

## ▶ ECHOES FROM THE LIFE OF THE EUROPEAN PROVINCE



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

### Prayer Intentions

This month you are invited to pray their success of the ministries, the confrères and all Marists in the Region of Germany. The chapter reminds us to keep praying for vocations, especially to Marists religious life.



### GREETINGS FROM PARIS!

The follow-up on the Chapter continued this month with gatherings in various parts of the province. News of the Dutch assembly will be included next month. The Chapter documents have now been circulated to all the confreres and are available now in English and French at: [www.maristeurope.eu/En/130318ActaChapProvincialEn.pdf](http://www.maristeurope.eu/En/130318ActaChapProvincialEn.pdf). [www.maristeurope.eu/Fr/130318ActaChapProvincialFr.pdf](http://www.maristeurope.eu/Fr/130318ActaChapProvincialFr.pdf). There are also some fruits of the Education Forum, Passau 2012. Please remember to send contributions for future editions of EuroInfo and we also appreciate your words of encouragement.

Joaquín Fernández & Martin McAnaney

### Quote for the Month from Fr. Colin

*“By the spirit of prayer, by praying without ceasing, I do not mean always having your rosary in your hand, always being prayer; oh no! Certainly we must be faithful in all the little spiritual exercises, so as to sustain our piety. By the spirit of prayer, I mean being continually dependent upon the will of God; being like a child at its father’s side.” (FS 44:3)*

Further material can be found at [www.jeanclaudecolin.org](http://www.jeanclaudecolin.org)

### Fruits of the Passau Education Forum, Germany

Following on from the Marist European Education Forum (Passau and Fürstzell, November 2012), the leadership team of the *Maristen Gymnasium* ([www.mgf.de](http://www.mgf.de)) invited members of the teaching staff to gather for a day to discuss further Marist Ethos in the school. 40 people participated in the session on March 23<sup>rd</sup>, the first day of the Easter holidays in Bavaria. Dr Feucht, (school principal), shared information about the 'European Network of Marist Schools. This was followed by input from Marist Fathers, A. Greiler and W.Tangen. Then participants formed five groups to share on: Which needs do we perceive in our school? Which values do we pursue? How can a Marist / Marian spirit enrich our school family? Material was presented on how to work with Marist history and spirituality in the school. The group also found time to eat together, ask questions, and to conclude with prayer.





## Provincial House, Paris

Is it possible to have a logo for the European Marist Education Network? This question was asked during the Passau Education Forum (November 2012). A small working group gathered in Paris on

April 23rd and 24th to try to answer it. The members of the group were Laurence Beraud-Schmitt from Toulon, Marc Bouchacourt from Lyon,



Christine Macauley from Blackburn, Mick McCarthy and Jacqueline Whelan from Dublin and with Marist Fathers Alois Greiler (Regional Superior of Germany) and Martin McAnaney (PA). They began by sharing their lived experience of Marist Ethos in the education context. Based on this they identified key values, examined sample logos and finally came up with a general outlined for a logo. Participants were surprised they were able to answer the question so positively. Although this was only the first step, they hope to be able to finalise something before the end of the year.

[european-marist-education.over-blog.com](http://european-marist-education.over-blog.com)

### Post-Chapter Assemblies:

#### Region of Italy - Post-Chapter Assembly:

On April 23rd, 18 Marists of the Italian Region met at the General House of the Marist Brothers in Rome to explore the Provincial Chapter documents. They came from all the communities in Italy to *“present the conclusions of the chapter and, in the light of its mandate, to initiate a reflection on our regional reality”*. A PowerPoint presentation followed by a detailed reading of the Chapter documents facilitated understanding of its content. Participants then reflected on the regional situation stressing its many positive realities: Education, community, more missionary parishes, care of the elderly, etc. The next step (at the end of July) will be to see what needs to be reviewed and improved and how to do it. Two members of the provincial administration were present at the gathering, Joaquin Fernandez and Martin McAnaney.



## Council of the Province (CoP), April 15th – 17th and joint Provincial / Regional Council Meeting, Passau, Germany

The German Region extended a warm welcome to the CoP meeting which took place in the diocesan formation centre, Haus St Maximilian ([www.bistum-passau.de/](http://www.bistum-passau.de/)). The meeting was dedicated to reaching a shared understanding of the options of the Provincial Chapter and devising a strategy to implement them. Although the Chapter did not produce many texts, the implications of each one needed to be considered in detail and this resulted in a packed timetable. However, there was still some time set aside to enjoy the beauties of the city and the hospitality of the Fürstenzell community. The first evening there was a special church-organ concert given by Roland Feucht (principal of the school in Fürstenzell) in the Passau Dom and the next day he gave the confrères a tour of the school. The Provincial Council stayed on in Passau for another two days for their regular April meeting. Together with the German Regional council, they spent a half-day considering German regional priorities and the needs of the province.



## The Year of Colin and the Annual Provincial Retreat 2013

A reminder that the annual retreat this year is linked with the Year of Colin and it will take place at La Neylière, Sunday July 14th 18h to Saturday July 20th 09h. The theme is: **“Marists, sons of Jean Claude Colin - following the pioneer of our vocation, a man of faith”**.

Fr Damien Diouf, from the District of Africa will lead it. Email La Neylière: [neyli@wanadoo.fr](mailto:neyli@wanadoo.fr) Tel : +33 (0)4 78 48 40 33

### Obituary

François Bouttier, (Fr) 11/04/2013  
Thomas Stokes, (US + Ir) 22/04/2013