

SORRY - THERE IS NO CD THIS MONTH due to CV19. The Script is enclosed and you may like to share it with those who have no internet capacity or advise your group to each go to the website. Skype groups are one option for sharing and for prayer.

United in prayer - stay safe under Mary's care.



Wellington Mission Expo. The day at Viard College was a true celebration of Faith and a joy to be part of. It was wonderful to see a few from the Wellington area groups and to catch up with Jane Langham. I also got to meet the Johnsonville young mothers group and hear about their excellent recent parish promotion.

Marist Laity Australia write: In 1817 the Trappist priest Jeremiah O'Flynn arrived in Sydney to celebrate Eucharist, Baptisms and Weddings. By May 22, 1818, he was deported as this was illegal in the colony. However, he left a consecrated Eucharist Host in the Davis Family Home on the current site of Marist Parish St Patrick's Church Hill Sydney. Christians would join together at the site to secretly pray. Tradition says that the host was consumed two years later at the first Mass. Incredibly, for the first 40 years of the Sydney settlement Lay people played a significant part in keeping the Catholic faith alive. **Go to our website for online Mass/Liturgy options.**

Please promote **Living the Word** When Mass is impossible, using reflections like these can nourish faith; gather in your home and get creative about giving thanks together around the WORD.

Go to <https://livingtheword.org.nz/> to sign up.

*Be safe, sensible and kind to everyone in these stressful times.
We are all in this together and with Mary we hold the world in prayer
As St Teresa of Avila wisely tells us, "This too shall pass"*

Arohanui, Bev & Margaret



MARIST LAITY NZ

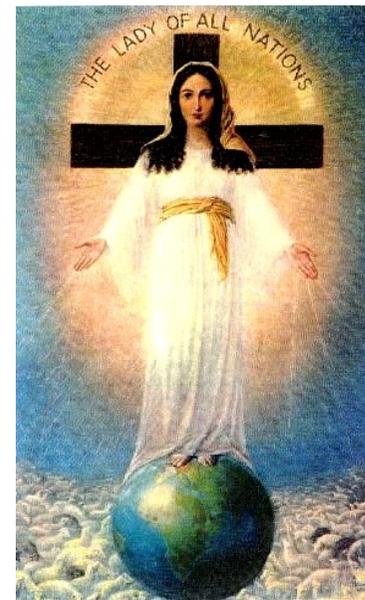
Instruments of mercy in daily life.

April 2020

Kia Ora Marist friends, These are strange times but God tells us; "Be not afraid!"

Borders are closed and controls on gatherings increasing. Sunday Mass, receiving Sacraments, foolish panic buying, social distancing; everything 'normal' is impacted by CV19. Lent and Easter will be like no other in my lifetime. Yet we are uniquely placed to go deep with Christ, Mary and the first disciples; they experienced shock, grief, confusion, dislocation, vulnerability, abandonment and fear as the Crucifixion and its aftermath unfolded. One week they celebrated 'Hosanna's', the next - shock beyond their understanding.

These emotions are in our communities. Marists are instruments of mercy and messengers of hope and prayer. Easter faith gives us hope. Mary and the first disciples clung together in fear and prayer



and it was right in their fear that the Holy Spirit met them. Because of that we now gather in hope and prayer, trusting God and the power of the Holy Spirit to free us from this pestilence. We can be with whanau, friends, neighbours virtually, sharing online Eucharist, or in small groups in our homes. We are all in this together and God will lead us through.

Mary surrounds us in prayer and care, the fire of the Spirit is with us guiding us to mercy and hope and we are called to look up and to share that faith so others can hear "Do not be afraid." Easter Faith and Hope to all.