



EURO info



COUNCIL OF THE PROVINCE (CoP), 14-15 NOVEMBER, PARIS

The theme was “The implementation of orientation 3, 10 and 11 of the Provincial Chapter 2017”. It was an opportunity to explore Marist community life as we live it today. As a former regional superior, Peter Corcoran (Eng) has experienced this kind of meeting before when the province had regions. He helped organise this CoP. He writes: “We looked at the statement in Constitutions 127, ‘The ministry of loving service to each other in community is a primary apostolate’ in the light of our present situation, very aware of our advancing age and fragility. The make-up of the Council was different from previous times when made up of various Regional Superiors. There was a

different feel about the new situation which somehow provided a different blend of rich experience. Reflecting on the experiences of the individuals present, the Council emphasised the essential element of mutual commitment we have to each other as Marists and it suggested ways in which this can be developed and appreciated.” These suggestions form some concluding reflections which will be distributed in the near future. The provincial community and Paris Montparnasse merged on 15 November and all joined the CoP for the Eucharist to celebrate the Anniversary of the Death of Fr Colin and launch the new group.



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

GREETINGS FROM PARIS!

The Council of the Province took place in Paris this month. A former regional superior shares his experience of the event. The life of the province was enriched by two gatherings of lay Marists, one in Spain and the other in Italy. Two committees of the province met to offer advice on financial matters. Please continue to send us information, we welcome it very much.

*Joaquín Fernández and
Martin McAnaney*



PRAYER INTENTION

We pray in a special way for and in communion with, Tom Kouijzer (NL), who will be ordained Deacon on 9 December in Dublin. May the Lord bless him with a “spirit of reverence and fortitude”, serving the Gospel and the people of God in Mary’s way.

NEW GROUP OF LAY MARISTS, 5 NOVEMBER, PRATOLA PELIGNA, ITALY



3 years ago, Fr Sante Inselvini (It) issued an invitation to the people of Pratola Peligna to get to know and experience Marist spirituality. After a three-year journey, a second group of 15 brothers and sisters were welcomed into the Marist Family in the parish of Maria SS della Libera. Fr Antonio Airò (It) presided at the Mass, and Fr. Renato Frappi (It), the parish priest, concelebrated. After the homily, the group recited together the formula of membership and then each was called to sign the Marist Laity Register. After the Mass, everyone enjoyed a very fraternal and joyful meal. During the formation course, which was led by Fr Antonio, and Vanna and Paolo from Castiglion Fiorentino, participants came to an understanding of the meaning of the Marist project: "Thinking, judging, feeling and acting like Mary ... Living unknown and hidden in this world ..." Now the group has to start journeying alone. Every month there will be a meeting and every month small groups of 5 members will meet to share on a reflection sheet compiled by the national coordination group.

ANNUAL DAY OF PRAYER FOR SPANISH LAY MARISTS, 11 NOVEMBER, AVILA, SPAIN

Ana María Figueras writes: "A group of lay Marists from Madrid, Guadalajara, Valladolid and Ávila, held their annual prayer gathering to celebrate the anniversary of the death of Fr Jean Claude Colin, our Founder. This year we met in Avila, welcomed by the local lay Marist group. It is also the Jubilee Year of St Teresa of Jesus. After morning prayer, we listened to our link person, Fr Angel Antón (Esp), on the theme

"Defend or extend the Church? Faith that is not spread, fades away". This was followed by reflection and personal prayer. Then we received echoes of the presence and participation of Michel Macquet and Bev McDonald, who represented lay Marists during 3 days at the General Chapter of the Society of Mary.

We were also presented with the Statutes of the European Lay Marists and a copy of the Gospel readings for 2018 each with a brief daily commentary compiled by the ecumenical community of Taizé. In

the afternoon, we went to "Los Cuatro Postes", a place full of significance in the life of St Teresa, and we concluded with a celebration of the Eucharist".



FINANCIAL MATTERS: November is the month for meetings of Financial Committees.

PROVINCIAL FINANCE COMMITTEE, PARIS, 7 NOVEMBER

The 4 members of the Committee (Pascal Boidin (Fr), John Hand (Ire), Loes Cornelis and Olivier Grouës) met with the Provincial Bursar. The main topics were: Information about the reorganisation of the financial and administrative management structures of the Province, Annual Financial Report 2016, Draft Budget 2018, and the Provincial Investment Portfolio.

PROVINCIAL INVESTMENT ADVISORY BOARD, PARIS, 16 NOVEMBER

This is a new consultative body composed of 3 experts in the financial world, operating in different countries. Its task is to oversee and evaluate the investment portfolios and guidelines of the Province and to make proposals to the Provincial and Council.

It is a work in progress.