

Already
but not
yet!

Life is a process of
becoming

Already but not yet!

This expression captures many moments in our life doesn't it? 'Already but not yet!' We find ourselves in this space for different reasons. The adolescent reaching for adulthood. The Year 12 student who has graduated but is yet to complete exams. When you are just over half way into a road trip. Easter Saturday. A pregnant woman. The season of Advent. All of them 'already but not yet!' experiences. Common to them all is anticipation, waiting, hope and the spirit of journey. Also common to them can be uncertainty, fear and doubt.

In his recent book 'This Time of The Church', Melbourne theologian Fr Frank O'Loughlin refers to the 'already but not yet' nature of the Church:

'Christianity is of its nature incomplete, it is in the process of coming

into being. This incompleteness has been expressed theologically in the phrase 'Already but not yet!' The plan of God has been achieved in Christ but not yet! There is an essential tension in Christianity between now and the future.'

He goes on to describe that the tension that comes with the 'now' of Church, is only resolved through a conversion. He uses the term 'metanoia', a Greek word that breaks down to literally mean going beyond the way we see and do things now.

O'Loughlin further explores this theme in his book, calling our age of Christianity a time of transition, saying:

'By calling our age an 'age of transition', we are already beginning to interpret it. We are not calling it an age of decline or of increase but rather of transition. The value of the word transition is that it au-

tomatically raises our sights to look for something to come.'

Both of these descriptions and images are highly

relevant and helpful at this moment of the Marist story in Australia. We find ourselves in transition - a microcosm of the age of transition that the whole of the Church finds itself in. Indeed, it is not helpful to talk about it as a 'decline' or 'increase', but rather to set our sights together on something to come, to be-come, to be born. All of us, in the various ways we are connected to and contribute to Marist life, are being invited to bring this newness into being - new ways to serve the vulnerable young people in our midst, of building



Discerning a name for the Marist Association

We are consulting the Australian Marist Community about their preferred name for the Marist Association. Six names are being put forward and we would like you to indicate your preferred three in order of your preference. The six options were developed through a process as part of the AMC Forum held this August. This consultation is part of a larger process and the final decision will be made by the Province Mission Council. The name we choose here in Australia will be the name for the Association in the Province of Australia. Similar work around Associations is happening in different parts of the Institute and so our choice may or may not be the name the Institute might use if the Association is international.

If you would like more information before making up your mind click on the link below:

[What is the Marist Association and Why is it necessary?](#)

The choices are:

- Association of Marists of St Marcellin
- Association of Champagnat Marists
- Marist Association of St Marcellin Champagnat
- Marist Companions of St Marcellin Champagnat
- Marist Community of St Marcellin Champagnat
- LaValla Marists of St Marcellin Champagnat

the Marial face of Church, for being sowers of hope in our place. New ways to make Jesus known and loved!

As we get closer to the reality of a Marist Association, a space that will call on a new relationship between Brothers and other people whose heart is captured by the 'Marist way', we find ourselves in another 'already but not yet!' moment. 'Already' in the sense that people have long committed to shared responsibility with the Brothers for carriage of the Marist charism and spirituality. 'Not yet' in the sense that this shared responsibility has been largely informal and has been mostly expressed through leadership roles and positions of responsibility in schools and other ministries.

Being a time of transition for Marists, our sights are raised to look for something to come. It will require us to go beyond the way we see things now. The new space of the Marist Association will allow

our respective Marist vocations to converge, not in sameness but in similarity. It will validate a formal place in the Church for all who seek to live out of a Marist spirituality. It will signal and formalize a new relationship at the level of 'being' together to complement the existing relationship at the level of 'doing' together. As the Pastoral Team and other Province personnel have listened to individuals and communities during the year, there are healthy doses of uncertainty, fear and doubt about this new relationship: What will it look like? What is it asking of me? More overwhelming though is the sense of anticipation, hope and spirit of seizing the moment: What an exciting moment! How do I get involved? We live in the tension between now and the future. Already, but not yet!



This is an image of the website where you can submit your choice for the name of the Marist Association. Information on the Association and why it is necessary are on the following page.

To submit your choice go to [this site](#)

Happening in the Marist World ...

“If you want to go far, go with others”

Archive

Workshop on laity - brothers

25/11/2013: Kenya



In a recent Workshop promoted by the Secretariat of the Laity in mid-October in Nairobi, we were reminded of the African saying: “If you want to go fast, travel alone. If you want to go far, go with others”. Laity and brothers from all the Administrative Units of the African continent had the beautiful experience of seeking to look far ahead to the horizon of African life in Africa and Madagascar, and from this arose a powerful desire to journey together to become organized and promote a greater union between brothers and laity and between the provinces.

[\[read more\]](#)



Marist Students in Ghana ...



the Marist Association

What is the Marist Association?

The Marist Association is a body of people who embrace, and are a living witness to, the Marist expression of Christian life. It is a bringing together of people who commit to the carriage of Marist life and mission into the future. In coming years, it will become a formal entity in the Catholic Church, responsible for the leadership, governance and animation of all Marist ministries. That is, a Council will be elected from all members of the Association, to be the face and function of the Public Juridic Person (PJP). The Marist Association will begin receiving the first members in 2014.

Why is it necessary?

To sustain the gift of Marist mission and life in the Church. The vitality and viability of Marist ministries in Australia relies on the establishment of a Marist Association. Three distinct factors combine for the Marist Association to be relevant at this moment. First, it is the natural progression of many years of partnership and collaboration in mission and reflects the level of coresponsibility the Marist community feels led to by the Spirit. Second, there are people other than Marist Brothers for whom being Marist is a central part of his or her Christian vocation. The Marist Association will provide a place for acknowledging and deepening this vocational element to their lives. Third, there is a diminishing number of Marist Brothers to cover the demands of the many Marist ministries across the country. The Marist Association, through meeting all the requirements of a Public Juridic Person (of Pontifical right), will be the Church partner for Marist ministries into the future.



CANBERRA MARISTS *Doing the ordinary, in an extraordinary way*

CANBERRA MARISTS joined together last Thursday night to welcome Gail Coates and Joe McCarthy from the Australian Marist Community Pastoral Team. Gail and Joe had spent the day interviewing members of CANBERRA MARISTS to get a sense of what is happening in our local Marist community and to offer us some insights into larger National and International movements in the Marist world. The gathering was enjoyed by those who attended and gave them an appreciation of the upcoming International Mission Assembly in Nairobi 2014. The evening included a study and discussion of the Mission Assembly documents at the personal and community levels. There will be further gatherings and discussions in the lead up to the Mission Assembly in May 2014 and we look forward to welcoming new members to CANBERRA MARIST.



For more information about the Mission Assembly [click here](#)
For more information on CANBERRA MARISTS visit the [College website](#)



One of the stand out reflections from the evening coming from discussions, was how God helps transform the ordinary, everyday things into the extraordinary. We don't need to necessarily be seeking out the biggest and best projects as CANBERRA MARISTS, instead we should look to do the simple things really well.

MAKE THIS CHRISTMAS
a Season of Solidarity

AUSTRALIAN Marist SOLIDARITY

Support up to 5 key projects

- 1 Fiji
- 2 Pakistan
- 3 Cambodia
- 4 Bougainville
- 5 Timor-Leste

www.australianmaristsolidarity.net.au PO Box 273, Ashgrove West QLD 4060

Solidarity Christmas Jazz in North Fitzroy Community Garden

The community at North Fitzroy hosted the launch of the Marist Solidarity Christmas appeal in Melbourne Sunday night in their garden. The clouds pulled back at 3pm without putting the Marial statue out on the lawn for good Melbourne weather and over 120 people were guests. A jazz band entertained people as various parts of the Australian Marist Community, funding partner groups of the province solidarity offices and donors gathered. Al Sherry presented the challenge of imagination and solidarity as we prepare for the feast of Christmas and its story with its heavy load of rich appeals to the imagination. Al also reported on a sample of projects completed during 2014 in Cambodia, Timor Leste and the Solomon Islands and gave an overview of the five projects in the newly designed Christmas Appeal pack being rolled out nationally for the first time in the province. A sample pack will be sent to all communities not able to attend the launches. Contact msol@marists.org.au for an advance copy or extra copies.

THE INAUGURAL SYDNEY MARIST SOLIDARITY CHRISTMAS GATHERING

BRISBANE
MONDAY
DECEMBER 2
2013
MARIST CENTRE BRISBANE,
142 FRASERS ROAD, ASHGROVE
6 PM TO 730 PM

SYDNEY
Wednesday
DECEMBER 4
2013
LAVALLA FOYER,
Marist College, North Shore
5:30 PM TO 7 PM
Contact: catherine.hannon@marists.org.au

AMS LTD
AUSTRALIAN MARIST SOLIDARITY LIMITED
MAPS
MARIST ASIA PACIFIC SOLIDARITY
MVA
MARIST VOLUNTEERS AUSTRALIA

Sacred Heart Senior hosts Australian Marist Solidarity at Paringa Hall, Adelaide

The launch of the Australian Marist Solidarity Christmas Projects Appeal was held in Adelaide on Monday evening this week. All the brothers' communities were well represented and they joined over seventy guests to a twilight drinks and finger food occasion provided by Sacred Heart College Senior School caterers. Steve Byrne, new headmaster of the college, hosted the evening and affirmed the efforts of the MSol team and their donors in Brisbane to change young people's lives in Asia and the Pacific through the 100 projects now active in that office. A group of older alumni have a campaign underway for the first Marist School in Timor Leste and have most of their first target met. It was a great chance to thank them and others like our funding partners at MSA schools, Cardijn College founded by the late Br Wal Smith and Concordia Lutheran College. One standout feature was the number of Young Marists in their early twenties present. MSol Team, Brisbane.