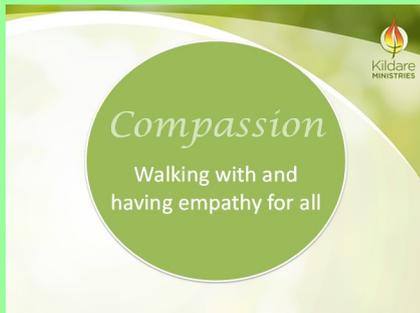


Dear Kildare Ministries Community



A few days ago I saw the inspiring film *The Baulkham Hills African Ladies Troupe*. This film follows the creation of a theatre production of the same name,

developed with a cast of women who came as refugees to Australia. It is a celebration of the remarkable spirits of Yarrie, Aminata, Yordy and Rosemary, women from war torn countries who tell their experiences of sexual violence, kidnap and fear. The emphasis is on the experience of the women, with the implication that storytelling has a therapeutic value – that testifying to trauma is a step towards leaving it behind.



While these four women relive their individual experiences many elements of their stories will resonate

with a number of refugees who have escaped violence and conflict to find a safer home. Some gritty and graphic archival footage of violent civil war gives us insights into the life that these women have left behind. Experiences of tragedy, pain, humour, poignancy, emotional struggle and joy are peppered throughout this inspiring film.

**Prayer:**

**A Missioning**

A man called Jesus walked in our world,  
Sharing life, sharing vision,  
Vision of a world made whole in God's light,  
Those who heard with their hearts marvelled.  
He sent them to wash in living water  
so that they might begin to see.  
Seeing, they could not contain their gladness.  
Like fire in the stubble they raced to earth's ends,  
Bearing the lightsome news of God-with-us,  
Calling everyone to live in the Sun.

The One called Jesus still works in our world  
Through His Spirit's light in men and women.  
Some are sent to carry it afar,  
Some hold it on high, a beacon for justice,  
Some tend it on quiet hearths for children,  
Fan its gleam in questing minds,  
Or shade it gently for suffering eyes.  
But it is all one light, living light,  
Each for other bearing, each in other nurturing,  
Till all creation is made whole in light.  
Jesus, Lord and Christ, summons us today  
To leave our narrow darkness for His Light.



He sends us to wash in the pool of life.  
Let us go that we may see,  
And seeing, worship..

*Raphael Consedine pbvm  
Songs of the Journey*

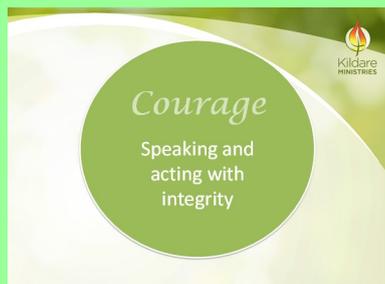


Social Justice Students at St Joseph's in silent protest against children in detention

There is also a quiet, but strong, message about Australia's responsibilities when it comes to refugees. Those associated with the film are hoping schools will show it to senior students. I can highly recommend it.

As I watched the film my thoughts returned to the recent General Meeting of Kildare Ministries Community Work, **Wellsprings for Women** in Dandenong. I imagine that many women who find a place of community and warmth at Wellsprings have endured similar experiences to the women in the film. Veronica Hassett, Manager of Wellsprings spoke of the Wellsprings aim for 2016 – *“to ensure that we continue to provide a safe place for women who find themselves isolated, and connect them to the community.”*

Veronica related a story about joining some of the women enjoying a laugh in the kitchen. They were from different countries talking about medicines, speaking English with different accents and with varying abilities but fully understanding one other. One of the women said, *“This is my medicine – ‘Wellsprings the water of healing’ laughter, peacefulness, people very friendly, and nice to hear English language being spoken with different accents and that gives me courage... We are left with an appreciation of the significance of Wellsprings in the lives of the women. Reflecting over the year we have seen ample expressions of the Kildare Ministries value of **Compassion** - ‘walking with and having empathy for all’ in our ministries.*



In 2017 **Courage** is the Value that we will be emphasising. We join our words to those of Bishop

Vincent Long in saying: *Where Australia is in terms of its treatment of asylum seekers should galvanise us into action... We cannot be salt and leaven if we allow our Christian conscience to be desensitized by the inequality, injustice and inhumanity in our society and in the world...May our endeavour to replace the culture of fear and indifference with that of encounter and acceptance be brought to fulfilment in accordance with God's vision of the fullness of life for all humanity. (102<sup>nd</sup> World Day of Migrants and Refugees, 2016)*

**Maree Marsh csb**

**Co-Chair Kildare Ministries**

## FOR YOUR INFORMATION:

### Association of Ministerial PJPs Limited Historic Development for Lay Ecclesial Leadership

The establishment of the Association of Ministerial PJPs Ltd in May this year marked an historic development for the Australian Church in relation to lay ecclesial leadership. The Association is the peak body for the new Australian public juridic persons (PJPs). In rather the same way that civil law provides the means to form a civil corporation, Canon Law enables a relevant Church entity to be recognised as a public juridic person.

While the model varies, such religious-lay partnerships have in common the continuation of Church ministries and are authorised for this apostolate through their establishment as new entities under the Code of Canon Law. These ministerial PJPs provide for long-term stable governance of the ministries and continuance of their Catholic identity with the responsible trustees or directors (canonical stewards) of the PJP generally having both canonical and civil responsibility for the ministries entrusted to them.

For three years the Australian ministerial PJPs worked together to put in place an ‘umbrella’ body to support their canonical stewards in the ministry of governance (comparable to Catholic Religious Australia for the religious institutes). Such a development was also important as a means for the PJPs to interact formally with one another and, in a corporate sense, with the Bishops and Church agencies.

The founding PJP members of Association of Ministerial PJPs are Calvary Ministries, Catholic Healthcare, Dominican Education Australia, Edmund Rice Education Australia, Good Samaritan Education, Kildare Ministries, Mary Aikenhead Ministries, Mercy Partners and St John of God Australia Ltd. MercyCare in Western Australia and other entities which are currently petitioning to become ministerial PJPs intend to become members, when appropriate. Together these PJPs make a major contribution to Catholic education, health, aged care and social services across Australia.

Significantly, the Association is the first such ‘umbrella’ body of ministerial PJPs internationally. It is seeking to foster the ministry of canonical governance through a relational, collegial and collaborative approach and, recognising the diversity of the ministerial PJPs, to be inclusive in supporting them and their canonical stewards to flourish individually and together as a new ecclesial sector.



# Marian College— Ararat

2016 has certainly been an interesting year of excitement, busyness, achievements and challenges for all of us at Marian College Ararat. Students and staff have navigated the new Responsible Thinking - Behaviour Management Process introduced in February, the 'Culture of Learning' statements, and an increased focus on whole-school approaches to Student Wellbeing and Learning and Teaching. We have finalised the tender process for the new \$1.6 million Marian College Learning Centre which will commence in November and we have refurbished the Applied Learning Centre for our Automotive, Engineering, Community Service, Building and Systems students. We are very proud of the way each student has responded positively to these challenges and changes. We know that for some students, who need that extra support and encouragement, that theirs is often a difficult path forward that takes courage and resilience.



At the beginning of the year we asked students and staff to 'Take the Stairs', and to understand that any journey forward is fraught with difficulties when we are tempted to stop or turn back before reaching the summit. For students, it is about reaching their full potential and not accepting less than what can be. We have worked hard as a staff and leadership team always with students at

the heart of all we do. They represent for us a future of promise, responsibility, compassion for others, respect and possibilities.



Science Incursion at Marian College

Even at this early stage, we are seeing clear indications of improvement within the College. Most notably, we are seeing an increase in student engagement across the College, improved levels of behaviour, more collaboration and focus on self-reflection and self improvement from teachers in Formative Engagement teams, and more students accessing extra tutorial sessions and the assistance of their teachers both within and outside the classroom. This is exciting for our College's future. But, it is a journey we are committed to for the sake of all students.



Of particular note in 2016, is the strength of our Student Leadership teams Brilliantly lead by Will Taylor and Jordan Fry, this team is perhaps one of the most cohesive, friendly and supportive I have had the pleasure to work with over many year. I congratulate each of them and wish them every success as they move beyond Marian College.

As I look back over the last twelve months, I cannot help but feel a part of something far greater. I am reminded often of our Brigidine tradition in the many moments of compassion, care and support expressed by our students, staff and parents towards others. This is



# Marian College— Ararat

often a great learning and sharing of knowledge between communities and groups.



Our students have had some wonderful experiences as they journeyed to the Aboriginal community of Ti Tree in central Australia, participated in the RUOK day, House Days, Fred Hyde and Marian Has Talent days. There is so much we have learned from each other as we share and celebrate our differences and the things that unite us.



I applaud the dedication, skills and talents from our athletes at the many sporting events including State Titles, the talents and courage of our actors, singers and musicians at the Production of Copacabana, Wakakirri Art Shows and Musical productions and presentations. We know that communities grow when individuals give something back and work together towards a common vision. Our students have certainly made Marian College a better place for their involvement.

I thank especially our Stewardship Council members chaired by Mrs Peta May. I thank all members for their wisdom and dedication to our College.

As a number of members step down at the end of this year as their children move on at the end of Year 12, I wish them well and thank them sincerely on behalf of the College. May the spirit and passion of St Brigid, Daniel Delany and Nano Nagle inspire and go with you.

*Mrs Carmel Barker*  
Principal

## Kildare Ministries Trustees Visit to Marian College Ararat 11-12 October

Marian College hosted the Trustees from Kildare Ministries. It was an opportunity for the school to showcase the many great things happening in and around the College and for this team to meet many of our very impressive young men and women who always do us proud.





# St Joseph's College— Echuca

## Timor Leste Immersion 2016

This year, twenty six intrepid travellers set off for Timor Leste for what proved to be the trip of a life time. Of the two Year 11 students taking part in the Immersion several had never been out of Australia before and for some this was their first time on a plane! After what seemed like a never ending journey (and many hours sleeping on the floor of Darwin airport) we arrived to a hot and humid morning in Dili. Extra supplies we purchased before a visit to the museum that reflects on the Commission of Truth, which is based inside an old military prison and tells the stories of the Timorese people at the hands of the Indonesians. A very confronting and challenging experience when imagining the atrocities that took place there. Once we arrived in Aileu the students divided into their two groups, with Group 1 staying in Aileu and Group 2 heading further up the mountains to Namolesso in Lequidoe which was to be their base for the next five days.

Whilst in Aileu students were involved in visits to St Peter and Paul's Catholic Secondary School, the health clinic, Ischmak, Foscaca Youth Group, the swing bridge, planting vegetable seedlings in the hills above Aileu, a history tour of key memorials in Aileu and plenty of free time to practise Tetun and play some soccer. Students in Lequidoe visited a range of schools, both primary and secondary, taught English and participated in a game of soccer and volleyball as well as some traditional dancing.

Half way through the stay, the two groups swamped over, before meeting back up in Aileu later in the week where the students participated in a Retreat Day which allowed them to reflect on the experiences they had undertaken, the lessons learnt and they were able to make strong links back to the Catholic Social Teachings. On the Saturday morning we went back to St Peter and Paul's school for an official ceremony and we were able to witness where past donations to the school had been spent. A night of celebration and dancing took place on the Saturday evening as a thank you and farewell from the community in Aileu. Back in Dili for two days the group visited Dare, Santa Cruz cemetery, Christo Rei and the beach.

The highlight of the immersion was the ability of the students to 'step out of the boat' to embrace the offerings and blessings each day brought.





# St Joseph's College— Echuca

## VCAL Brewarrina Immersion 2016

Reflection by Kyle Armstrong—VCAL student



Monday 1st August, the VCAL students embarked on a journey to Brewarrina, a town in North West New South Wales on the banks of the Barwon River, to incorporate a visit to St Patrick's Primary School. The trip was filled with jokes, laughter, sleep and banter. We eventually arrived at Brewarrina after a thirteen hour drive where we promptly set up our tents at the camp site.

The next day we meet the students at St Patrick's Primary School. They welcomed us with prayer and their school song. We began the day by making milo and cooking toast for them. After breakfast, some of us commenced implementing the sandpit shade cover project which we had planned and organized in the weeks prior to attending the Immersion. Others in our group worked with the students in classes or helped to prepare our food.



After school we visited the Brewarrina Cultural Centre and saw the oldest existing man-made structure in the world; the ancient fish traps, which are thought to be 50,000 years old. Bradley our guide, taught us about the eight tribes who would meet at the fish traps for ceremony, celebration and trade. Unfortunately, the Barwon River was up too high and we were unable to see the fish traps clearly this visit.

Upon completion of the structure of the sandpit cover, we began our Physical Education (PE) lessons and Art lessons



that we had researched and planned for the school kids. This year, our PE focus was basketball, as the Echuca Basketball Association had donated basketballs to the school and this is an area of expertise for some of our VCAL students. It was a lot of fun and the kids enjoyed it thoroughly, as we did. The sight and sound of forty basketballs let loose amongst the kids was a sight to be seen.

We were also honoured to have the St Patrick's Primary School Aboriginal Education Workers, Ian and Morris, join us for dinner around the camp fire one night. They shared many insights into their lives in Brewarrina including the importance of the land and their culture and the importance of coming together as one.

On our final day, before saying our final goodbyes to the students and staff of St Patrick's we joined in the friendship liturgy presented by the kinder and grade one students. We shared morning tea with all the students, their families and teachers, which we had cooked.

The camp was a great and enjoyable undertaking. Even though at times it was cold and wet, the immersion trip was an eye opening experience for everyone – one where VCAL students learnt that you can do a lot with just a little.

Thanks to the teachers Mrs Hutton, Mrs Tonini, Mr Jackson and Mr Prime for putting up with us, driving us and supporting us.

**Kyle Armstrong**  
St Joseph's VCAL Student

## Kildare Ministries Welcomes Mary O'Connor New Principal of Star of the Sea College



Mary O'Connor was born, raised and educated in Shepparton, the eldest of six daughters. She studied Science at the University of Melbourne, majoring in Pathology and completing her Honours year in the study of breast cancer. A growing passion about providing quality science education for girls led Mary to undertake a Diploma of Education. Mary's own love of learning subsequently led her to undertake several post graduate courses including a Diploma in Theology and a Master of Education.

Mary has worked in Catholic education in Melbourne for over 20 years and has held numerous leadership positions along the way. She is currently Deputy Principal at Loreto Mandeville Hall, Toorak.

Mary has four children - Daniel (35), Nicholas (29), Rebecca (25), and Katherine who passed away when she was in Year 12 - and one grand-daughter, Ivy, aged eight months. She has been an active member of St Dominic's Parish, East Camberwell for over thirty years.

In Mary's words...

*I believe that it is important, at all times, when leading a Catholic school to give witness to the Gospel, and to make decisions which align with the values of the school.*

*My goals relating to the School Community and the wider community revolve around identifying the prevailing culture and building good relationships with these communities in an intentional way with the various stakeholders.*

*The vision and mission of Nano Nagle and the Presentations Sisters, under the mantle of Kildare Ministries, will continue to guide decision-making and action in and across every facet of life at Star.*

*I believe that everything in education comes back to the fundamentals of good teaching and learning. Happy students learn, so the interaction between Pastoral Care and Teaching and Learning is implicit.*

The College Board is delighted that Mary has accepted the position of Principal of Star of the Sea College commencing 2017. We look forward to working with her to lead the College into its next exciting chapter.

**Ms Kathleen Donnellon**  
Chair of the Board

## Official Guests attending Kildare College 50th Anniversary Dinner



Back row left to right:

**Rob Daniels** (former Principal)

**John Neate** (former Principal)

Front Row left to right:

**Margaret Rouggos** (current Principal)

**Gail Donovan** (former staff member, former Stewardship Council Member, creative artist responsible for artistic works in the Brigidine tradition)

**Kathy McEvoy** (Trustee of Kildare Ministries and former Principal of Kildare)

**Tina Neate** (current Deputy Principal of Kildare)

## Inaugural Chairs of the Board Meeting Friday October 7th

On Friday 7<sup>th</sup> October, the Chairs of the Kildare Ministries Boards came together for an inaugural network meeting. Although each had met through other gatherings of the Kildare Ministries community, this was the first opportunity this group had to come together and focus on the support they can offer one another as a collegial network sharing similar governance roles. A fruitful and productive conversation was held, discussing their various needs and the challenges of their roles and hopes for the ongoing development and building of Kildare Ministries. As a group they carefully considered the role a Ministry Board has to play in furthering the mission of Kildare Ministries, with its dual civil and canonical responsibilities. Commitments were made to meet bi-annually to further strengthen these important relationships.



Photo L-R **Kathleen Donnellon** (Star of the Sea College), **Robyn Killoran** (Brigidine College Indooroopilly), **Michael Doyle** (Kildare Education Ministries), **Kitty Guerin** (Brigidine College St Ives), **Janet Cribbes** (Wellsprings for Women), **Rod Harding** (Presentation Family Centre)



**Kildare  
EDUCATION  
MINISTRIES**  
In the Brigidine Tradition



**Presentation  
Family Centre**



### Kildare Ministries Calendar of Events For November 2016

Date	Event
2 Nov	Faith Leaders Network Meeting Complispace Meeting
3 Nov	KM Principals and Managers Meeting End of Year Dinner
17 Nov	KEM Board Meeting
24—25 Nov	KM Trustees Meeting
2 Dec	KM Members' Council Meeting

The final edition of the Kildare Ministries Newsletter will be out on Friday December 2.