



# Provincial Circular

Marist Fathers Australian Province

Vol: 7/2012

## Provincial's Letter

Dear Confreres

On 15th November we begin 'The Colin Year' reflecting on the life of our Founder as we seek to live our Marist mission today.

As you are aware, since the 2009 General Chapter, the Society has taken up anew the promotion of the cause of the Founder. In order to deepen our knowledge of Jean Claude Colin, I encourage you to make the most of this 'Colin Year'.

Ron Nissen has been working hard, at the request of the superior general, to do some specific tasks in promoting the Founder's cause. Among these has been to oversee a wonderful new website [jeanclaudecolin.org](http://jeanclaudecolin.org)

which holds many resources to help the Founder become better known and understood.

One of the ideas for us all to take up in this year is a Weekly Reflection which ideally we can do as a community or small group, reflecting and sharing together on some of the Founder's words. Both the suggested process and the quote for each week can be found in the resources section of the new website.

The quote for week 1 is from A Founder Speaks 120:1: 'Let us take courage and work hard, but always hidden and unknown. Let us keep away from those who rely on a merely human eloquence. The Society must begin a new Church over again. I do not mean that in a literal sense, that would be blasphemy. But still, in a certain sense, yes, we must begin a new Church.'

Please do all you can to promote the Founder's cause and to deepen your own understanding of his insights.

A few weeks ago, Bob Barber and I were in Rome to meet with the Superior General, the General Administration and all the major superiors in the Society for the Annual Review Consultation (ARC). Michael Mullins and Jim Christie SJ facilitated the meeting and John Honner was present for the 'Review of Governance' part of the meeting.

John Hannan has recently circulated a letter giving the major outcomes of the meeting. It is entitled 'Regeneration for Mission in Uncertain Times' and a copy has been sent to each confrere. Please read it through and talk it over with other



confreres.

I have just a couple of personal reflections as I look back on our third ARC. Firstly it is, I believe, growing as a body where true collegiality takes place.

Difficult issues were discussed, voices were listened to, and most importantly, significant progress was made on some of the thorny issues the Society is trying to face.

Some examples: The review of governance, as you can read in John Hannan's letter, took an important turn. No longer is the emphasis on the mature provinces being joined together. Creative ways of matching the younger energy in the Society with prioritized needs are being explored.

International formation was given close attention. On the Sunday during the meeting the whole group visited the new international theologate at Via Livorno in Rome. There are currently nine Marist seminarians and three staff there.

Later in our meeting, the theologate formation team of John Larsen (Philippines), Pedro Alarcon (Mexico) and Donato Kivi (Oceania), spent a session with us to outline the theologate story so far and to answer questions.

One of the key issues facing the Society is the cost per student of the international for-

mation model. The annual running costs for the theologate in Rome will be around €30,000 (ie. about \$38,000) per student. The house itself is excellent and very suitable for its purpose. There seems to be a great spirit among the young men. If we had a seminarian in our province ready to begin theology, it would be an exciting three-year adventure for him to do his studies in Rome.

A further example was the finance review. Finances are never an easy topic to discuss at the international level. Countries have different laws relating to the taxation of charities, pensions, ease or difficulty of international transfers and ownership of Church-related properties.

Our Australian system is very user-friendly and enables us to be relatively free in how we deploy our financial resources for the mission of the Society. Others face greater complications and constraints. Our province will be looked to for continuing generous support as the Society's international priorities are made clearer.

My overall feeling after the meeting was one of realism and hope. There are big issues to face, particularly around diminishment, but there is also a great deal of healthy life and goodwill as we approach the future.

*Paul Cooney*

*Provincial*

12 November 2012

## Provincial Diary

### November

- 14 Visitation Lane Cove
- 15 Launch of Colin Year
- 19 Bob Barber back in Sydney
- 20 Provincial Council
- 25 Mass for Deceased Ex-students, Bellambi
- 26 Committee for Ageing
- 27 Provincial Finance Committee

### December

- 6 Aboriginal Ministry meeting Lismore
- 7 CLRI Executive, Rosebery
- 8 Marist Brothers Mass for Inauguration of New Province of Australia. St Mary's Cathedral, Sydney
- 11 Towards Healing Panel
- 12 MAP Ongoing Formation Program ends

## Appointments

### Ray Chapman



Ray has been appointed for a further three-year term as parish priest of St Patrick's Parish, Church Hill from 1st January 2013.

### **Paul Mahony**



Paul has been appointed for a further three-year term as parish priest of Gladstone Parish from 1st January 2013.

### **Kevin Stewart**



Kevin has been appointed for a further three-year term as Director of the Marist Mission Centre from 1st January 2013.

### **Peter McMurrich**



Peter has been appointed Superior of the Villa Maria Community, Hunters Hill for a three-year term from 1st January 2013.

### **Bernie McFadyen**



Bernie has been appointed assistant priest and member of the community at St Patrick's, Church Hill from 1st January 2013.

## **Province News**

### **New Zealand & Oceania Provincial Chapters**

Kevin Bates is an observer on behalf of the province at the

New Zealand Provincial Chapter from 11 to 16 November.

Gerard Hall will be an observer on behalf of the province at the Oceania Provincial Chapter from 6-18 January 2013.

Thanks to Kevin and Gerard for doing this on our behalf.

### **MAP Ongoing Formation Spirituality & Lifestyle Program**

The second program began at Hunters Hill on 7th October and will continue until 12th December. There are eleven participants, ten from Oceania and one from the Philippines, with the team being Paul Sullivan and Setefano Mataele (Oceania).

So far everything is going well. As well as the serious work, there was a recent outing by car to a misty Blue Mountains, and an enjoyable flutter on the Melbourne Cup sweep.

### **Visitation by Superior General**

At the time of the ARC meeting in Rome, John Hannan spoke with Paul Cooney and Bob Barber about his visitation of the Australian province. John is keen to come in the first half of 2013.

The dates decided on are

from 23rd March to 16th April. John will attend the Provincial Council meeting on 16th April.

The dates for next year's Marist Asia Pacific meeting, to be held in Wellington, New Zealand, have been changed to 18th—20th April to enable John Hannan to be present at that meeting.

### **Kevin Kerley**

Those who live at Hunters Hill are aware of the years of dedicated research and writing that Kevin has been undertaking on the years of the crisis in Bougainville. We honour Kevin for his tireless work, the fruit of which has been warmly received by those seeking a fuller understanding of Bougainville's history at that troubled time. We wish Kevin well as he continues his research.

### **Commissioning of new Provincial and Vicar Provincial**

On the evening of Tuesday, 29th January, there will be a ritual of commissioning for Bob Barber and Peter McMurrich as they take up their roles as Provincial and Vicar. The event will take place at Hunters Hill and all confreres are invited. It will be followed by a celebratory meal. More details will be given later.

## Sick

### **Frank Callanan**

Frank was recently in Concord Hospital for surgery to improve circulation in his leg. He is recovering at home at Villa Maria.

### **John V Walsh**

John recently had a procedure to assist with his vascular system. He is recovering well at Montbel.

## Death

### **Fr Toma'akino Lakai**



Toma, a Marist Father from Tonga, aged 38 and only 3 years ordained, died on 7th November when the vehicle he was driving overturned near Hanahan, the parish he was ministering in Bougainville.

Chris Ulena, a former Marist

seminarian who was living in the parish house with Toma, also died in the accident.

May Toma and Chris rest in peace.

## Advertisements

### **Currumbin & Bilgola Flats**

The self-contained flat at **Currumbin** is available for bookings for Marists and their families. Bookings are made through Judy Saliba at the Provincial Office. Current bookings are:

8-19 Nov T Ryan  
20-30 Nov P McMurrich  
8-17 Dec T Ryan  
26 Dec—7 Jan M Carroll

#### **2013**

8-16 Jan J Worthington  
17 Jan—7 Feb T Ryan  
17 Feb-3 Mar J Hargrave

The self-contained flat at **Bilgola** is available for Marists to book for an extended holiday, a retreat or an extended period of study. Bookings are made through the Vicar-Provincial. Current bookings are:

#### **2013**

17-24 Jan M Mullins  
3-9 Feb K Redmond



## Enclosures

1.

**Colin Prayer Cards**

2.

**Stipend Rates (NSW)  
Bishops Conference &  
CLRI**

3.

**Recommended Ministerial  
Stipends for Religious**

4.

**Stipends: Catholic Reli-  
gious Australia Qld**

5.

**Death Notices:**

**Fr Gunther Koller sm**

**Fr Jacques Riberolles sm**

**Fr Jerome Rawa sm**

**Fr Toma'akino sm**

## Anniversaries

### November

- 1 Fr Arthur Keane  
1975
- 3 Fr Frank Miltrup  
1996
- 8 Br Peter Jeanneau  
1903
- 9 Fr Auguste Guillemin  
1905
- 9 Fr Sidney Mitchell  
1984
- 9 Fr John Smith  
1998
- 11 Br Matthew Howard  
1894
- 13 Fr James Roche

1965

- 17 Fr Francis Rasmussen  
1993
- 19 Fr Thomas McBreen  
1968
- 21 Fr Jim Murphy  
1996
- 22 Fr Emile Talon  
1919
- 30 Fr Terence Wicks  
2005

### December

- 1 Fr Anthony Glynn  
1994
- 4 Fr James Bell  
1981
- 6 Fr Thomas Segrief  
1940
- 9 Br Anthony Burke  
1991
- 12 Fr Geoffrey Till  
1987
- 13 Br Bede Downey  
1962
- 16 Br Alphonsus Donaghy  
1994
- 17 Fr James Harcombe  
2009
- 19 Fr Thomas McGovern  
1993
- 21 Fr Victor Couderc  
1960
- 24 Fr Patrick Abbot  
2001
- 25 Fr Hisagi Koyama  
1985
- 29 Fr Patrick McGuinness  
1884
- 29 Fr Karl Flaus  
1920
- 29 Fr James Monaghan  
1955