

Media Release – December 2020

Christmas with a difference: A Marist Noel

The greatest gift one can offer will never be found under a Christmas tree. For us as Christians and Marists, Christmas is the celebration of God's gift of love through the birth of his only son Jesus Christ. The greatest gift, therefore, can only be found in the depths of your own heart.

For many of us we live this love of Christmas through gathering with friends and family. Some of us eat too much, laugh lots and hit our wallets hard for gifts - but overall, we enjoy the love and excesses of the Christmas Season.

For children and young people in Marist180's care, it is a different story - for most of them, Christmas is an unpleasant reminder they are in someone else's care, displaced, and disconnected from family to celebrate the festive season. Christmas can be that time of sharp reminders of the sadness, loneliness and being the forgotten ones in our society.

This year Marist180 is reaching out to the wider community for help. Our hope is to capture the Christmas spirit for the children and young people in our residential care homes.

A Marist Noel is a call out to the wider community to embrace our Marist Family Spirit and extend our hearts and love to the 'children' in our care this Christmas.

Our Marist180 Elves have set-up an online gift registry with the gifts our children are dreaming of receiving this Christmas.

Combined, the total value of gifts exceeds \$25,000. Without the generosity from the wider community, we cannot make these Christmas dreams come true. All contributions will make a difference.

Your gift may be the one that brings a smile to a young person and opens their eyes and hearts to know they matter and are loved.

For further information please check out the website – www.amaristnoel.com

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call or email us for further information.

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