



MARIST BROTHERS  
Province of Australia

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27 February 2019

Dear Marists

Today the Minister has announced that the Marist Brothers are now a participating institution in the National Redress Scheme effective Thursday, 28 February 2019. Click [here](#) to read the announcement.

This is another significant step in our ongoing work to respond to those who have suffered abuse in our facilities as a result of the criminal actions of both religious brothers and by lay staff.

For more than 20 years, dedicated Marists have worked to provide some healing to those whose lives have been damaged by the abuse inflicted upon them as children, working with them to provide apology, counselling and compensation.

Today's announcement of our inclusion in the National Redress Scheme is the culmination of more hard work to ensure that survivors of abuse now have an alternative path, independent of the Institute, to seek recognition and redress for what they have endured.

Through the National Redress Scheme, those who have experienced abuse will be given access to personal approach such as an apology, if they choose it, as well as counselling and monetary payments.

The Marist Brothers fully support this approach and have done so since the Royal Commission first proposed it some three years ago.

I have said before and I reiterate today, that we are powerless to change the past and we cannot undo the damage that has been caused.

The only option open to us is to find any and all pathways to healing that openly recognise the terrible hurt and suffering these events have caused and for which our apology is unreserved and enduring.

Now that our membership as a participating institution in the National Redress Scheme has been declared, on behalf of all Marists, I earnestly hope that its work brings some small measure of healing to those who have been wronged.

In addition to the National Redress Scheme, we will continue to work with survivors providing apology, counselling and compensation through the means of their choosing, either in direct approach or through civil legal channels.

I would also like to thank all of you across the various works, for bringing to life the Marist charism and your contribution on this journey of healing.

Yours sincerely

**Br Peter Carroll FMS**  
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