



# EURO info



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

## COUNCIL OF THE PROVINCE (CoP), PASSAU, GERMANY, 8-9 APRIL

Twice a year the provincial administration meets with representatives from the 8 countries where Marists are present to continue the task of discerning God's call to us in Europe. The 15 participants were welcomed by the Marist communities of Passau and Fürstenzell, and the excellent facilities of the diocesan centre, *Spectrum Kirche* ([www.spectrumkirche.de](http://www.spectrumkirche.de)), helped the work of the assembly. The CoP took a major step for the province by finalising two protocols for: (i) the meaning of provincial visitation in our current circumstances and (ii) defining the roles of the national group of local superiors and of the national coordinator. These texts will be distributed to the confreres in the 6 languages of the province soon. During the evaluation of the meeting, participants remarked with gratitude on the fraternal atmosphere and the honest sharing.



## GREETINGS FROM MADRID!

Christ is risen! He is truly Risen! May the joy and New Life of this Easter fill you with every grace and blessing! In the weeks before Easter, the Marist family in the Netherlands gathered to prepare for the Feast, and a shrine in Italy had its own resurrection story to tell. A Marist shares about his joyful pastoral ministry in the Russian Federation! The German town of Passau hosted the Council of the Province. We thank those who have shared their stories with the whole province.

*Francisco Chauwet and  
Martin McAnaney*



**OBITUARY** Br Joris (George) van der Zant,  
(Oceania/the Netherlands) 12.04.2019.  
Fr. Louis Bernard Saunier (Fr) 24.04.2019

## EASTER PRAYER INTENTION

Christ our Risen Lord, we lift our voices to you. We celebrate the day when you rose from death, defeated darkness and bathed the world in stunning resurrection light. Together with Mary and those who first believed, may we ever live to praise you! Amen.

## REOPENING OF THE SANCTUARY IN PRATOLA PELIGNA, ITALY, 13 APRIL

Some of you may remember the devastating earthquake (24 August 2016) which struck the town of *Amatrice* and surrounding towns in central Italy. 247 lost their lives and over 1,000 people were displaced. Amongst the buildings damaged, was the sanctuary of the *Madonna della Libera* which had to close its doors. The shrine has been staffed by a Marist community since 1924. Since the earthquake, parish celebrations have taken place in a disused cinema and a large outdoor tent. The parish priest, Renato Frappi (It) writes: "... on the evening of 13 April, Pratola Peligna experienced a moment of great joy with the reopening of the shrine. The magnificent sanctuary has gone through major renovations to return it to its original splendor. So ends the long "Exodus" period of the local Christian community! We welcomed home the statue of the *Madonna della Libera* to the shrine with deep emotion, in the presence of the Bishop Michaele Fusco, and many representatives of local authorities. We celebrated the Easter Triduum in our sanctuary, and we look forward with renewed joy, to the solemn Feast of the Madonna della Libera in May!"



## "OUR LADY OF HOPE" PARISH, A CITY CENTER MARIST PARISH, MOSCOW, RUSSIAN FEDERATION



Michael Ryan (Eng/Ru) writes: "The buzz from the 2018 World Cup in Russia has quietened down and, although *"snowflakes keep falling on our heads!"*, the little community of our Lady of Hope is thriving in the biggest metropolis on the European continent; alive and praising God, "who does great things for us"... and we are here holding up the Marist spirit, if not the Marist flag! So, who are we? We are an African, American and Asian Parish in the capital of the Russian Federation... and with Russians and Europeans too! And occasionally, some

people from Syria and Latinos! Our thriving parish meets joyfully and noisily behind closed doors in hired halls, quietly in private residences, at other times, in embassy premises, or occasionally in the "prayer rooms" of a morgue or a crematorium, and in the open air of a cemetery. All within the law laid down for "officially registered, local religious organisations". For full text in English: [bit.ly/MRmoscow](http://bit.ly/MRmoscow)

Videos: <http://bit.ly/OurLady2>

<http://bit.ly/OurLady3> <http://bit.ly/OurLady1>



## MARIST RECOLLECTION, SLANGENBURG BENEDICTINE ABBAY, THE NETHERLANDS, 22 - 24 MARCH



Ad Blommerde (NL) writes: "It is an annual tradition both in Advent and Lent, for Dutch confreres to organise a time of recollection open to the whole Marist family and their friends. This Lenten season, 25 participants gathered in the small but dynamic Benedictine Abbey of "Slangenburg", near Doetinchem ([willibrordsabdij.nl](http://willibrordsabdij.nl)). The abbot gave a number of conferences on the Rule of St Benedict which sparked in-depth discussions. A very good weekend!"

