



GREETINGS FROM PARIS!

As Marists, we aim to do the Work of Mary today, whatever the actual circumstances of our lives or indeed, those of society around us such as the pandemic crisis. All our efforts witness to Mary's manner of being a disciple.

We recognise our Marist approach to mission in Pope Francis' insistence that a Christian 'missionary' acts as a facilitator, and not as a controller of the faith.

Our Marist heritage tells us that the act of accompanying others in various domains means facilitating the journey of the other person, avoiding placing obstacles in their path of accepting the healing embrace of God's unconditional love.

This leads us, religious and lay, to undertake many and varied tasks to serve others and to attract them towards faith in the loving God.

This month we read examples of doing this by means of pilgrimages, theological studies and undertaking tasks far from home.

A Church on the move!

*Francisco Chauvet
and Martin McAnaney*

OBITUARY

Jacques Arfeuillère (Fr)
08.06.2020
Eugen Lausmann (Ger)
20.06.2020

EUROINFO

43 YEARS OF MARIST PILGRIMAGES



Our confrere Michael Coleman (Eng) has been leading pilgrimages from England to Lourdes and several other places and shrines for the last 43 years.

He writes: "I have no precise idea of the number of people who have travelled but I think that it has to be more than 8,000. We must have been to Lourdes over 40 times and to Rome twenty times. In Assisi, we were caught up in the earthquake which destroyed the city. The shrine to Padre Pio proved to be a wonderful experience on two occasions. A pilgrimage to Fatima and Compostela was an occasion of peace and joy and proved very popular.

One particularly noteworthy pilgrim who travelled with us was an Anglican Bishop. He joined us on a number of occasions with some of his relatives. Czestochowa, the Marian Shrine of Poland, too was much appreciated. The birth place of Pope John Paul II added a perspective as did the visit to the horrors of the concentration camp in Auschwitz.

The Holy Land has been a destination on five occasions, which gives us a deeper understanding of Mary, Our Mother, and Her special role.

The pilgrimages to our Marist places of origins were always popular and people showed greatest interest in these places which so influenced the foundation of the Society of Mary."





PRAYER INTENTION FOR MISSION



Lord, help us remember that Your Kingdom is not only beyond our efforts, it is even beyond our vision; that we accomplish in our lifetime only a tiny fraction of the magnificent enterprise that is God's work. Yet we plant the seeds that one day will grow. We water seeds already planted, knowing that they hold future promise. We may never see the end results, because we are workers, not master builders, ministers, not messiahs. We are prophets of a future that is not our own (St Óscar Romero).

JOAQUIN FERNANDEZ (Esp) WRITES FROM "CERDON", THE MARIST INTERNATIONAL NOVIATE IN THE PHILIPPINES

In 2018, Joaquin finished his mandate as provincial bursar in Paris and joined the Marist international novitiate formation team in Davao.

He writes: "It has been a little over a year and a half since I arrived in the Philippines. The change from Paris to Davao was quite radical but I was not going to spend a month in my new home thinking of going back! Everything is different: the land, climate, house, food, clothing, people, customs. Thank God my body responded well and my spirit too.

The group of novices who arrived a week later was very varied and international. They were 10 young men between 19 and 34 years of age, coming from 4 continents and 6 different nationalities. My involvement in the program is in the area of Spiritual Life and Consecrated Life. These topics are rich and varied... The important thing is to offer the novices the elements that will allow them to discern their vocation.

I consider it a privilege and a grace to be at the service of the mission of the Society of Mary in the formation of its members in the novitiate. Being in contact with young people and future Marists, helps me to see Marist life from another perspective which instills hope. The results are never guaranteed of course. God and Mary are the ones who watch over their Family." Links to his letter in Spanish <https://bit.ly/3iLhAft> and English <https://bit.ly/38DkaZt>.



A MARIST PRESENCE IN THIRD LEVEL CATHOLIC EDUCATION, DECLAN MARMION (IRE)



Declan Marmion is a native of Dublin and was ordained as a Marist priest in 1988. He has been working in field of theology for over 20 years in the Milltown Institute of Philosophy and Theology in Dublin and since 2010 at St. Patrick's College, Maynooth, Ireland. He serves as Dean of the Faculty and Professor of Systematic Theology. St Patrick's College is the Irish National Seminary and a Pontifical University with about 200 undergraduate students and 50 postgraduate students at Masters, Licentiate and Doctorate levels.

Declan's work comprises: academic administration, undergraduate and postgraduate teaching, research supervision and writing. He is also the editor of the Irish Theological Quarterly, an international peer-review journal: (bit.ly/IrishTheoQly); and co-editor of the series, Theology, Society and Culture with Peter Lang (bit.ly/PeterLangStudies) - 14 volumes published to date. Declan writes: "I am fortunate to be part of a talented and committed group of academic colleagues at the Pontifical University (PU) - about 20 of us - men and women, lay and ordained. Hopefully we can make a positive contribution to forming the future leaders of the Church both in Ireland and overseas - lay and clerical."

