



EURO info



To be more closely united, work more creatively, and act in greater solidarity we form one province beyond national limitations...

THE FAREWELL TO THE MARIST COMMUNITY IN MALGRAT, SPAIN, 30 JUNE-1 JULY



It was joyous celebration, charged with emotion under the title of GRÀCIES (Thank you). To give a flavour of the words of gratitude people expressed in different ways, here is a quote from María Antonia, the current school principal at Col·legi St Pere Chanel Malgrat: “It is difficult to put in writing the feelings that invade me when I think what the school and the Marist Fathers mean to me. What is very clear to me is that everything can be summarized in the words: THANK YOU. The Marist Fathers have been for me, and I am sure they will continue to be, family, companions, friends, counsellors and on many occasions, confidants. From the first day, I arrived at the school, I felt welcome and in a short time the school became my home. For more than thirty years I have shared many

moments, mostly good ones. There were a few very difficult and complicated ones which I overcame thanks to your example and accompaniment. Thank you for giving me the opportunity to develop the task in accordance with my preferences, for allowing me to be trained as a teacher, for developing as a person alongside you, and above all for the obvious confidence and trust which you have shown towards me. I cannot finish without thanking you for the enormous generosity and the responsibility you have shown in taking the difficult decision to leave the community of Malgrat and transfer the school to the Marist Brothers... Thank you very much and see you soon”. <http://bit.ly/MalgratVideo2017>

GREETINGS FROM PARIS!

Various celebrations have taken place over the month, in Spain, England and France! We bring you news of these various occasions and offer you some food for thought following the provincial retreat. We are very grateful to those who sent us material and we invite others to do the same for next month.

*Joaquín Fernández and
Martin McAnaney*

PRAYER INTENTION



We pray for Tom Kouijzer and all those who are consecrated to God by the vows of chastity, poverty and obedience. May they always reveal the love of Christ to those they encounter and continue to enrich our world by their dedicated lives of prayer and service.

PERPETUAL PROFESSION OF TOM KOUIJZER (NL)

For the occasion, Tom was joined by his parents Paul and Nicolle, his brother Michiel, and a friend from the Netherlands. In addition, 34 confreres from the province, 10 other confreres from the Marist renewal programme, other members of the Marist family, and some local people from Pomeys, all provided support. The festive meal which followed echoed the joy and happiness of the Gospel passage chosen by Tom, the Wedding Feast of Cana (Jn 2:1-12). The next step for him will be ordination to the diaconate which will take place (9 December) in St Teresa's parish, Donore Avenue, Dublin, where he is currently on pastoral placement. It will be another great opportunity for his confreres from around the province to gather and celebrate with him, his family, friends and the local community.



MARIST FAMILY PILGRIMAGE, WALSINGHAM, ENGLAND, 29 JUNE – 1 JULY

The Shrine of Our Lady at Walsingham was established in 1061 when Richeldis de Faverches prayed that she might undertake some special work in honour of Our Lady. In answer to her prayer, the Virgin Mary led her in spirit to Nazareth, showed her the house there where the Annunciation occurred, and asked her to build a replica in Walsingham. The Holy House was built and Walsingham became one of the greatest Shrines in Medieval Christendom. The shrine was destroyed during the Reformation (1538) and pilgrimages halted. However, they were restored in 1897. The Marist had responsibility for the shrine from 1968 to 2015, and there has been a tradition of an annual Marist pilgrimage on the first Saturday in July. This year the confreres in England invited Marists from the province to join them for both a fraternal gathering (29-30 June) and the Marist pilgrimage. 22 Marists joined in the event. Alan



Williams s.m. Bishop of Brentwood, was main celebrant at the pilgrimage and many Marist laity, Marist Sisters and Marist Missionary Sisters participated. The Marist family was well represented at this gathering at Mary's house!

ANNUAL PROVINCIAL RETREAT, MR JOHN FEEHAN, LA NEYLIÈRE, 9 – 15 JULY

If anyone had any doubts about the spiritual nature of the retreat and the thinking behind Laudato si, these were dispelled immediately by John Feehan's passion for and wonder at God's created reality. One of the messages



which came through powerfully during the days of discovering the spirituality behind Pope Francis' letter, was that creation, including the incarnation, is the revelation of the mind of God. For this reason, the responsibility we carry in relation to the earth is not optional, it is a moral one. The approach to caring for the earth, is not in the same way we might care for a garden in which we grow vegetables to feed us. It is the perspective that creation is the Garden in which God walks, and we have been invited to walk with him. We are placed in this Garden of Eden to share in God's own wonder and delight at his creation, and to assist him in accomplishing his plans and desires through it. This process of conversion is for a lifetime!

