

Participant Responses from Session 6 Wondering question: What personally energizes you and how do you see this converging with what has emerged?

The personal relationships and shared Marist identity to make a difference in the world together.

Attentive voice

I am energised by a strong desire I hear for us to be, as if it were, a beacon, of a way of being Christian/Catholic.

The voices of the future – Young Marists.

The impact of inclusion – the need to listen to the unheard voice.

The energy in the room for being Marist.

Meaningful conversations which challenge/affirm and encourage. Remaining connected, tapping in, this is good. So good to hear the voice of the young being well articulated.

What energises me? The passion and love for Christ, his Church, through the Marists (in the way of Mary) that I see among our Marists. Consolidate this and see where it goes.

The impact of walking with other Marists in formation, a journey that is about disturbing the edges, of disruption for a better world. "All for Jesus, through Mary."

Many minds. One heart. We come together despite our differences. As Marists we have always welcomed all. Let us remember those on the margins, especially the poor.

I feel energised by sharing and connectedness. I have enjoyed this weekend. I love that others have the same fears, but also the same hope. I look forward to the future.

Developing support financially to employ a person to develop a postschool Association group – e.g. parents of grandaunts (Year 12) group – takes spirituality, mission, young professional ethics, social justice involvements, prayer, etc.

"<u>Connection</u>" with other energetic Marists. It gives me the energy and drive to put my ideas into action.

Being acknowledged, loved and heard - with others!

Respecting what has come before but also continually challenging the status quo and accepted practice. I've been challenged by the challenges.

I met a Young Marist for the first time and discovered that we were FAMILY in a true, deep, personal way of shared history and life. AND I WAS ENERGISED! Thanks, Jamie.

We all bring our strengths, hopes, dreams to this Marist world. Let's roll up our sleeves and get our hands dirty.

Here I am...

Radical

Respect all!



Future is in God's hands.

"Communitas"

Bright future

Community

People are committed to the future and making good change.

Belonging and being Marist energises me. One heart - inclusive of all.

The breadth of participation in this Assembly. It is going way beyond the Brothers and needs good dialogue and discernment, even leadership!

Communal commitment.

Openness and willingness to move into the unknown. Inclusion of the marginalised, deeply listening to understand.

Renewal of hope, energy and growth in our mission of making Jesus known and loved.

Sharing ideas, goals, and the future with other like-minded Marists. Looking forward to working together and increasing the direction and goals of the Marist Association.

Marists at the forefront of an <u>inclusive</u> Church "that makes Jesus known and loved." I, personally, am making a small contribution supporting the mission/life formation of Marists and beyond.

The call for action to make changes and so that we continue to. Be a group that brings HOPE and FAITH in the future ahead for <u>ALL</u>.

Spaces for dialogue that engages a mission for others.

I am personally energised by the fire and passion of those Marists around me. I think it is vital we continue to give life to each other in our mission to bring Christ to the world.

An awareness of the divine within the secular – a Marist way of being in the world – a way of deep listening – deep respect for the other. To make Jesus known and loved. Bottom line. Promoting social group gatherings. Inviting members inclusively.

Have faith and it will grow.

Being a part of the Church and imagining how the Association can continue to be strongly and positively engaged with the whole.

Sense of belonging to a group who share/express/live out the Gospel/their faith in a Marist way.

Being enlivened by our Marist spirit together in mission as we reflect on who we are and what is emerging.

Meeting together.

Sharing life, faith, story.

Stories from others. Converges in commitment to local group.

It's time for action in schools, in ministries, in formation, in communities.

There is room for more. Include more, do more but less talking. Time to take the leap of faith and get our hands dirty. We might get it wrong first or even second but that's not a reason not to try!

It's time for action. We know what we think. Let's make change.

I'm energised by our shared vision and energy in shaping our Association as a lived expression of our Marist, Catholic faith, one that is inclusive in nature and action, and celebrates diversity, growth and change. (Zack P.)

LISTENING has energised me this weekend. It has been challenging at times. The Spirit has guided us to a strong revelation about minority groups and especially the from the gay, lesbian and transgender community.

Moments of wondering... I'm energised by the good will and strong sense of purpose that exists – the sense of belonging is rich and palpable. There is acceptance of <u>how</u> we strive to realise the vision of the Association and in its <u>multitude of ways</u> of being Church – by that I mean serving the mission of Christ. The emerging connections are facilitated by this. The vision and commitment of the Association to take/live Champagnat's charism into the future.

The passion of Marists to be witnesses and prophets for others, especially young people.

Conversations can be had over and over but they mean nothing without putting those words into action. I am hopeful that a fire has been lit in everyone here to make change and show what we stand for.

Feeling at home and alive in my faith energises me and keeps me coming back to the Marists. We need to make our community one where the voices of the young and minority groups are welcomed and heard. We need to take what's happened this weekend and make <u>changes</u>.

What is the most important thing in this world? He tangata, he tangata. It is the people, it is the people.

Living as Jesus' hands and feet in a world full of darkness.

We are a community that is striving for bringing Christ into the current world we live. This is energising, hopeful, beautiful!

My local group needs to be re-energised. I commit to working with our local coordinator to try to invite personally people to join us. I will support our local coordinator in his role and try to get more formation opportunities for our group.

The younger cohort have been the shining light and are quickly cementing themselves as foundational members for the future.

I am energised by our Marist family. <u>But</u> let's <u>DO</u> more and <u>BE</u> more. Hearts on fire.

The burning passion in the room energises me, but this needs to converge into collective and authentic action from us all.

Not giving a toss and just taking action with the risk of it not working. But kn owing the family supports it.

Seeing how our Young Marists are sparking conversation for topics a lot of us are scared to discuss.



I <u>felt</u> energised and invigorated words and bravery. He spoke <u>for</u> us younger Marists. But now

beautiful and honest sharing this morning expressed so well the challenge of being Catholic when the Church's official teaching has been so cruel and judgemental of LGBTQI+ people. Working in schools, this is an enormous challenge and finding ways to support these kids feels like we're swimming against the Catholic tide.

Shaping Association to meet vision

Hearing the stories and thoughts of others. This makes us diverse.

The energy and openness to challenge. This converges with the questions of where to go in the future.

Connection, Community and belonging!

Action

Desire to grow and share our <u>Marist</u> passion in today's <u>threatened</u> world.

"Opening the door" to others – seeing them fall in love with our Marist family and live the changes in their lives to Jesus through Mary.

We need to find a focus for being, our RAISON D'ETRE. What keep us in the Marist Association after we finish our official time in a Marist school?

The very friendly and welcoming people who have shared this Assembly. I feel more connected to the Marist family after my first Assembly. This will give me more energy to coordinate my local organisation.

A sense of family spirit and community. Belonging to the Marist Association and the wider Church.

Radical discipleship of Jesus and Mary.

The desire to be more inclusive and to push the Church to the margins. We are a spiritual family – a family that laughs, cries, fights, plays.

1. Faithfulness to Jesus, inspired and fuelled by our shared charism.

2. Our community of positive regard and genuinely good intenting

Be inclusive of people – not of unchristian ideologies/values. Be Christian.

Opportunity for the Association to be an advocate for Church and solidarity.

Lead. The ability to use my place in society to draw in the masses and show them the light of the Marists.

CONNECTION. Being in dialogue with so many different ministries.

Our ministries are all doing <u>amazing</u> counter-cultural and life-changing work for young people.

MARIST VOICE – in Church and society.

Energised: The commitment of many for the ongoing presence of the Association. Converging: That we determine a focus, a reason for being and a way forward.

Commit to the local group, encourage and invite others to join. Reconnect to the broader regional group. Establish partnership with the Star of the Sea community.

For me what has emerged is the very significant place the Association has in the life of its committed members and emerging members. In a world and a Church that is increasingly challenging, especially for the young, the Association can provide a safe space for the difficult conversations that sometimes can't take place elsewhere. The significance of the image of <u>songlines</u> has also emerged for me – we must remain connected to our Christian and Marist songlines or we lose our identity. The role of the local group in this is significant as well as the need to gather in more regional/national gatherings. Formation underpins our growth and is critical.

Mendes: One Heart, One Mission

I feel tentatively hopeful by the conversations and direction we've kindled but nervous that this. Is as far as it'll go. I hope I'm wrong.

It's all for God's mission! Missio Dei. Many tributaries, one river!

