

MJR Bulletin

AUGUST 2021



With the Olympics occurring it is very easy to relate the MJR philosophy to so many occurrences at the games. Whether it be the *Never Give Up* (NGU) attitude of Patrick Tiernan in pushing his body as far as possible, or the great *Teamwork* of the relay teams in the swimming, there is so much inspiration and super sportspersonship to highlight.



I also see so much inspirational stuff from our MJRers from secondary and primary sectors in how they find ways to present the many great themes from the workbooks. It is super to hear about students and staff expressing how they see – and be – the *Spirit of Jesus*. Keep it going!

BUT, it is important to let your community know what you are doing. That is why I am highlighting a selection of school NEWSLETTERS in this month's Bulletin. Please take the time to read what others are doing around Australia.

Go for it!

Marty Ogle

MJR 2022 NATIONAL
CONFERENCE

Get out your diaries... the date of the next MJR National conference has been finalised!

Click on the link below to learn more.

<https://youtu.be/VjI0bQ-xUyk>

NEWSLETTERS

Newsletters are a great way to communicate to the entire school community about the many MJR happenings. As I travel to many schools around Tasmania, I strive to send them a brief description of my takeaways from the school sessions.

Here are some wonderful examples of school newsletters that I am sure will give you some super ideas.



Courage.
Compassion.
Justice.

**Mount Carmel College,
Sandy Bay, Tasmania**

The View comes under the watchful eye of Mel Sluyters, the MJR Ambassador. She has been doing a mighty job ensuring the MJR message is being seen and understood in her community. The *Spirit of Jesus Award* idea is great as well.

Click below to read the article on *Make Jesus Real* and the *Spirit of Jesus*.

<https://newsletters.naavi.com/i/rM7ZLqJ/issue-10/page/7>



**Queensland Catholic Education
Commission**

I received the following great news from Catherine Simmonds from Catholic Education Diocese of Rockhampton.

QCEC generously has shared an interview with the recipient of the **2021 Spirit of Catholic Education Award, Natalie McCosker**, APRE at St Patrick's Catholic Primary School, Emerald, in the Diocese of Rockhampton.

Click below to listen to Natalie McCosker's Podcast interview with Maree Lacey, Communications and Marketing Manager QCEC. At the 3-minute, 50-second mark, Natalie speaks passionately about the effect of MJR.

<https://buff.ly/3jeXxQL>

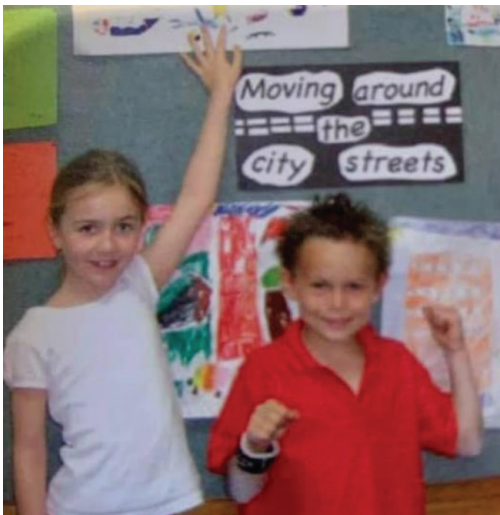




St Joseph's Primary School, South Grafton, NSW

Recently, Mitch visited St Joseph's Primary School in South Grafton, NSW where Joe Stewart, Leader of Catechesis, has been instilling the MJR values for many years. Here are some great photos from Mitch's visit, plus, you can read about Joe's great work in the school's newsletter. Click on the link below, and scroll down to Joe's story.

<https://sjpssouthgraffton.schoolzineplus.com/enews?nid=27>



St Brigid's Catholic College, Wynyard, Tasmania

The leadership at St Brigid's have truly embedded MJR into their whole school community. They have created a list of weekly MJR themes, and use them at the end of every recess and lunchtime gathering. Students are asked to share where they saw them in action during play and in the classroom.

They not only share these weekly MJR themes with the students and staff but also ensure families at home are aware of them as well. Click on the link below to view the weekly themes.

<https://www.garrattpublishing.com.au/pdf/MJR-teacher-resources/Bulletins/BulletinResources/St-Brigids-MJR-Whole-School-Focus.pdf>



MJR Ambassadors

This newsletter was sent to all the Tasmanian MJR Ambassadors in each school. It keeps them up-to-date with happenings that could help 'spread the Good News'.

<https://www.garrattpublishing.com.au/pdf/MJR-teacher-resources/Bulletins/BulletinResources/ZoomMeetingMJRAmbassadors28thJuly2021.pdf>

MJR HINT

Rather than focus on the negatives take a moment to reflect. Ask yourself, 'How am I Blessed?'

MOTIVATIONAL STORIES

Inspirational God Story: Wait For The Brick

A young and successful executive was travelling down a neighbourhood street, going a bit too fast in his new Jaguar. He was watching for kids darting out from between parked cars and slowed down when he thought he saw something. As his car passed, no children appeared. Instead, a brick smashed into the Jag's side door! He slammed on the brakes and drove the Jag back to the spot where the brick had been thrown. The angry driver then jumped out of the car, grabbed the nearest kid and pushed him up against a parked car, shouting, "What was that all about and who are you?"

Just what the heck are you doing?

That's a new car and that brick you threw is going to cost a lot of money.

Why did you do it?"

The young boy was apologetic. "Please mister ... please, I'm sorry... I didn't know what else to do," he pleaded.

"I threw the brick because no one else would stop..."

With tears dripping down his face and off his chin, the youth pointed to a spot just around a parked car.

"It's my brother," he said.

"He rolled off the curb and fell out of his wheelchair and I can't lift him up."

Now sobbing, the boy asked the stunned executive, "Would you please help me get him back into his wheelchair? He's hurt and he's too heavy for me."

Moved beyond words, the driver tried to swallow the rapidly swelling lump in his throat. He hurriedly lifted the handicapped boy back into the wheelchair, then took out his fancy handkerchief and dabbed at the fresh scrapes and cuts. A quick look told him everything was going to be okay.

"Thank you and may God bless you," the grateful child told the stranger.

Too shook up for words, the man simply watched the little boy push his wheelchair-bound brother down the sidewalk toward their home. It was a long, slow walk back to the Jaguar. The damage was very noticeable, but the driver never bothered to repair the dented side door.

He kept the dent there to remind him of this message: Don't go through life so fast that someone has to throw a brick at you to get your attention!

God whispers in our souls and speaks to our hearts. Sometimes when we don't have time to listen, He has to throw a brick at us.

It's our choice: Listen to the whisper ... or wait for the brick!

It's Not My Job

This is a story about four people named *Everybody*, *Somebody*, *Anybody* and *Nobody*.

There was an important job to be done and *Everybody* was sure that *Somebody* would do it. *Anybody* could have done it, but *Nobody* did it.

Somebody got angry about that, because it was *Everybody's* job. *Everybody* thought *Anybody* could do it, but *Nobody* realised that *Everybody* wouldn't do it. It ended up that *Everybody* blamed *Somebody* when *Nobody* did what *Anybody* could have done.

Always make sure that everyone on your team understands what they have agreed to do, who plays what role, and what their responsibilities are.

Eagle and the Crow

The only bird that dares to peck an eagle is the crow. The crow sits on the eagle's back and bites his neck. The eagle does not respond, nor fight with the crow; it does not spend time or energy on the crow, instead he just opens its wings and begins to rise higher in the heavens. The higher the flight, the harder it is for the crow to breathe and eventually the crow falls off due to lack of oxygen.

Learn from the eagle and don't fight the crows, just keep ascending. They might be along for the ride but they'll soon fall off. Do not allow yourself to succumb to the distractions... keep your focus on the things above and continue rising!!"

This is the lesson of the Eagle and the Crow.

the



PODCAST

a GPS for life

MJR PODCASTS

The MJR Podcast – A GPS for Life

Each Podcast episode has an accompanying 3-2-1 Activity Sheet which are available from the Resources page of www.makejesusreal.com.au.

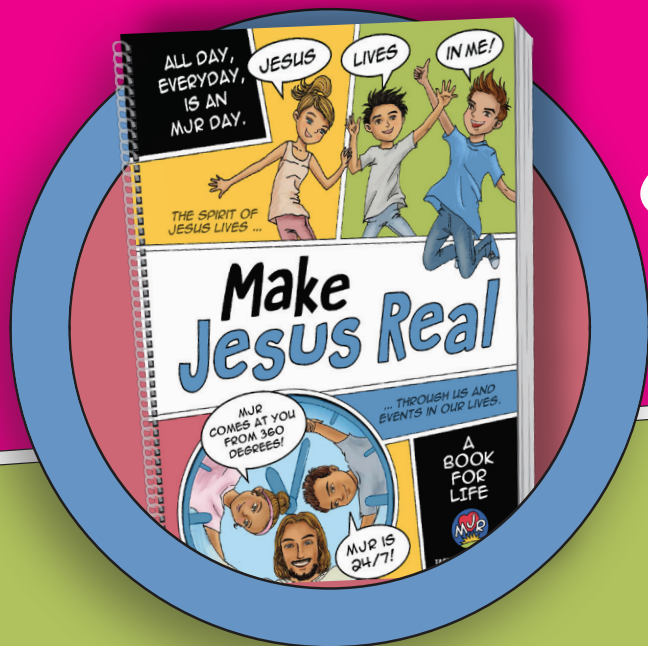
To listen to the MJR Podcasts go to:

Spotify:

<https://open.spotify.com/show/4VDJEOOnCL2UVvL7AqPX91Y>

iTunes:

<https://podcasts.apple.com/au/podcast/the-mjr-podcast-a-gps-for-life/id1513474986>



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WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU

Got an idea for a story, or want to share a story that captured the ears and hearts of your students? We'd love to hear from you.

Please email Marty at marty.ogle@catholic.tas.edu.au.

Note: If you are including images, please ensure you have permission to do so.

Live Jesus in your Hearts – FOREVER!

The MJR Team ... Marty, Mitch, David, Karen, Rose, Sandy and Charmaine



www.makejesusreal.com.au



1300 650 878



sales@garrattpublishing.com.au



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