



District Committee for
Justice, Peace &
Integrity of Creation



Report for 2024

*Illustration: 'The Season of Creation'
from JPIC Blog, Oct 07, 2024*

Membership

On Jan 31, 2024, our District Committee mourned the death of its greatly-valued and pioneer member, **Kevin Bates**, leaving a committee of **Jim Carty** (*convenor*), **Paul Mahony**, **Ron Nissen** and **Kevin Stewart**.



Marist Family

Collaboration continued with the wider Marist Family, enriched by the increasingly positive influence of Marist Laity involvement.

Informal communications between our District Committee members occurred naturally throughout the year whilst Marist Family JPIC meetings predominated over those of our committee.

Membership of the Marist Family JPIC Committee (in addition to our District Committee members) comprises **Grace Ellul SM**, **Andrew Dumas** and **Cathy Larkin** (Marist Laity Australia), **Laurie McCane FMS** and **Margaret Tisch SMSM**.

Meetings

These were held at the District meeting room on Feb 10, Apr 06, Jun 22, Jul 20, Aug 03 and Oct 12 with Zoom participation available as needed.

At the final meeting Jim Carty proposed a change of convenor and Grace Ellul accepted this position, unanimously supported by the committee.

Agenda

Items included regular reports on JPIC activities from committee members of the various branches, updates on Pacific Climate Watch, Wilai Foundation and other organisations, recommended article and web pieces on *Landato Si* themes and International JPIC Blog and District Circular JPIC Corner items .

Focus for the year

In Nov 2023 for the year the Committee chose *Domestic Violence* as the major issue to be addressed in 2024 with an event scheduled for Sep 08. Despite concerted efforts to promote this event, *Darkness to Light*, there was a sad lack of response



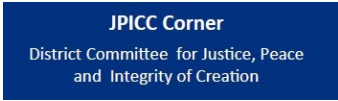
Marist Family JPIC Committee, 2024

From left: **Andrew Dumas**, MLA (*insert*), **Jim Carty SM**, **Cathy Larkin** (MLA), **Lawrence McCane FMS**, **Grace Ellul SM**, **Kevin Stewart SM**, **Margaret Tisch SMSM**, **Ron Nissen SM**, **Paul Mahony SM** (*insert*).

resulting in its last-minute cancellation. Most agreed that, despite the topic's relevance, its sensitivity appeared too much for a prospective audience.

District website

Fifty-seven items were posted on the JPIC page of the Marist Australia District website, most of which were International Blog items (*see below*) and re-posted on Facebook according to our *Social Media Package* strategy of Website, Blog and Facebook.



District Circular

A short item from the Committee was included in the 'JPIC Corner' in each of the bi-monthly District Circulars throughout the year.

International JPIC Blog

After five years the Blog continues to be managed by **Ben McKenna** with items published every Monday and occasionally supplied by Committee members.



The Blog is translated into French for the European Marist Blog site.

Technical support continues from Justin Lynch, Brisbane.

Finances

Separate financial reporting has been provided for the District Business Manager.

Projects benefiting from our modest gift budget were Good Shepherd Services (Vic & NSW), Women & Girls' Emergency Centre (Sydney), House of Welcome, Wilai Foundation and Edmund Rice Centre.