

EURO info



BIANNUAL GATHERING OF THE ASSOCIATION OF THE MARIST LAITY (FRANCE), LA NEYLIÈRE, JUNE 3-4 (FEAST OF PENTECOST)



Guislaine and Georges LAJARA write, "The theme was *"And if we dare to live fraternity"*. After the usual general assembly,

Fr Christian DELORME of the Diocese of Lyon, who has long been involved in interreligious dialogue and friendship with Muslims, shared his experience. About 80 people of the Marist family attended this

reflection. In the evening, we watched the play "The 5th Gospel", which tells the story of a Henri Vergès, a Marist Brother, who was murdered in Algiers on 8 May 1994. It was attended by about 100 people in La Neylière chapel. On Sunday morning, young activists from the association "Coexister" (www.coexister.fr) came along to continue the reflection and to offer signs of hope. The celebration of the Eucharist closed this gathering".



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

GREETINGS FROM PARIS!

One of the participants at the Marist gathering in London (May) to reflect on evangelisation, shares some thoughts in the light of his experience. The community of Coslada, Spain, takes time to review their apostolic activity in the light of our Marist heritage. We get another insight into that heritage, the building up of the Marist mission in Oceania. Marist laity in France celebrate the 25th anniversary of their organisation. We thank all who sent us material.

*Joaquín Fernández and
Martin McAnaney*



PRAYER INTENTION



Lord, teach us to discover the worth of each thing, to be filled with awe and contemplation, to recognize that we are profoundly united with every creature as we journey towards your infinite light. We thank you for being with us each day. Encourage us, we pray, in our struggle for justice, love and peace. (Laudato Si', 246, Pope Francis)

OBITUARY

Desmond Hunt (Ire) 03.06.2017 • Vincent van de Sande (NL) 27.06.2017

A COMMUNITY RETREAT, COSLADA, SPAIN, JUNE 9TH

At the end of the school year, the community of Coslada (Valentin Aparicio, Daniel Fernández Alcaraz, Luis Gonzalo Garcia and Rafael Ramila), decided to make a daylong retreat. They are involved in a variety of apostolic ministry including parish, youth work, action for social justice, and hospital chaplaincy. This was the opportunity to reflect upon and pray about, the pastoral activities of the last year. It took place in a Carmelite convent. As a source of inspiration (and to pray for the beatification of Father Founder), Rafael Ramila proposed a reflection on the Founder's spirituality, the pastoral activity of the Society of Mary and on the experience of each individual in their local context today. All found it a fruitful exercise. They spent the last part of the day in prayer with Fr Colin asking his intercession for the Society, for the General Chapter, the needs of their community, and the needs of each one.



MARIST CITY CENTRE MISSION SEMINAR & LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE, LONDON, 1-5 MAY 2017

Some reflections from Michael Whelan (AUS):

23 Marists representing Australia, New Zealand, Germany, England, France, United States, Italy and Moscow, were present. The first 3 days involved attending the International Leadership Conference organized by Alpha. The 4th and 5th days involved a series of meetings amongst ourselves as Marists ... I found it a rich experience, more valuable for formation than information. ... The highlight of the 2nd day was the interview with Jean Vanier (recorded some days earlier in France and screened to us). Nicky Gumbel (interviewer and the co-host of the Leadership conference) asked Vanier what were the characteristics of a good leader. Without a pause, JV said: "Listening!" His answer was compelling because of who he is and what he had been saying... I am reminded of Thomas Merton's turn of phrase: "survival or prophecy". Are we going to focus on "survival" – in which case we will probably drift into death – or "prophecy" – in which case, we will probably die leaving a rich legacy to the people of God. We must be more about prophecy than survival." The full interview with Jean Vanier (in English) is available on YouTube and by following the link: bit.ly/CCChJeanVanier2017

A VISITATOR IN NEW ZEALAND, (BONUS CHAPTER 16, PACIFIC COMMITMENT 1843, A MISSION TOO FAR), JAN SNIJDERS

"Colin panicked. He wanted to resign and hand over to an experienced administrator. He knew very well that management of temporal affairs had never been his strong suit. He organised the election of a successor to take place during the retreat of September. His health went visibly down. Behind the scene of the retreat senior Marists held intensive deliberations that set out another course. They convinced Colin not to resign, scrap the election, take a long rest in Belley and send a visitor to New Zealand." In order to find out what happened next, you need to read the bonus chapter of Jan Sniijders' (NL) remarkable work on the history of the Marist mission in Oceania. Soon to be available on the Marist Studies site: www.mariststudies.org or by following this link: bit.ly/Mission2Far16.

