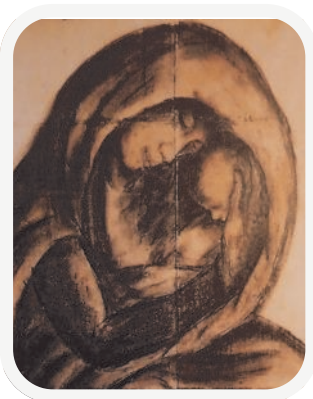


## ► ECHOES FROM THE LIFE OF THE EUROPEAN PROVINCE

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



### GREETINGS FROM PARIS!

This month all regions have begun work on a process to develop “scenarios” for the future of the province and the work will continue over the coming months. We include a mention of two important provincial gatherings in Rome, an observation about life in an almost deserted La Neylière. There have been some interesting publications too. We hope you had a wonderful celebration of Christmas and that the New Year will bring you peace and joy.

Joaquín Fernández &  
Martin McAnaney

### Implementation of the Provincial Chapter Solidarity Commission

The provincial chapter asked the provincial to establish a Solidarity Commission to serve as a *mechanism* to assist in the coordination of this ministry in the province as well as throughout the Society. Its task is to establish concrete ways in which Marists can be informed about the ministry and “be in solidarity with those who are involved in the struggle for justice” (SD 2009, 22). Over the last 3 years the province has taken steps to explore the significant relationship between social justice ministry and our vocation by means of 3 Forums, a survey and the 2011 annual retreat. This Commission will take a fresh look at animating this ministry and supporting confreres in related activities. It is currently consulting confreres about their involvement as a follow-up on the earlier 2011 research. They are due to meet again in January 2014 to consider responses to this consultation after which they hope to make suggestions about a way forward.



### “Scenario for the future”

Linked to the question of writing new Provincial Statutes, all confreres are engaged in a process to develop “scenarios” for the future of the European province. The challenge is to develop possible ways we can structure the province for the future. The group of the youngest members of the province (Tom Kouijzer, Daniel Fernandez and Thilo Saft) gathered in Rome on Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> for a creative workshop animated by Paul Walsh (Ir). Daniel reports it was a very satisfying experience and it proved stimulating working together to ponder the reality of the province in Europe. Lots of ideas were generated and he adds with a smile, some of them are even good ones!!!





## La Neylière

"Entrance Forbidden to the Public" These are the words written in large letters on the entry door. This is the reality of La Neylière today! In fact it is not safe to enter the house – where floorboards are torn up, and you have to 'slalom' between the pillar-supports now replacing demolished walls. For everyone here it is very peculiar to have La Neylière out of operation - the annexes until next March and the main building at least until spring 2015. For everyone it was a strange sensation to share the Christmas festive glass with the staff as a "Farewell" for three months. We, the community, have found refuge in the "House of the Sisters" in Pomeys. Only Jean-Bernard Jolly (FR) remains at his post in the property like a guardian angel who watches over La Neylière during the works. And like everything that is the beginning of something new, "one can see it springs up already!" (Is: 43.19)



## Publications

**Faustino Ferrari (IT):**  
*Wanderers of dreams and of the infinite*  
<http://bit.ly/1idTZKQ>



This is a collection of short stories which direct the reader to various spiritual experiences e.g. the need to take steps which touch one's existence at a deeper level; experience of *walking* evoking images of change and rupture which remind us that the whole of human existence can be understood as a constant "going forward".

**Jan Snijders** recently published on the internet, Chapter 12 of his remarkable book "A Mission too Far". It can be found at <http://bit.ly/19himm1>.

As a reminder, Chapter 11 is available in *Forum Novum* December 2012 and can be found at <http://bit.ly/18BCNGn>.

## Prayer Intentions

The pre-novices including the Norwegian, Nikolai Reimers Massen (NL) from the province have begun their final preparations in Davao, Philippines



for the novitiate which begins in February 2014. The others are Guy- Roger Assogoma (Cameroon), Soane Hehea (Tonga), Viliami Kiola (Tonga), Mikaele Misinale (Tonga), Pio Ravu (Fiji), Leonard Safeh (Cameroon) Benedict d'Souza (New Zealand), Samuele Tukidia (Fiji) and Stev Youm (Senegal). You are invited to pray for them and all those who will contribute to their experience over the coming year.

## Obituary

Marcel Mahé (Fr)	16.12.2013
Franz Herkenhoff (G)	26.12.2013