

Called to *prophetic* Action



Priority
P1
STORIES

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Sustaining and growing Marist education for young people in need

Our mission as Marists is to be prophetic, to reach out to young people, to be people of mercy, peace and transformation. For me, it was an easy decision, on completing my ministry in mainstream Catholic schools, to respond to an invitation to join the Lavalla200> project, which offered me an exciting new model of Marist life and an opportunity to continue our Marist mission to young people in situations of vulnerability.

Living in Mount Druitt, arguably Sydney's poorest area, has given me many opportunities to connect with vulnerable young people. I enjoy regular meetings with indigenous youth and other cultural groups in homework clubs and family gatherings. Much of my energy and time these days is occupied with planning our learning centre which will assist young people who are not at school to re-engage with education.

My priority is to be part of Lavalla200>, our new expression of Christian life, living in communion with three committed Marists, with no sharp distinction between Lay and Religious members, but respectful of our different vocations, each of us co-responsible for the life of the community and called to our shared mission of being an evangelising presence to the vulnerable youth of our area. This new call is unlike any of my previous work and not without its challenges. Like Mary, we confidently set out together on this new journey to the hill country.

Br Lawrie McCane fms