

# Marist Minute

5 December 2023

Yes, that famous Hollywood line from the movie, Jerry Maguire. You know, when Tom Cruise is pleading to be taken back by his ex-girlfriend, Renee Zellweger, and she finally says “Stop...you had me at hello!” After a tumultuous on-again-off-again relationship, they both realise that they love and need each other. That can be a bit like our relationship with God.

I can only put it down to the Holy Spirit weaving her magic because as I was sitting in Mass the other night, I got this feeling that I had been forgetting about the joy my faith gives me. The joy that comes from loving God. For a brief moment I felt reunited with that joy, and I was a bit distracted from the Mass because what came to my mind was, “You had me at hello.”

In Pope Francis’ apostolic exhortation, The Joy of the Gospel, he reminds us that ... An evangelizer must never look like someone who has just come back from a funeral! Let us recover and deepen our enthusiasm, that ‘delightful and comforting joy of evangelizing, even when it is in tears that we must sow.... (#10)

Joy is a sublime emotion and I want to reclaim the joy that comes from my service of working towards the common good and dignity for each human person. The role that joy plays in our lives and relationships is way too precious and important to forget.



## Journal Questions:

*How and to whom will you express the joy you have for your faith?*

