

Marist Mission Center



Cycling For Seminarians 2009

Australia Day, 2009

Dear Friends,

Happy Australia Day! Last year, I began the January *Cycling for Marist Seminarians Appeal* letter this way...

"After the rocky start to 2008 in stock markets, I'm conscious this appeal letter is not great timing!"

Famous last words! I was wrong on both counts. "Rocky" last January is under-statement compared to the stock-market slide in the second half of the year. And judging by results, the appeal was perfect timing.

Your prayers for Marist Vocations were answered. The number professed as Marists or ordained Priests in Asia-Pacific increased. Your record support for Br Charlie's 2008 riding (\$69,306) surpassed all previous records and helped pay the bills. Heart-felt thanks.

It's now 2009. Again, humanly-speaking, timing for an appeal is bad. The economy is worse and I still can't ride a bike. I'm a little concerned however, Br Charlie's words last year ring in my ears... "*Mate, leave it to me!*" He is not the superb *Iron-man* for nothing. With your support, we shall "*recycle*" him! It's socially responsible; no greenhouse emissions; no carbon foot-prints; renewable energy (hopefully)! Brother Charlie thanks for '*volunteering*' once again.

There is a reality check though. I'm conscious of the financial pressure on many benefactors. First, we ask your prayer for young men in training in Asia-Pacific. If you can also sponsor Br Charlie in his fund-raising 2009 bike-ride, that would be simply great.

Br Charlie (nominee for *2009 Iron Man of the Year*) has descended from his diesel-driven tractor-mower to grace the saddle of environmentally-friendly pedal-power. Watch out Lance Armstrong in Adelaide!



"Mate re-cycle me, it's simple!"

Donations directly for spiritual training only qualify for heaven-based tax-exemption. The investment is divinely guaranteed! Kindly make cheques out to "***MFIM***".

For those whose needs, by circumstance must be more earthly-based, tax-exempt donations over \$250 made to "***AMCOA***" are directed exclusively to aspects of Marist training that qualify for tax-exempt status. (e.g., Social Development Assignments etc).

May 2009, be a year of special grace and blessings for you and your loved ones.

Gratefully excused again from biking. My sweat would produce excessive carbon prints!

*Every blessing,
Fr Kevin Stewart SM*

