

Dear colleagues,

Thank you for your support in 2018 across the Marist Schools Australia network for the projects and programmes of AMS across 23 countries in Asia, the Pacific Islands and Africa. Our breadth of coverage with Marist colleagues in these regions, both lay and Brothers, has expanded because of the commitment of MSA to prioritizing this Marist aid and development agency among all the diverse appeals for help that you receive each year. This is a much valued partnership that changes the lives of young people and their communities in the developing world.

The 2019 campaign “Step into My Shoes” invites all people in our Marist school communities to walk with children on the margins of life. Developing empathy and compassion means the contemporary Christian virtue of solidarity has building blocks in place.

Some of the resources available for the campaign are included in this pack and we hope you would pass them to your staff members responsible for fund raising and educating in solidarity. As this varies in MSA schools, be it the Director of Mission, APRE or a special committee, then I hope you can pass this letter and material to whomever is responsible before the close of term.

Australian Marist Solidarity is an international non-government organisation that has a niche stemming from our Marist origins of being educators. As the short video produced for this year’s campaign shows we believe that education is a prime lever for the alleviation of poverty in a community. Your partnership with AMS then assures us that we can deliver on this focus.

May the year close well and the year ahead be filled with promise for your school community.

Yours in solidarity,

*Brother Allen Sherry*

Br Allen Sherry fms  
CEO, Australian Marist Solidarity