of the Marist world.

### Albert Ernest Owen Jones

Owen Jones, father of Pius Jones, suffered a massive stroke on 22nd January and was taken to hospital where

he was put on life support. The family gathered around Owen and Pius was able to anoint him. Owen then suffered a heart attack and passed away in the early hours of Tuesday, 24th January.

The funeral Mass for Owen was held at St Paul's Church, West Sunshine, on Monday, 29th January. A number of confreres were present.

### **Br Darryl Slater FMS**

On 16th December, Gerry Hall presided at a Memorial Mass in St Joseph's College for his relative Brother Darryl Slater FMS, aged 63, who died suddenly in Cambodia on 11th December. Darryl's funeral service and cremation took place in Phnom Penh, Cambodia on 15th December.

Darryl was a Marist Brother for 45 years and had worked in a wide range of apostolates in Australia and overseas. For the last eleven years Darryl has given of himself most generously as a key member of the Marist Brothers team working with physically disabled young people in Cambodia. Through the Mission Centre, Australian Marist Fathers, supporting and collaborating with Br Terry Heinrich and Darryl at Lavalla School in Cambodia, came to know and appreciate Darryl very much over the years.

### **Donna Stewart**

Donna, the adopted daughter of Bruce and Kate Stewart, brother and sister-in-law of Kevin, died suddenly in December. Donna was in her 30's. Her funeral was in Tamworth on 16th December.

### **Veronica Hungerford**

Mrs Veronica Hungerford, the older sister of Kevin Kerley, passed away in Nambour Hospital on 22nd January. She had suffered a brain aneurism a few days before her death. Kevin was able to see his sister before she died.

Seamus McMahon celebrated the Requiem Mass for Veronica, with Kevin concelebrating, at Our Lady of the Rosary Church, Caloundra on Wednesday, 25th January.

### **Lady Molloy Walsh**

The Requiem Mass for John L Walsh's aunt, Lady Molly Walsh, widow of the late Sir Cyril Walsh, a former judge of the High Court of Australia, was held at the Church of the Blessed Sacrament, Clifton Gardens on 27th January.

### **Fr Paddy Corcoran**

Paddy Corcoran passed away on 24th January in Ireland after a long illness. Paddy was just a few days shy of 96 years. He was fondly remembered in Sydney where he worked for a few years during the 1980's.

## **News**

### **Fr Paul Durkin**

Congratulations and best wishes to Paul Durkin who was ordained as a priest of the Broken Bay Diocese by Bishop David Walker at Our Lady of the Rosary Cathedral, Waitara on 17th December 2011. Paul was a scholastic with the Marists, living at Lane Cove and studying at the CTU, Hunters Hill, in the early 90's.

### **Wally Fingleton**

Wally Fingleton, our oldest Australian Marist, turned 97



on 1st February. This year he intends once again to spend the winter months in Townsville and summer in Crookwell, NSW. On a recent visit to see him in Crookwell, Paul Cooney found him very well and in great spirits. Mary Connor continues to give Wally wonderful care.

### Cross Priest in Bun Fight

News was hard to come by in January!

When Tony Kennedy, following a request from the



Archdiocese of Tasmania, made a comment for the media on the early marketing of hot cross buns, the news went viral, as they say today.

Tony appeared on Channel 7's Today Tonight, Channel 10's Melbourne News and was interviewed by 6PR, 2UE, 2GB, 3AW and 4BC. The story was given wide coverage in Tasmania's Mercury and Melbourne's Herald-Sun. Internationally the story made the Scottish Catholic Observer, the New York Telegraph, the Albuquerque Ex-

press and the Maine Mirror! Tony's simple request was that, if they are selling them post-Christmas, supermarket chains should remove the cross from the traditional Good Friday buns to retain their religious significance.

### Review of Marist Government

The last General Chapter commissioned the Superior General to undertake an external review of all levels of government in the Society, and their relations with each other, before the 2013 Council of the Society.

Confreres may have seen in a recent copy of SM Bulletin the announcement that the General Administration has spent time on a draft discussion paper on Review of Marist Government produced by Dr

John Honner. Following their discussions and after receiving feedback from the provincials, district superiors and their councils, the General Administration will ask John to prepare a final version that will be circulated and discussed throughout the Society by all members.

This will be in the middle of the year.

At this stage the Pre-Capitular Committee is proposing that the second day of the Provincial Chapter (Tuesday, 3rd July) be a

workshop day devoted to the Review of Governance paper. It will be open to any confrere from the Province who wishes to be involved.

John Honner will be available as a resource person but will not be chairing or facilitating that day of the Chapter.

Obviously this plan will have to be put to the Chapter delegates who decide on the ordo capituli and all things to do with the Chapter.

The Pre-Capitular Committee is also proposing two rounds of regional gatherings in preparation for the Chapter.

### Monograph on the Philosophy of Barry Miller sm

Retired Canadian academic, Elmar Kremer, became interested in Barry Miller's writings and set himself the project of writing a study on Barry Miller's philosophy. The work is complete but, because of the narrow scope of the topic, Elmar is still trying to find a publisher.

Some confreres met Elmar when he was in Australia doing his research.

Anyone interested in seeing a few extracts of Elmar's work should contact Peter McMurich.

### Staffing at the Provincial Office

From the beginning of this year we have changed some of the working hours for Tony Biddle and Judy Saliba in the Provincial Office.

After discussion about workloads, both Tony and Judy have reduced their days of work by one.

**Tony:**  
Tuesdays to Fridays

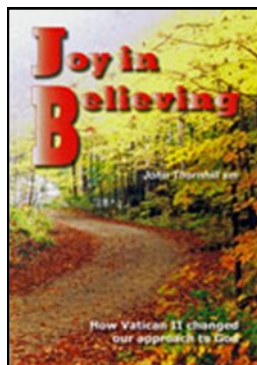
**Judy:**  
Mondays to Wednesdays

Once again all are asked to avoid contacting Tony with work on **Wednesdays**. This allows him to get into some of the bigger, time-consuming jobs that demand undivided attention.

### **New Province Directory**

The joint Australia-New Zealand Directory for 2012 has been finalized and should be delivered to you in the near future. Every effort has been made to make sure it is accurate, but inevitably changes will occur during the year. Please notify the Provincial Office of any changes that affect you and the Province will be notified by Provincial Circular.

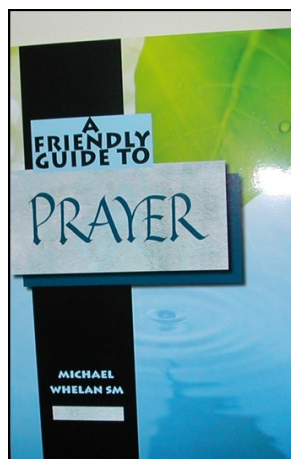
## **Publications**



**in believing**, is a soon to be available 90 page book by John Thornhill. This latest work of John's is a series of retreat reflections that offers a consoling message to help pilgrims in uncertain times.

The official launch to Joy in Believing will be in early July.

### **A Friendly Guide to Prayer**



This book is a useful and inspirational guide to prayer written by Michael Whelan. The 64 page A4 format book is colourfully presented and contains an introduction to

each of the fourteen themes, rich quotes for personal reflection, and a series of recommended practices pertaining to each theme.

Michael is offering the book to Marists at the special price of \$20 + postage. Please contact the Aquinas Academy to order.

## **Advertising**

### **Currumbin & Bilgola Flats**

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

24 Feb-10 Mar	T Ryan
13 Apr-16 Apr	K Stewart
1 May-14 May	R Chapman
7 Jul-28 Jul	B Barber
17 Oct-7 Nov	T Fulcher
20 Nov-30 Nov	P McMurrich

The self-contained flat at **Bilgola** is available for Marists to book for an extended holiday, a retreat or an extended period of study. Bookings are made through the Vicar-Provincial. Current bookings are:

20 Feb-21 Feb	Provincial Council
24 Feb-26 Feb	<b>All Bilgola</b> P McCabe
23 Mar-25 Mar	<b>All Bilgola</b> St Pat's Team
15 May-31 May	<b>All Bilgola</b> R Chapman

1 Aug-31 Aug P Kervin

### Colin Icon

We now have available some A3 sized copies of the Colin Icon. If you would like a copy please contact the Provincial Office.

### Provincial Elections

The process is about to begin to elect a Provincial to replace Paul Cooney as leader of the Province at the end of this year. The first consultation will be from 15 February until 14 March.

Any confrere who wishes to remove his name from the list of those eligible to be elected must contact the Provincial Office by **10 February**.

## Enclosures

### 1. Death Notices:

Fr Fiorenzo Faletti sm  
Fr Georges Coutagne sm  
Fr Phillippe Bouvard sm  
Fr George Wallace sm  
Fr James L Pratt sm  
Fr Patrick Corcoran sm

### 2. 2012 Kalendarium

### 3. Stipend Rate for Religious July 2012-13

## Anniversaries

### February

- 3 Br Marie-Nizier Delorme  
1874
- 3 Fr Austin Woodbury  
1979
- 7 Augustin Galerne  
1954
- 7 Fr Terry McCosker  
1989
  
- 10 Fr Joe de Silva  
1993
- 12 Fr Joseph Leslie Heath  
2002
- 13 Fr Charles Allan Russell  
2008
- 14 Fr Theophile Le Menant  
Des Chesnais  
1910
- 14 Fr Remo Centauro  
1982
- 16 Br Joseph-Xavier Luzy  
1873
- 16 Fr Reginald Keating  
2005
- 17 Fr Edwin Kelly  
1974
- 17 Fr Leonard Brice  
1994
- 18 Fr Leopold Carcenac  
1965
- 18 Fr Arthur Moynihan  
2001
- 21 Fr Albert Harcombe  
2000
- 27 Fr James Joyce  
1991