

SOLIDARITY MATTERS



Autumn 2023

ST JOSEPH'S COLLEGE

Mabiri, Bougainville

UPDATES FROM
OUR PROGRAMS
Sharing stories from
Asia and the Pacific

NEWS FROM OUR
SCHOOL SUPPORTERS

Students at St Joseph's College, Mabiri, Bougainville

Who we are

Australian Marist Solidarity (AMS) believes in a world where young people have hope and the opportunity to access education. Our vision is a world that reflects Marists' desire that vulnerable young people are brought towards the centre, from the margins through access to education. Our mission is to empower people by enhancing their human dignity and developing their capacity to transform their lives and communities.

We partner with communities in the Asia-Pacific region to facilitate access to education for young people in need. We support grassroots movements run by local people by supporting them to make a change in their community. Our programs focus on providing access to education for vulnerable young people, building facilities for the future to ensure safe spaces for learning, and investing in resilience and readiness to help young people who need a little extra support to thrive in learning environments. Together, we transform the lives of young people by raising awareness of the power of education and the funds that make it possible. Together, we bring hope.



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Got a story?

We'd love to share it with our supporters! Please send it to us at ams@marists.org.au

Thanks to Conor Ashleigh for all the wonderful images of his that we use throughout each issue.



Enjoy our Autumn 2023 issue! Keep an eye on your emails for future publications.



FROM THE CEO

Dear friends

Welcome to our Autumn edition of Solidarity Matters. Here in Brisbane, we are enjoying the reprieve from the heat of summer. I hope that everyone is well and adjusting to the cooler weather.

As always we have lots of news to share and you'll find updates from our programs in the Philippines, Solomon Islands and Bougainville. We are particularly excited to be able to share updates from in-country visits, with Nigel visiting our programs in the Philippines and Milika visiting our partners in the Solomon Islands.

This year we are excited to showcase St Joseph's College, Mabiri! This will be the focus of our engagement with our Marist schools in 2023, but you'll remember the community well from our 2021 mid-year appeal. I made a visit to St Joseph's in late 2022 and saw the great work that has been undertaken there thanks to your generous support.

There are a few really exciting things happening in 2023 for our AMS community. We recently completed our third Fratelli Tutti program with the Marist Mission and Life Formation team, which has been a wonderful collaboration.

Along with Marists from Australia and across the region we unpacked the themes of the papal encyclical 'Fratelli Tutti: on Fraternity and Social Friendship' with rich discussions from participants from diverse cultures and Marist communities. If you are interested in deepening your connection to and exploration of Marist life, do have a look at the Marist Association of St Marcellin Champagnat.

We are gearing up to launch our new Giving Circle for AMS community members who make a significant annual contribution to AMS and trialling a new fundraising event in partnership with one of our school communities. In July we'll host a small group of Marist school staff to visit some of our partners in Ilmor-Leste



and will return later in the year with a group of young adults in partnership with Marist Youth Ministry.

We are thrilled that immersion programs are starting to re-commence, providing such incredible opportunities for learning and cultural exchange for both Australian and host participants and their broader communities.

I would like to add my thanks to our team members who are moving on to other adventures. Deidre, Nigel, Lexie, Sean and Rachel have all made significant contributions to our work and team. AMS is deeply grateful for your commitment and work. I echo our Board's thanks for your contributions and wish you all the best in your next chapters.

We would also like to extend a warm welcome to our new team members, Milika, Taylor, Lisa, Jodie and Donna who have joined AMS since our last newsletter. You'll see little introductions to them in Solidarity Matters and on our social media accounts. Also, we would like to welcome back Anna, as she returns to the office from maternity leave.

We are blessed with a truly incredible group of people here in our busy little AMS office!

I hope you'll enjoy reading about some of our recent work and progress. Special thanks to everyone who donated to our end of year appeal 2022! We are currently preparing for our 2023 mid-year appeal where we'll be sharing stories from a very special Marist community in India. Stay tuned and we'll be in touch with you again soon to share more.

Bec

Yours in solidarity.

Staff profile



In this issue, we would like to introduce you to Lisa Humphrys, our Administration Officer, who joined AMS in January. She is responsible for ensuring administrative support and coordination across the AMS team. This is a broad role which entails many different facets.

Lisa is involved in a couple of community related missions. Through her church, Lisa supports the education of primary and secondary students in a village in Uganda and is also associated with a city community that provides a drop-in Centre for people without homes here in Brisbane.

In her spare time, Lisa loves spending time with her grandchildren both in Brisbane and Melbourne, working in the garden, crafting, going to coffee shops with her husband, the beach, and catching up with

St Joseph's College Mabiri, Bougainville



We are delighted to showcase our program partner,

St Joseph's College in the community of Mabiri, Bougainville. In October 2022, AMS was fortunate to travel to Mabiri to listen to the residents of St Joseph's and learn more about their lives as teachers and students, as they prepared to welcome their first Year 11 students in 2024.

St Joseph's Mabiri and the Marist Brothers share a long history, with the original college first established in Rigu by the Brothers who had been in Bougainville since 1941.

During the Bougainville conflict (also known as the 'crisis') between 1988 and 1999, it was estimated that there were 10,000-15,000 deaths as a result of the crisis.

At the centre of the conflict was the Panguna mine, operated by Bougainville Copper Limited (BCL) (majority owned by Rio Tinto for 17 years from 1972 until 1989) and declared a 'no go' zone by rebel leader Mr Francis Ona.

While the mine has been identified as a catalyst for the conflict as local communities demanded greater compensation for the establishment of the mine, several related historical factors and pre-existing tensions contributed to the eventual outbreak of violence on the island. The mine is estimated to be worth \$60 billion.

The original St Joseph's school in Rigu was burnt to the ground along with most buildings on the island. While many Brothers chose to remain in Bougainville during the first years of the conflict, the region became increasingly unstable so that they were forced to evacuate to the Solomon Islands through the naval blockade imposed by the Papua New Guinea (PNG) Government.

Steadfast in their mission to support education in Bougainville, the Marist Brothers returned towards the end of the conflict in 1999 and rebuilt St Joseph's College in the village of Mabiri. The new school was purposely developed to educate ex-combatants and other young men of the crisis generation, many of whom over the years of the crisis had their learning brought to a complete halt.

Marist Brothers were at the forefront of peace and reconciliation efforts in the area, pioneered by Brother Pat Howley who facilitated reconciliation through restorative justice practices due to the collapse of the western court system.



Today, St Joseph's College is a legally registered education institute with the Department of Education in PNG, the Division of Education in Bougainville, and the Catholic Education Agency. The school offers kindergarten, elementary and primary school to 264 boys and girls, and lower secondary and vocational education to a further 393 boys and young men. This is a total school enrolment of 657 students, including boarders.

Thanks to the contributions of Australian Marists we've been able to complete a new dormitory and classroom building. Currently, work is underway in three key areas. As there are currently no public water utilities available to residents at the college, hydration stations are currently being installed close to the dormitories and classrooms for easy access.

Staff housing is also on the agenda to attract potential year 11 teachers to relocate to Mabiri. Providing accommodation is a vital incentive for teachers to make the decision to relocate to remote areas. Furthermore, the upgrade of the computer laboratory is underway as it increasingly provides important educational outcomes for secondary students who require computers and the internet to do research and complete assignments. This upgrade also includes ensuring the lab has strong solar power to provide reliability and to reduce costs.



AMS UPDATES

New "Star of the Sea Province"



In late 2022, AMS CEO BEC Bromhead and Board Directors, Michael Sinclair, Br Paul Kane and Br Jeff Barrington, met with the Superior General of the Marist Brothers, Brother Ernesto Sánchez, in Sydney recently. Br Ernesto was in Australia for the inauguration of the new Star of the Sea Province, which saw the Province of Australia, District of Melanesia and District of the Pacific come together into a new Province. AMS is excited to continue working with our Marist partners in this region within the new Province structure.

Team Building

Towards the end of January, AMS had its team-building activity held in Tugun over two days. During this time, team members were able to re-familiarise themselves with AMS's vision and mission, as well as map out organisational goals moving forward into 2023. Among the team members was Brother Tony Leon, who facilitated our opening formation session.



Formation session at AMS and end of year gatherings

Recently, AMS joined with the rest of the Marist Centre Brisbane for a formation session on this year's Australian Marist theme "Created and Called: A Revolution of Love and Tenderness." It was facilitated by Tony Clarke and Br Michael Callinan from the Marist Mission and Life Team. All participants were given the space to contemplate themes such as solidarity, beauty, peace, well-being and what significance these held for them on a personal level.

"There is a unique destiny for each person. Each one of us has something to do here that can be done by no one else. To be born is to be chosen"

- Ronald Rolheiser OMI

At the end of last year, AMS hosted the Marist Solidarity Christmas Gatherings in Melbourne and Brisbane to thank all of our supporters. It was a chance to conclude a rewarding year and share stories with those who we were fortunate enough to have met along the way.



AMS in Germany

In late 2022, CEO Bec Bromhead spent two days in Germany, meeting with funding partners Kindermissionwerk and Missio Munich. For our larger projects, AMS often matches funds raised in Australia with support from funding partner grants and it was wonderful to meet face-to-face for the first time in 3 years to discuss our shared mission and work.



PROGRAM UPDATE: PHILIPPINES

Support for children without a home.

At the end of last year, AMS visited our program partners in the Philippines at Kuya Centre. Our program partners provide support to children who are living on the streets as well as those who are from low-income families.

As part of AMS's strategic objective to encourage

sustainable practices, we wish to safeguard the future of young people through the reliable services that the centre offers and continue providing hope to young children in need.

Financial support to help cover the costs of school tuition alongside livelihood and training provided to parents are ways in which Kuya Centre continues to support family units and help build sustainable futures. Due to Covid restrictions in the Philippines for much of 2022, Kuya

Centre has been limited in the support it could provide. However, in 2023 restrictions have largely been lifted and services have been able to resume normally. AMS aims to continue supporting Kuya Centre annually, to provide much needed education and services to children who are homeless in metro Manila.



About Kuya Centre



The Kuya Centre for Street Children addresses the re-socialisation of street children in areas such as education and values formation. The organisation recognises that thousands of children are living in the streets of Metro Manila, most of whom have broken all bonds with their families. More often than not, these children are survivors of violence and drug abuse and are left to beg, steal or engage in sex work to survive.

Due to the vulnerability of these young people, Kuya Centre has set up a "Short- Term Residential Program" where children are provided with shelter, food, clothing, psychological support, and medical assessments. The team also does outreach activities to build trust with children on the streets and provide them support in counselling, non-formal education etc in their environment, making their services more accessible.

PROGRAM UPDATES

Supporting female children of sex workers

Balay Banaag Residential Centre has been operating in Davao City since 2010, with administration being transferred to the Marist Sisters in 2018. All activities carried out at Balay Banaag aim to safeguard the rights of young girls who are the daughters of women working in the sex industry. The Centre facilitates formal elementary and high school education, provides psychosocial counselling and skills training. It also collaborates with government agencies, schools, and other organisations for resource mobilisation. A “fine art program” has been recently underway where the girls could explore their artistic capabilities.



They were also involved in the raising of love birds which saw each girl get a bird to look after. Since Covid restrictions have been lifted after two years of modular/hybrid learning, the girls are finally back, able to return to their primary school 10 minutes' walk down the road. Currently, the Centre houses 15 girls between the ages of 6-18 years old, all of whom have experienced abuse in their young lives. They are accompanied by a female guardian to take up residency at the Centre, often their mother or grandmother.



Balay Banaag embodies the community spirit, working with locally accredited NGOs, Talikala and LawigBubai. Both are responsible for screening mothers and children who wish to be part of the program. This is done through open dialogue with the parents, the child, local authorities, and Balay Banaag. To help support a smooth transition back to their home lives, parents agree to work with the Centre upon registration, in creating a safe environment. This is done through parenting classrooms, where guardians are equipped with skills that can help them earn a more mainstream/safe income.

AMS wishes to thank the Mercy Works Australia community for their support of this project.



PROGRAM UPDATES

Home & Care Centre for children without homes.

AMS has been working with Balay Pasilungan since 2016, providing support to boys between the ages of 5-15 who live on the streets. The Residential home and drop-in centre provides a safe space for boys to overcome personal challenges and dangers. Currently there are 45 boys living at the Centre and a further 20 boys per week access the day drop-in services. Those that take up residency at the Centre are taught life skills and enjoy activities that build on their social development. Balay Pasilungan provides much-needed services that ensure children face less risk of trafficking and exploitation, a space that supports their well-being and once registered at the Centre, have opportunities to access schooling.

Balay Pasilungan is playing a vital role in advocating for the rights of the child, working in conjunction with other NGO's and local government authorities to reduce and improve the environment of children living on the streets.

AMS thanks our partner Lenity Australia for their support of this vital work.



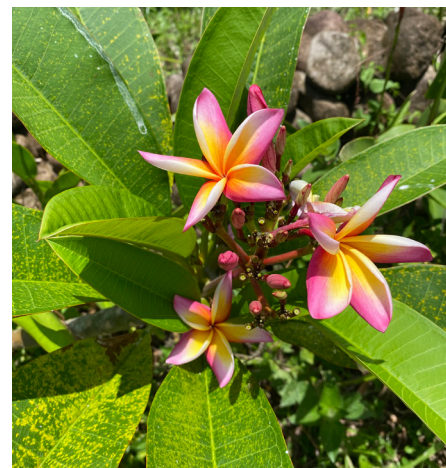
PROGRAM UPDATES: SOLOMON ISLANDS

San Isidro Care Centre, Guadalcanal

In February, AMS visited San Isidro Care Centre in north-west Guadalcanal.

Originally founded by the Marist Brothers in 2007, it is currently run by the Marist Missionary Sisters and is home to roughly 40 students who are living with hearing and speech impairments. AMS has supported the building of a “Lifestyle Kitchen” where students are able to learn general home economics, catering for small business practices, and general hygiene. With only nine females currently enrolled compared to 31 males, the installment of the new kitchen is intended to encourage parents to enrol their daughters to learn life skills and hopefully in turn, give back to their communities.

The reality in the Solomon's for people living with a disability is rather dire. The care and education that would allow them to participate as active members of society are not accessible. Finding alternative paths to generate income and independence is how AMS supports the students of San Isidro, so that they can live out their fullest potential. MAPS is also supporting the construction of a Chapel for San Isidro. Construction is currently underway and is expected to be completed by the end of the year. The Chapel will serve a dual function where, alongside Mass and community gatherings, school celebrations will also be held.



AROUND THE SCHOOLS

Assumption College Kilmore and John Therry Catholic College “Day in the life” Campaign

We are happy to report that over \$124,000 was raised by schools during the “Day in the Life” challenge as part of the Marist Sesquicentenary. All fundraising proceeds went towards supporting vulnerable children to access education opportunities in Timor Leste.

Thank you to Assumption College Kilmore for raising significant funds for our campaign. Students showed solidarity with their peers in Timor-Leste through specially prepared prayers and learning about AMS programs. This outstanding contribution was achieved through dedicated stalls at the Annual Fete (we love hot chips, soft drinks, and chocolate!), regular BBQs, casual clothes days, and a regular Saturday “morning sport coffee van.” Congratulations on this wonderful example of hearing the call from those on the margins, and in solidarity to contribute to a more just and merciful world.

Over at John Therry Catholic College in Campelltown, year 9 students opted for a cooking challenge where they made Timor-Leste treats to sell during recess. It is important to AMS that students learn about the countries and regions for which they are fundraising. By stepping out of their shoes and learning about cooking traditions from Timor-Leste is exactly the type of cultural exchange AMS encourages when interacting with Marist schools. They also made a Timorese curry for school staff to purchase for lunch. YUM! Thank you for all your efforts.



We would like to thank and congratulate the following schools for all their fundraising efforts and for their valuable contribution to the provision of education in Timor-Leste.

- Assumption College Kilmore
- John Therry Catholic College
- Marist Catholic College Kogarah
- Marist Catholic College Penhurst
- Marist College Ashgrove
- Marist College Northshore
- Mt Maria College Michellton
- Newman College
- Mount Carmel Catholic College
- St Patrick's Marist College Dundas
- Sacred Heart College
- St Teresa's Catholic College Noosaville



AMS SCHOOLS CAMPAIGN 2023

St Joseph's College Mabiri, Bougainville



In 2023, we are spotlighting St Joseph's College in the community of Mabiri. 2023 is a very special year for Marists in our region as it is the first year of the new Star of the Sea Province. This brings together Marist Brothers and lay people from 11 countries into one large and diverse unit in our global Marist family. We are humbled to listen to and learn from the people of Bougainville, sharing their stories and culture with AMS and our supporters.

The 2023 Schools Campaign Kit has information about the focus community, the region's historical context, prayer resources and interactive learning activities including video footage of our recent trip! It also provides new ideas for fundraising activities, to be led by students within their schools and local communities. From music and celebration, cooking lessons, and a brief introduction to the local dialect "Tok Pisin", the kit invites students to emerge

themselves into this unique part of the Pacific region, learning the importance of customs and practices of Bougainvillian people and the barriers their young people face when it comes to accessing education.

This also includes suggestions for fun student-led fundraising activities such as a "Sing Sing Concert" (a Bougainvillian term for coming together over music and dance), "Plant Sales", "New Release Film" night, a classic "Sausage Sizzle" or a "Trivia Night." All activities promote students to engage with their peers, teachers, parents, and the broader community and learn more about Bougainville and the Marist community at St Joseph's College. Accompanying the AMS Schools Campaign Kit is the "AMS Student Ambassador Kit." Students who are appointed AMS Student Ambassadors will oversee promoting fundraising activities within their schools and local communities, building on

those relationships and sharing the impactful work undertaken at St Joseph's, Mabiri.

To shed light on the 2023 Bougainville Campaign, AMS hosted its annual 'Teacher Briefing' and 'Student Briefing' events during the month of March. Teachers and students alike were able to delve into the School's Campaign Kit and learn more about its resources and fundraising objectives. Both sessions held a Q & A segment where participants could meet and hear directly from teachers and students at St Joseph's about life at the school and the barriers they face daily. Participants were also given the opportunity to ask questions of the guests directly, which made for a great cultural and informative exchange between both parties.



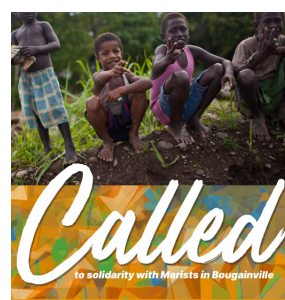
Students-St Joseph's College, Mabiri



Students- Marcellin College Bulleen



Students- Red Bend Catholic College



AUTUMN RECIPE

Tama Tama - with plantains



Tama Tama is a local dish that is prepared with casava and/or plantains and coconut milk. In this recipe, we are using plantains (cooking banana). Tama Tama is typically served with vegetables and a protein but can be eaten by itself!

Ingredients

- Tama Tama- serves 6 people
- Ingredients
- 1.5 cans Ayam coconut cream (600ml)
- 20 ripe plantains (cooking banana)

Method

Step 1: Peel your plantains- the riper the better!

Step 2: Once the plantains are peeled, start mashing. A mortar and pestle is a great substitution for the traditional wooden bowl and stick. If you are using a blender/food processor, make sure the plantains remain sticky enough to mould.

Step 3: Using your hands, roll the plantains longways. To help with moisture, dip your fingers into the coconut cream while rolling. This provides a gentle coat to the palm of your hands, to help with the stickiness of the plantains.

Step 4: In a deep pot, add the coconut milk. Then add the plantains. Cook on a medium heat with lid for 15 mins, or until coconut milk is hot and starts bubbling. Using a fork, gently poke the plantains to check if they are cooked. The centre should be soft.

Step 5: Remove the pot from heat and then transfer to a bowl. Use a large serving spoon to dish out the Tama Tama. This ensures the plantain remains covered in coconut milk.

Step 6: SERVE while hot!

Tip: You can buy plantains at any Asian or local grocer





Tok pisin is a dialect used widely across Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands and Vanuatu. It is used in the Autonomous Region of Bougainville as a second or sometimes even first language. It is derived from a mixture of English, German and local dialects within the region. It is one of the official languages of Papua New Guinea.

Papa bilong mipela olgeta "Father who belongs to us"

= Our Father

Yu stap long heven. "you are in heaven"

= who art in heaven

Ol I santuim nem bilong yu i kamap. "We make your name sacred"

= Hallowed be thy name

Mekim kingdom bilong yu i kamap. "Make your kingdom come" = Thy kingdom come.

Mekim ol harim tok lo yu - lo graun, "Strengthen us to follow what you wish on earth"

= Thy will be done on earth,

olasem ol i bihainim yu long heven. "also as it is followed in heaven" = as it is in heaven.

Tude, givim mipela kaikai inap long tude "Give us food enough for today"

= Give us this day our daily bread

Na pogivim rong bilong mipela "Forgive the wrongs of us"

= forgive us our trespasses

olasem mipela i pogivim ol narapela manmeri i mekim rong long mipela. "also we forgive others doing wrong to us"

= as we forgive those who trespass against us.

Sambai long mipela long taim bilong traim "Stand by us in time of trial/temptation"

= Lead us not into temptation

Na rausim olgeta samting nogut long mipela.... Amen. "And remove all bad things from us"

= But deliver us from evil

For assistance with pronunciation, you can watch "Our Father" in Tok Pisin here:

<https://bit.ly/3JJ4neR> <https://bit.ly/3JJ4neR>

GOVERNANCE

Board update

The AMS Board and its three sub-committees each met in late February/early March for their first quarterly meeting of 2023.

The Board received updates on a range of program partnerships, approving a major new phase of work in Bougainville and noting a new project in Fiji in partnership with the Marist Mission Centre. The Board approved a range of small delegations updates that will enable more efficient processing for amendments and additional support for existing projects and commended the Programs sub-committee and team on the comprehensive country updates that provide an overview of the context our partners are working in. The sub-committee and Board both welcomed Taylor Lemmon to the Programs Officer role and thanked Rachael Long for her great work acting in this role over the past eight months. They also acknowledged Nigel's significant contribution as Programs Manager over the last two years and we wish him well in his new chapter.

The Board reviewed the draft 2022 Management Reports, which were subsequently finalised by the Finance, Audit and Risk sub-committee and provided to the auditor. It thanked Sean Dickens and Norman Chan in particular for the work done to prepare these reports. Following review from this sub-committee the Board also accepted the updated Risk Register and approved updates to the following policies: Environmental Impact, Privacy, Procurement and Supply Chain and Conflict of Interest. The sub-committee and Board both noted their thanks to Deirdre Looney for her significant contribution to AMS and wished her well on her return to Ireland with her family.

The Board noted updates from the Community Engagement and Fundraising Committee, including a review of the 2022 Christmas Appeal and is looking forward to seeing the updated Fundraising Strategy in the coming months. This sub-committee and Board both welcomed Milika Nation to the Communications and Engagement Officer role and thanked Lexie Jones for her strong leadership of this portfolio as she covered Anna's parental leave.

The Board also had additional time together for formation and strategic planning, visiting for the first time The Hermitage at Mittagong. This is a spiritual heartland for Marists in Australia and provided the perfect setting for deeper conversations about AMS' mission and work. Br Tony Leon led the Board in a rich session around the Marist charism and family, a highlight of which was connecting directly with two Marist Brothers in Timor-Leste and a Marist Sister in the Philippines. Mr Richard Quinn led a stimulating session on key fundraising concepts and tools and the Board then spent some time checking-in with the current Strategic Plan and progressing work on the inclusion and diversity agenda for the organisation.

The Board would like to take the opportunity to thank Sr Pam Molony for her significant contribution to AMS over the last six years. Pam brought deep wisdom and insight to her participation in both the Programs sub-committee and the Board. While she will be deeply missed, AMS wishes her well for her new commitments with her Order at an international level.

Since our last edition of Solidarity Matters, the team has been able to visit a number of program partners. Nigel spent time with our five partners in the Philippines in September (see pages 7-9) and Bec visited St Joseph's College Mabiri in Bougainville in October (see pages 4-5). Bec also travelled to Rome to participate in the FMSI Board meeting in early December. FMSI is the global Marist International Development Agency, which focuses primarily on the regions not supported by AMS and our counterpart SED in Spain, but they do assist AMS partners when needed and it is great to have a strong relationship with this important Marist agency. While in Europe, Bec also met with two of our long-term German funding partners who continue to co-fund a number of our larger projects.

Operations update



Our partnerships with Australian Marist schools continue to be an essential part of our work. We launched our 2023 School Campaign in January (see page 12) and are excited to provide learning, reflection, advocacy and fundraising materials to engage with our Marist partners at St Joseph's College Mabiri, in the Autonomous Region of Bougainville. A highlight of the campaign was the opportunity to introduce staff from St Joseph's to a range of Australian school staff at our 2023 Teacher Briefing on 28 February and then connect Bougainvillian and Australian Marist students at our 2023 Student Briefing on 14 March. We are also excited to have launched our AMS MSA Regional Working Groups, bringing together key contacts from our Marist schools each term for updates and to share ideas and experiences.

It was wonderful to join with our extended AMS community at our end-of-year gatherings in Brisbane and Melbourne (see page 6). We also held the first of two Virtual Partner Visits with our wonderful friends at Balay Pasilangan and Operation Rainbow on 28 March.

60 SECONDS WITH

Susan Slattery, AMS Board



Q. How did you come to know about/ connect with AMS?

A. I was involved in Marist Young Adult Ministry in Melbourne in the early days of AMS with Br Al Sherry and so I have been aware of the great work of AMS for many years. I was delighted and excited when I was asked to join the Programs Committee as it meant I had the opportunity to connect with AMS and learn more about AMS partners and projects and get to know the wonderful AMS team.

Q. What aspects of AMS work are you most passionate about?

A. I am passionate about many things that AMS does! At the top of my list, is I love being part of an organisation that connects directly with communities and responds to the needs they articulate, and I love education related projects...so AMS is like my dream come true.

Q. What is your role with AMS?

A. I sit on the Programs Committee, a Board sub-committee (since 2020), and the AMS Board (since 2021). I have previously worked in international development and humanitarian assistance, so I bring sector experience to the governance of AMS. I am passionate about supporting best practice and the ongoing professionalisation of AMS.

Q. Why do you support AMS?

A. AMS has a unique culture and way of connecting with our partners, firmly placing the communities and their needs at the centre. Many international agencies strive for this and for various reasons struggle to achieve it, but in AMS I see it in action.

Q. What is your wish for 2023?

A. In 2023 I look forward to AMS continuing to go from strength to strength and meeting more of our partners to understand how we as an AMS community can continue to support them.

WAYS TO HELP



Together, we can make a difference. Our work is only possible because of our generous donors and supporters. You can help us in whatever way is best for you.

Make a monthly donation

Donations of \$2 or more are tax deductible.

Call 07 3354 0600 or donate securely at

www.australianmaristsolidarity.org.au

Get your school involved

Donations of \$2 or more are tax deductible.

Head to www.australianmaristsolidarity.org.au/learn

on how your school can help.

Keep up-to-date

Sign up to the AMS newsletter

www.australianmaristsolidarity.org.au/sign-up-for-the-latest-news

Leave a gift in your will

If you are able, we encourage you to consider leaving a legacy that will live on.

www.australianmaristsolidarity.org.au/partnerships/gifts-in-your-will

Workplace giving

One of the most cost effective and simple ways of making a donation.

Head to www.australianmaristsolidarity.org.au/partnerships/workplace-giving for more.

Get active

Follow us on Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn and YouTube, and read our updates at

www.australianmaristsolidarity.org.au/news-2



Your gift can transform a child's education

Your monthly gift to AMS can empower vulnerable children through education. By donating monthly, you will be helping to build sustainable facilities to ensure safe places for learning.

PLEASE DONATE TODAY

To make a cash, cheque or credit card donation, fill in this form and mail to:
Australian Marist Solidarity,
PO Box 273, Ashgrove West
QLD 4060

Make direct deposit donations to:
Australian Marist Solidarity
BSB 062 000 Account No 1628 5262
Please email the details of your donation to:
ams.accounts@marists.org.au

Donate online at:
australianmaristsolidarity.org.au
or scan the QR code to donate.



Name: _____ Address: _____

Suburb: _____ State: _____ Postcode: _____ Email: _____

Give once: ☐ Give monthly: ☐ Amount: _____

Credit card number Expiry date /

Name on card: _____ CCV

All donations over \$2 are tax deductible.

A gift in your will can leave a legacy to transform the education of future generations of young children.

Once you have remembered your loved ones, would you please consider leaving a gift in your will?

☐ Please send me information about leaving a gift in my will to AMS.

Connect with us to find out more.



australianmaristsolidarity.org.au



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[Australian Marist Solidarity](https://www.youtube.com/AustralianMaristSolidarity)



[\(07\) 3354 0600](tel:(07)33540600)



[@australian-marist-solidarity](https://www.linkedin.com/company/australian-marist-solidarity)



St Martin's Rural Training Centre, Solomon Islands