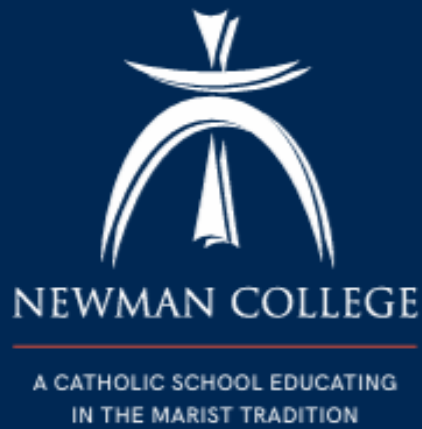




2026 ARCHBISHOP'S LIFELINK® SPIRIT AWARD SUBMISSION

Our LifeLink Journey

Simplicity – Modesty - Humility



Our LifeLink Journey

“

Marcellin Champagnat lived among children and young people, loved them with them with passion, and devoted his energies to them. As Marists we also experience a special joy in sharing our time and ourselves with them. We resonate with their aspirations; we are filled with compassion for them and we reach out to them in all their difficulties.

”

— In the Footsteps of Marcellin Champagnat (2023)

At Newman College, we seek to make this Marist call to be present, to notice and to respond a lived reality for our students and staff. Our partnership with LifeLink® in 2026 has provided an opportunity to move beyond simply learning about social justice towards understanding, encounter and action.

Our mission is to make Jesus Christ known and loved. Our Marist tradition gives us a particular way of living this out: through presence, compassion and practical response to the needs of others. Throughout 2026, we have therefore sought not simply to raise funds for LifeLink®, but to help our students understand its work, encounter the people and communities it supports, and discover how they can respond.

Building awareness through education

This year, students explored the work of LifeLink®'s eight agencies and the different ways they support people across Western Australia. They discovered, for example, the work of Stella Maris in Fremantle and its support for seafarers, alongside agencies responding to homelessness, disadvantage, disability and other forms of vulnerability.

This learning was shared beyond individual classrooms through student-created posters, displays and a video promoting LifeLink®. These opportunities gave students a voice in telling the story of LifeLink® and helped shift the focus from simply asking students to 'raise money for LifeLink®' to understanding who they were supporting and why that support matters.

This awareness was also extended to families through our LifeLink® fundraising platform and Seesaw communications, helping the wider College community learn about the work of LifeLink® and its agencies.

Turning awareness into action

Our major fundraising initiative was the LifeLink® thon. Students walked, jogged and ran laps of the oval while seeking sponsorship for their efforts, creating a joyful community event with a clear purpose beyond the day itself.

The Newman College community raised over \$11,000 with every lap representing a practical response to the needs students had been learning about.

Our Guild Identity Project has also provided another way for this learning to become part of student life. Students explored the stories of our eight Guild patrons and the causes for which they stood. Each Guild then developed its own motto, mascot and connection to a LifeLink® agency or another Catholic social justice organisation, with students proposing and voting on these connections.

This has created an opportunity for LifeLink® and social justice to become part of Guild identity throughout the year, rather than being associated with a single fundraising event. We hope to strengthen these connections with LifeLink agencies and other Catholic social justice organisations in 2027.



This helped shift the focus from simply asking students to “raise money for LifeLink®” to helping them understand who they were raising money for and why their support mattered.

9000+

Laps run by students to raise
raise money for LifeLink®
LifeLink®

From awareness to encounter



Our senior students have participated in Shopfront Cathedral Outreach, one of LifeLink® 's agencies, joining staff to prepare and serve food to people experiencing homelessness and disadvantage.

For students, Shopfront has become a meaningful experience of encounter. Meeting people, sharing a meal and offering a warm welcome gives a human face to the needs they encounter. With many staff also participating, Shopfront has become a whole-community expression of our belief that social justice is something we live together, not simply something we ask others to support.

Living our Marist call

Our LifeLink® journey in 2026 has connected education, awareness, encounter and action. Students have learnt about vulnerability, shared that learning with others, encountered people whose experiences may be different from their own, and responded through generosity and service.

In doing so, they are learning what it means to make Jesus Christ known and loved - through the way they notice others, stand alongside them and respond with generosity and compassion.

\$11,000+

raised for LifeLink® by the Newman College community.



LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE
MATTHEW 5:16

Challenge — Collaborate — Create — Celebrate



NEWMAN
COLLEGE

A CATHOLIC SCHOOL
EDUCATING IN THE
MARIST TRADITION