

## Marist Family JPICC

Collaboration continued with the Marist Family JPICC, enriched by the increasing and positive influence of Marist Way (laity) involvement. Current membership (in addition to our District Committee members):

- **Sr Grace Ellul SM** (convenor)
- **Andrew Dumas** (Marist Way)
- **Cathy Larkin** (Marist Way)
- **Sr Judith Lythall SM**
- **Br Lawrence McCane FMS**
- **Sr Margaret Tisch SMSM**

The Hunters Hill parish Marist Laity group, led by **Mrs Cathy Gallo**, has provided hospitality and catering for events throughout the year.



Meetings were held bimonthly at the District meeting room or by Zoom.

Major projects for 2025 were:

- Fourvière event
- Season of Creation gathering
- Bishops' statement on homelessness and mental ill-health -- gathering
- Development of a Marist Family JPIC website. (*Ron Nissen was called on to assist Andrew Dumas and Sr Judith Lythall SM in the planning and design.*)



## DISTRICT COMMITTEE FOR JUSTICE, PEACE & INTEGRITY OF CREATION



## REPORT FOR 2025

Illustration: from the report of the Australian Bishops: *Signs of Hope on the Edge, serving homeless people with mental ill-health.*

The Provincial **Social Justice Committee** was established in 2009 by Fr Bob Barber and his Council, a key mandate being *'to recommend concrete and practical ways for the Province to show solidarity with the poor'*.

Within months and as environmental care became a growing global issue the General Chapter of 2009 called on all Units to establish a **Justice, Peace and Integrity of Creation Committee** to seek concrete ways in which Marists could:

- ◆ *be informed of social issues, thus raising consciousness of the present reality;*
- ◆ *be in direct contact with those who are on the economic margins of society;*
- ◆ *and be in solidarity with those who are involved in the struggle for justice.*

Inspired by this our JPICC has met regularly to undertake numerous initiatives, most of which are recorded in Annual Reports linked since 2019 to the JPIC page of the Province, now-District, website.

In more recent years the JPICC has engaged with members of the **Marist Family** in Australia and, indeed, was responsible for the formation of the **Marist Family JPICC** on which we remain strongly represented.

In 2025 our values were reinforced by the *Statements & Decisions* of the Society of Mary's General Chapter, reflections from the Superior-General and the teachings of Pope Leo XIV.

We were especially encouraged by words about migrants and refugees, those affected by violence and by engagement with the digital world, all of which have been commonly on our agenda.

At a time of reconfiguration in the Society of Mary we have a particular interest in how our Committee may collaborate with changing and emerging entities in the District and the wider Marist world to further pursue its mandate.

## Membership

Jim Carty (*convenor*), Paul Mahony, Ron Nissen and Kevin Stewart.

Quarterly meetings were complemented by informal communications between members occurring naturally throughout the year.

## Agenda

Items included:

- support for projects of the Marist Family JPICC (*see below*)
- recommended articles and web pieces on *Laudato Si* themes and International JPIC Blog and District Circular JPIC Corner items
- implications of General Chapter *Statements & Decisions*

## Digital Ministry

Our commitment in this area has been encouraged by the *Statements & Decisions* of the Society of Mary's General Chapter, reflections from the Superior-General and the teachings of Pope Leo XIV.

### **District website**

Fifty-four 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.

The JPIC page also carries links to Annual Reports since 2019 as well as to other recommended websites.

JPICC Corner

District Committee for Justice, Peace and Integrity of Creation

### **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. Many of these related to projects promoted by the Marist Family JPICC.



Marist JPIC Blog

### **International JPIC Blog**

The Blog continued to be managed by **Ben McKenna** with items

published every Monday and occasionally supplied by Committee members. The new General Administration has indicated a wish for the Blog to be continued.

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

Technical support continued from Justin Lynch, Brisbane, and Fantel, Penrith, NSW, who have began a transition to a more user-friendly platform, likely to be launched in 2026.

### **Finances**

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

Projects benefiting from our modest support budget were:

- Women's and Girls' Emergency Centre
- Wilai Foundation
- Women's and Girls' Emergency Centre Domestic Violence appeal
- Holy Redeemer Hostel, Thailand (*pending*)