

## END OF YEAR TRIBUTES ...

### Caitie Humphrys (MYM Brisbane)

After three years in the role of MYM Regional Coordinator for QLD, Caitlyn Humphrys is concluding in January 2020.



Caitie joined the MYM leadership team in 2017 having previously held the role of Campus Minister at Trinity College Beenleigh.

Her positive experience as a Remar Helm and active support of MYM events provided Caitie with the right attributes with which to step into the regional role.

During the past three years, Caitie has developed a wonderful rapport with students and staff in Marist schools. She has cherished the opportunity to respond to the faith needs of young people, offering presentations to year groups or helping facilitate retreats. Caitie has always made a priority of spending time in learning about the local Marist culture unique to each place.

Under Caitie's leadership, events such as the Marist Connect evenings and the Year 11 and 12 Forums have continued to adapt and develop. Her energetic support of MSA through the annual Marist Student Leaders Gathering ensured that students not only experienced what it meant to be a servant leader, but also appreciate what it means to belong to a Christian Community and a Marist family.

Caitie has grown a cohesive young adult group in Brisbane that has gathered regularly for Mass and ministry. She has also formed a team of young Marist volunteers who have supported school-based events. Earlier this year, Caitie was pivotal in launching the first ever Young Marist professionals retreat at Mittagong, as a way of offering ongoing spiritual formation for the 25+ age group across the country.

Caitie has brought a creative and strategic edge in helping MYM connect to wider church groups and youth ministry professionals. She is a passionate advocate for mental health and wellbeing with young people. This has been most notable in the excellent presentations she has given at the National Remar Conference and student camps.

At the conclusion of the QLD Student Leaders Gathering in January, Caitie will return to full-time study

where she looks forward to undertaking her practicum and completing a Bachelor of Counselling degree. She will also be furthering her passion of working with young people by offering seminars to schools on the topic of mental health.

We wish Caitie every blessing and good wish in the future.

*Br Greg McDonald*

### Patricia Rodriguez (MYM Melbourne)

Patricia has been our Marist Youth Ministry Administrative Assistant since 2015 and she will be greatly missed. Having previously worked in Remar and Marist Schools in Colombia, it was wonderful to have Patricia's knowledge of the program and her ability to connect with Marist schools in attending to all the behind-the-scenes administrative needs.



Patricia's ability to develop, maintain and implement an efficient and effective registration process for all our MYM and Remar camps and retreats over the past 5 years has been a huge blessing to all of us.

Patricia is a great team player and possesses excellent problems solving skills. No matter what difficult tasks or challenges lay ahead regarding camp details or registrations, Patricia was able to make each event a success through her practical patience and dedication. It was wonderful to be able to welcome Patricia on some of the camps she has organised this year. Her friendly demeanour and her sense of humour has made it a joy for all of us to work with her.

Thank you, Patricia and all the best for your future!

*Edwin Bakker*

### Maddy Forde (MYM Adelaide)

Maddy has been a member of the MYM Southern team for the past four years, based in Adelaide, where she has served with joy and dedication.



Maddy has led all the MYM local school-based events, including Connect evenings with Year 11 and 12 students from Sacred Heart College and Cardijn College.

At Sacred Heart College, Maddy has had a wonderful presence among the students, assisting with Remar retreats and Solidarity camps. In 2019, Maddy developed a drop-in coffee club before school, as a way of providing mentoring and study support for senior students by Young Marist Volunteers.

Regionally, Maddy has helped lead the annual Student Leaders Gathering for the past four years, where her presentations and reflections on leadership and indigenous spirituality were significant. She has also co-hosted for the famous SLG Trivia Night.

As Regional Assistant, Maddy has been also responsible for nurturing and animating the Marist young adult group in Adelaide, building a community spirit, providing service outreach to the wider community and developing prayer and faith formation experiences. She has carried this out with great enthusiasm, especially through focusing on the needs of refugees and asylum seekers, care of the environment and the education of young people. Maddy has won the Somerton Park Brothers' community over, time and time again, as they loved hosting the young adults for their regular gatherings.

Maddy has played a key role in national events including the Marist Youth Festival in 2017 where she played MC with Jack Stammers. She was also a participant in our Young Marist WYD pilgrimage to Poland in 2016 and the Marist International Gathering of Youth in Lyon at the same time.

As an aside to her work in MYM, Maddy has been an enthusiastic member of the local Marist Association, helping to coordinate and lead the

annual Santa Teresa Holiday Program in January for the past two years. She is passionate about the education and welfare of our Indigenous brothers and sisters.

Thank you Maddy for your joy, presence and dedication to MYM and we wish you every blessing and best wish in your future life and Marist journey.

*Br Greg McDonald*

### Sara Petruzzella (MYM Melbourne)

Sara has been with the Remar / MYM team in Melbourne this year as our Regional Assistant. She is to be commended for showing leadership and relational skills, while managing our RMT of full-time volunteers.



Sara's coaching and positive attitude enabled each person to successfully develop, prepare and present a variety of sessions at Remar camps, retreats and other youth ministry activities. Her experience, organisational and administration skills, and her ability to focus on smaller details while keeping the big picture in mind, has been a huge asset to the development and implementation of not only Remar but our new school-based program, Game Changers.

Beyond her work in Remar, Sara has supported Marist Youth Ministry with the regional Connect Nights and helped facilitate the Marist Student Leaders' program. She has done a terrific job coordinating the weekly volunteer reading program with the Olympic Village Story Club for students at Charles La Trobe primary in Heidelberg West.

Sara's friendly demeanour, her passion for people and dedication to youth ministry, have had a positive influence on our team and the wider Brunswick office environment. Her laughter will be missed in our office.

Best wishes for your future Sara!

*Edwin Bakker*

### Jerick Perez (MYM Sydney)

Jerick came to our MYM Sydney office, having graduated from St Patrick's Marist College Dundas. He is a warm and engaging young man who has connected well with young people through our Connect and Exchange programs.



Jerick has grown in his presentation skills and has greatly supported the technical side of the ministry. He is a spirit filled young man who treasures the gift of his Catholic faith. We wish Jerick all the best for the future and congratulate him on being appointed the first youth minister appointed to Parramatta Marist High School to support the new Game Changers program.

Go well Jerick!

*Jenifer Miller*

### Chelsea Boreham (MYM Brisbane)

Chelsea has been a Regional Assistant with Marist Youth Ministry for 2 years. She has been an absolute asset to the team with her enthusiasm and deep faith.



Chelsea's commitment to her Marist spirituality was fostered during her high schooling at Trinity College Beenleigh and continued as a young Marist Volunteer before commencing employment with us.

She has helped in planning and animating Connect Nights, Justice Forums, Marist Student Leaders Gatherings and school retreats. Her love of games has definitely lifted the bar and her creativity will be greatly missed.

After the 2020 QLD Student Leaders Gathering in January, Chelsea will be moving into full-time employment. We thank her for her significant contribution and wish her good luck for the next chapter in her journey.

*Caitie Humphrys*

### Remar Ministry Team (National)

The RMT members have concluded their year on a high, after assisting MYM at the Student Leaders Gathering at the end of November. It has been a rewarding year for the team, with a large number of camps, retreats and other youth ministry events.



The beauty of this year was the opportunity for the RMT to be involved with many Remar and MYM events and help bring the new Game Changers program to life. One of the joys of working with young people is to see their passion for life and to share their unique journeys with others as a support to all the young people they come across in their travels.

Like all journeys, there were plenty of ups and downs for the team, but they showed character during those times and this made times of celebrations even better. On behalf of Remar, I would like to thank them again for their year of mission and a future full of hope and promise!

God Bless!

*Edwin Bakker*