



EURO info



THE LAUNCH OF THE SAHAGÚN PROJECT, SPAIN, 22 APRIL

For some in the province the opening of a new project in this isolated town on the Camino de Santiago is an exciting act of faith, and for others it is a risk to our group which experiences its limitations! For those of us lucky enough to be present at the formal launch of the initiative, it was a moving statement about a province which aims to be a communion for mission, working more creatively and acting in greater solidarity, beyond national boundaries (*Emmaus Declaration, Swords, Ireland 2007*). About 60 Marists, lay and religious, from Germany, the Netherlands, Norway, England, Ireland, Italy, France and Spain, celebrated this moment with Daniel Fernandez (Esp), Toño Fernandez (Esp) and Andrea Volonnino (It). At the shrine of *Virgen peregrina de Sahagún*, the three Marist confreres dedicated their community and their efforts to Mary, pilgrim of the Reign of God. Wilhelm Tangen (De) from the community of Passau presented a symbol to them on behalf of the province. It was a brass



plaque in the shape of an anchor, an image from the Diocese of Passau. On it are figures of 2 saints from the time of the early evangelisation of Europe standing on either side of a cross and underneath it, Brother Konrad who was

a porter who welcomed pilgrims to the Marian shrine of Altötting (bit.ly/AltottingShrine), Bavaria, and who was canonised in 1934. This symbol was passed from hand to hand of those attending the celebration and then entrusted to the community. Afterwards the Eucharist was celebrated in the chapel of the Benedictine monastery which owns the hostel where the community welcomes pilgrims (Hospederia Monastica Santa Cruz, www.monasteriosantacruz.es/). Naturally, the event was rounded off by everyone enjoying together the hospitality of the dining room!



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

GREETINGS FROM PARIS!

In the province, our attention has been focused on Sahagún this month as many confreres, friends and family of the new community gathered to ask God's blessing on the initiative. Many who attended this event, stayed on in León to reflect on the question, to what is God calling the province in the light of General Chapter 2017. An example of that call is the welcome of the stranger. We learn of an opportunity to join a pilgrimage in the UK and that a book by Craig Larkin on prayer has been republished (English). We thank those who contributed material.

*Joaquín Fernández and
Martin McAnaney*



PRAYER INTENTION

The whole of our life is also a pilgrimage. O God, you brought your servant Abraham out of the land of the Chaldeans, protecting him in his wanderings. Be for us our companion on our journey and under your guidance, may we travel enriched by your grace and arrive home, filled with joy.



COUNCIL OF THE PROVINCE (CoP), DOMINICAN RETREAT HOUSE, VIRGEN DEL CAMINO, LEÓN, SPAIN, 23-24 APRIL

The provincial administration was joined by representatives nominated by the group of local superiors in each country: Wilhelm Tangen (Germany), Des Hanrahan (England), Angel Anton (Spain), Patrick O'Hare (France), Jim O'Connell (Ireland), Wim van Broekhoven (the Netherlands), Erik Ruud (Norway). Unfortunately, Faustino Ferrari (Italy) was unable to attend for health reasons. Juan Carlos Piña from the general administration also participated and the whole event was assisted by Ray Staunton (Ire) who acted as secretary and Carla Bertana as interpreter. The theme explored was “*The Declaration on Mission of the SM Today (General Chapter 2017, SD 1-9) and its implications for the Province of Europe*”. The session confirmed the need for the province to continue the prioritisation of its activities, its emphasis on community life, and to deepening its relationship with laity, especially those who are partners in its mission. The reflection was nourished by a time of faith sharing on the apostolic exhortation of Pope Francis, *Gaudete et Exultate* Nos.19, 20 and 23. The Work of Mary is at the heart of our vocation as Marists and the challenge remains for us to find ways to share this call with the people of our time, and a new generation.



“WELCOMING THE STRANGER”, PASSAU, GERMANY

“Mission is not primarily about where we are or where we go. Rather it is an attitude of heart.” (General Chapter 2017, No.7). The Marists are responsible for a telephone crisis-line (TelefonSeelsorge) and the *Marianische Votivkirche*, a small chapel in the centre of the city of Passau (bit.ly/VivKirchePassau). Wilhelm Tangen (De) writes: “While sitting here a group of young Eritrean refugees gather to prepare for the Orthodox Easter. They prepare with praying, fasting and singing. Some very small ones are also present but most of the time their joyful voices echo around the courtyard as they play outside. Amongst the 15 or so young people, most of them have received asylum status and are awaiting a job”.



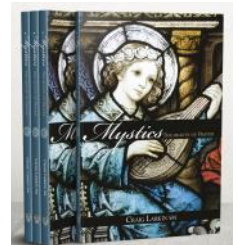
MARIST DAY, SATURDAY 7 JULY, 2018, THE BASILICA OF OUR LADY OF WALSHINGHAM

The Marist Family in the UK traditionally makes an annual pilgrimage to the Catholic national shrine of Our Lady and you are invited to join them. The theme is “*This is your Mother.*” For more information follow this link: bit.ly/walsin18



THE MYSTICS -THE BEAUTY OF PRAYER

A book by Craig Larkin sm has been republished in English and is available by following this link: www.bit.ly/clmystics /Amazon



OBITUARY Austin Horsley (Eng) 10.04.2018 • Joseph Schwaller (Fr) 15.04.2018