

Kildare Ministries Newsletter

September 2013

Since the July newsletter there has been considerable progress regarding the establishment of **Kildare Ministries** as the overall governance entity for the nine Brigidine secondary colleges across Australia.

Two major items of news include the appointment of the Resource Team for Kildare Ministries and the design of the new logo for Kildare Ministries.

The Leadership Teams of the Brigidine Sisters have announced the appointment of **Ms Erica Pegorer and Ms Marguerite Buckley** to the Resource Team. Erica has been appointed as Executive Officer and Marguerite as the Development Officer. We have every confidence that Erica and Marguerite will steward the vision and values they are inheriting and help build the ministries in responsive and creative ways to meet the demands of these new times.

Our thanks to the interviewing panel of Brigid Arthur, Rosemary Copeland, Michael Doyle (Chairperson), Chanel Sugden and Noelene Veness for their thoughtful and considered work in recommending the Resource Team to the Brigidine Leadership Teams.



Erica writes: I have been involved in Catholic education since 1984 having worked in Traralgon and Geelong and holding a number of leadership positions over the years. Since 2005 I have been Principal of Lavalla Catholic College, a large Catholic co-educational school in the Latrobe Valley in Victoria, which is currently governed by the Marist Brothers and is still mindful of its Brigidine and Presentation Sisters history. Our current Kildare Campus was from 1950s-1989 Kildare College in Traralgon, and as a community today walking on traditional Brigidine ground we are drawn to the oak tree that holds pride of place in the student quadrangle. The Brigidine motto, *Fortiter et Suaviter* is not unlike Lavalla's motto, *Strong Minds and Compassionate Hearts*. I have thoroughly enjoyed my role as Principal both for the challenges it presents and for the great influence one has over the educational experience of so many young people.

Over this last decade I have been privileged to be highly involved with the lay leadership of the Marist Brothers at state, national and international level. I have been afforded some amazing experiences with very talented people who have taught me much about leadership, formation, commitment to evangelisation, charity and mission.

The imagining of Kildare Ministries is very exciting, offering challenges and enormous opportunities to ensure that the Brigidine tradition will remain viable and effective, relevant for the 21st century and responsive to the signs of the times. I can only be excited by the prospect of being a member of a team that stewards the Brigidine vision and mission into the future.

I take this opportunity to express my appreciation for the wonderfully warm messages of welcome I have received since my appointment was announced to the Brigidine community. I look forward to meeting you all.

Marguerite writes: I have taught for over 30 years in Catholic secondary schools in Melbourne: in Brigidine, Josephite, Presentation and Mercy Congregation schools. For the past four years I have worked for the Brigidine Secondary Schools' Council where I enjoy the variety and scope of the work, supporting Brigidine schools in Victoria and South Australia.

I started by my teaching life at Marian College, stayed for four years and returned there ten years later. In the early 1980s, I benefitted from the work of Brigidine Sisters, in



particular Brigid Arthur and Catherine Kelly, who worked closely with the large group of beginning teachers employed at Marian at that time. This gave me a wonderful introduction into the world of *Brigidine*. I have cherished the formation I received during seventeen years at Marian College and feel very 'at home' with the work and aspirations of Brigid of Kildare and Daniel Delany. It was a personal highlight to visit Tullow and Kildare last year to meet Irish Brigidines and to visit places of Brigidine significance. Another area of significance in my work for Brigidine education is my involvement in the *Justice and Democracy Forum* - since its inception. This work has developed in me a deep sense of what it means to bring the ideals of Christian justice to life through the educating for justice program in Brigidine schools.

I was born in Melbourne and am married with two children. I am actively involved in my parish and feel fortunate to work as part of a team trying to enhance the life of the liturgy and to promote lay involvement. I have always had a keen interest in developing my knowledge and capacity. I have enjoyed study, completing a Graduate Diploma in Religious Education and an MA in Theological Studies. I look forward to working for Kildare Ministries. I see real potential in its vision and a rich opportunity within the Australian church to engage lay people fully in ministry.

Our thanks to the Logo Committee for their creative work: Chanel Sugden, Reba Woodwiss, Helen Toohey, Nola Vanderfeen, Frances Duyndam and Helen Carboon.

Kildare Ministries Logo

The Committee chose the image of a flame from which to create a vibrant design. This image was then sent Clare Locke from Clocke Design to digitalise the image.

In preparing the logo Clare has written:

"The artwork provided by Reba Woodwiss was the basis for the digitalized version of the logo. The aim was to retain the elements (flame, cross, circle) and composition, but refine the line art, more clearly distinguish the cross from the flame, and design the typography to suit. The words 'Kildare Ministries' needed to belong, to complement and reinforce the image, communicating clearly without drowning it out.

The circle encompasses and embraces the flame and cross, while remaining open. The clean, tapered line gives a sense of movement and grace.

The flame, the light of God within us all, burns bright for all to see—it is the dominant, lively element with the logo. The sweeping energy of the two parts of the flame is echoed slightly in the curved vertical and horizontal lines of the cross. The cross, the sign of Christ who died for all and loved all, is nestled within and emerging from the flame. It leans up and to the right in a forward motion, future focused.

There is a triune quality to the logo—God (represented by the circle), the Holy Spirit (the tongues of fire) and Christ (the cross). Together as one, but three persons.

The composition is balanced and graceful, communicating the energy and stability of the new 'Kildare Ministries'."

Clare Locke. www.clocke.com.au

We congratulate Clare on the sensitive and reflective way in which she has prepared the logo for Kildare Ministries.

While an initial scriptural inspiration, *Fan into flame the gift of God*, (2 Tim 1:6) has been suggested, this may change.

In the early days of Kildare Ministries and as part of the formation process, Trustees, with other stakeholders, will reflect on the story and vision behind Kildare Ministries as well as its vision and mission into the future. They will then choose the image that best captures the spirit of Kildare Ministries as it unfolds into the future.

