

# Marist Mission Centre (MMC)

Managing both:

The Marist Fathers International Mission (MFIM)

ABN 91 030 510 250

The Australian Marist Centre for Overseas Aid (AMCOA)

ABN 87 382 823 140



MARIST MISSION NEWSLETTER  
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## Hope is Healing

Pope Francis in his Easter Vigil message proclaimed: "Tonight we acquire a fundamental right that can never be taken away from us: the right to hope. As the days go by and fears grow, even the boldest hope can dissipate. Jesus' hope is different. It is a new and living hope ... it is a gift from heaven".

Hope sets hearts free  
Hope enables us to live in the present  
Hope enables us to believe in tomorrow  
Hope is Resurrection.

The motto of the Marist Mission Centre is 'Sustaining Hope'. These two words when linked together shape the vision and mission of MMC and determine the various projects and activities supported by you, our MMC generous donors.

Our mission communities report the significant impact of COVID-19 with the lock down of cities in Asia and countries in Oceania. Schools, churches and shops have been closed with a significant impact on the financial resources of our missions.

Fr. Setefano sm, Marist Provincial in Oceania has informed us that Oceania has experienced the twin impact of both COVID-19 and then Cyclone Harold. Cyclone Harold has damaged homes, crops and livelihoods and raised the level of vulnerability for people as they took shelter in cyclone safe buildings.

MMC is looking for ways to support all our missions that are experiencing the on-going impact of COVID-19 and more recently the impact of Cyclone Harold. At our remote mission in Big Bay, Vanuatu, there has been significant damage to buildings and communications systems.

In these challenging times, we are most grateful for your heartfelt and generous support.

The AMCOA Audit Report 2019 is available on the MMC website and a full copy of the AMCOA Annual Report is available from our MMC office. As always MMC welcomes your feed-back and comments.

With my thanks and blessings.



Easter Joy in Isolation



Fr Paul Sullivan sm  
MMC Executive Officer



To Donate visit MMC Website:

[www.maristmissions.com](http://www.maristmissions.com)

# EDUCATION - SETS HEARTS FREE

## Thailand : Ranong

Our Marist Asia Foundation (MAF) is for refugees from Burma who come to Ranong to escape poverty, exploitation and war.

In Ranong there is high rate of HIV AIDS due to poverty, trafficking, desperation and lack of education.

MAF responds to the needs of those who are sick with HIV AIDS and those who are caring for them.

Our HIV AIDS Health Project supports 100 patients and 400 family members and provides assistance by: Patient Home visits, Community Based Health Programs and importantly Emotional and Social Support.



Home Health Visits



Students at work

MAF provides secondary education for 100 students as well as On-Line courses with the Australian Catholic University. Results indicate that education is highly valued by refugees: there is a 97% attendance and 90% of students score above average marks for our secondary students.

Education is a key to a future with hope.

Some students are now training to be teachers and recently Graduated with a Certificate in Teaching and Learning.

These young students are fluent in three languages — Burmese, Thai and English.



Happy Graduates



# EDUCATION — A PASSPORT TO A FUTURE

## Philippines: Balay Pasilungan

Our Balay Pasilungan program is for Street Boys who have been abandoned by their families due to poverty, family violence, alcohol problems or mental health issues.

The program offers a safe place for the boys to live, as well as education and skills for healthy living.

Fr John Guo and staff have a well-developed program with clear goals and strategies.



Staff on the front line during COVID-19

How to cope during quarantine?

With social isolation, and lockdown in Davao City, the boys are discovering their gardening skills to relax, enjoy nature and reconnect with mother earth.

Life can be a challenge for a group of young boys during COVID-19. They are learning how to be still and listen, to be quiet and to reflect and to take care of themselves and each other, a community of 'little brothers'.



A time to relax



Students learning safe practices

# RESTORATION AFTER CYCLONE HAROLD

## Tonga: Apifo'ou College

AMCOA is funding the building of a new Science block at the College and Cyclone Harold interrupted their plans when it hit the Island of Tonga.

Fortunately the damage was mainly to the roof of buildings and with the effort of the school community they were able to restore the buildings.

Education breaks the cycle of poverty and restores hope to the whole community.



MMC - Marist International Mission Projects 2019 Generous hearts supporting projects		
Bangladesh	\$ 33,080	Educational Assistance
Bougainville	\$ 30,080	Community Education and Transport
Cambodia	\$ 65,000	Marist Solidarity - Health and Education
Cameroon	\$ 29,415	Educational Assistance
Fiji	\$ 11,933	Community Education
Italy	\$ 51,073	SMSM Sisters International Renewal
Jamaica	\$ 7,407	Community Education
Myanmar	\$ 25,522	Educational Assistance
Oceania	\$ 423,961	Seminary Support and Educational Assistance
Peru	\$ 5,586	Community Education
Philippines	\$ 68,152	Balay Pasilungan and Balay Banaag programs
Senegal	\$ 25,000	Educational Assistance
Solomon Islands	\$ 150,384	Community Education and Support
Tanzania	\$ 9,500	Educational Assistance
Thailand	\$ 133,340	Marist Asia Foundation & Sarnelli House - Health and Education
Tonga	\$ 20,000	Educational Assistance
Vanuatu	\$ 38,070	Educational Assistance
<b>Total Project Funding</b>	<b>\$ 1,127,503</b>	
<b>Funding by:</b>		
Australian Marist Centre for Overseas Aid (AMCOA)		\$ 498,105
Marist Fathers Overseas Mission (MFIM)		\$ 629,398



Donations over \$2.00  
to AMCOA  
are tax deductible

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