

# Marist Brothers

1872 –

**Other Names:**

- Little Brothers of Mary
- Champagnat Marists Australia

**URL:** <http://www.maristbr.com/>

## Details

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The Marist Brothers is a Catholic congregation that states its mission is the Christian education of young people, particularly those most neglected. The Marist Brothers ran St Vincent's Boys Home from 1898. The Marist Brothers had a monastery next to the Mittagong Cottage Homes and Mittagong Farm Home, and provided spiritual guidance to Catholic state children who lived in the homes. They also ran a large number of New South Wales Catholic schools.

The Marist Brothers were founded by French curate Marcellin Champagnat in the early 19th century to provide education for the children of peasants who were struggling to rebuild their lives after the Napoleonic wars. Marcellin was himself raised on a farm and was used to hard work and an extremely simple lifestyle, so took those values into the Order he founded.

In 1872, the Marists responded to a call from the Catholic Archbishop of Sydney to open schools in the poorer city areas of Sydney. Their earliest school was at St Patrick's in The Rocks area, which was soon followed by elementary schools in the Haymarket, Broadway and Parramatta areas and a boarding school in Sydney.

In 1902 the Marist Brothers formed the Province of Australasia. In 1917 this split into the Province of Australia and the Province of New Zealand. In 1948 another split created separate provinces in Melbourne and Sydney. At the end of 2012 the Province of Australia was reconstituted.

The Marist Brothers ran St Vincent's Boys' Home in Westmead in partnership with the Society of St Vincent de Paul from 1896 until 1968. The Marists were solely responsible for the management of St Vincent's from 1968 until it was closed down in 1985. After this, the Marist Brothers delivered services to children in 2 group homes in Westmead and a medium-term program in Blacktown.

In 1994, Marist Community Services was established. This organisation changed its name to Marist Youth Care in 2002, and in 2016 it became known as Marist180.

## More info

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### Related Entries

Ran

- [St Vincent's Boys' Home \(1891 - 1985\)](#)

The Marist Brothers ran St Vincent's Boys' Home from 1968 to 1985. From 1898 to 1968, the Home was run by the St Vincent de Paul Society in partnership with the Marist Brothers.

Date: 1968 - 1985

### **Related Organisations**

- [Mittagong Farm Home for Boys \(1906 - 1947\)](#)

The Marist Brothers had a community next door to the Mittagong Cottages and the Mittagong Farm Home, and brothers provided religious instruction to Catholic state wards.

- [Marist180 \(1994 - current\)](#)

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You can view this page online by visiting <https://www.findandconnect.gov.au/entity/marist-brothers/>