



GREETINGS FROM PARIS!

The mission of evangelisation takes many forms. The education ministry is one of them. From the very beginning of the European province, it has been a priority.

Times have changed since the early nineteenth century, and yet the intuitions of Fr Colin still hold true: "...what a great work education is. There is nothing so difficult, nothing that requires so much tact... But nothing more meritorious, nothing greater" (A Founder Speaks, 13§10).

This month's issue of EuroInfo highlights some initiatives that seek to share the Gospel, both in word and in action, in a variety of ways.

*Francisco Chauvet
and Martin McAnaney*

PRAYER INTENTION

Heavenly Father, as we rejoice for the feast of Pentecost, send your Spirit upon us once again. We hunger for the life-changing power that your Holy Spirit brings. May our lives witness to the fruits of your Spirit: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. May we use these gifts to build your Kingdom on earth. Amen

EUROINFO

THE FATHERS' WALK, SAINTE-MARIE LYON ON 6 MARCH 2021



Roger Lordong (Fr) writes: Our school is a home. Parents entrust us with their children and we walk with them. As we do every year, the Fathers' Walk took place, despite the bad weather. We walked 24 kilometres from Lyon, where the Marist Fathers founded Sainte-Marie, and Meyzieu, where our new high school, still under constructions, will welcome its first pupils in September. The fathers of several students prepared the itinerary to guide us. Priests from the diocese and Marist Fathers, walked, prayed and were available for the sacrament of reconciliation. Members of the Saint-Martin community also completed the walk with us and welcomed the group for the parish mass at the Jean XXIII centre. A father of a pupil who is in charge of building works at Sainte-Marie Lyon, was able to open the gates of the construction site in Meyzieu for us where other parents were waiting. It was a wonderful experience to see the joy of the Church gathered in the name of Mary...and of Saint Joseph, who can teach us to have a heart of a father!"

SOLIDARITY SHEETS FROM THE PROVINCIAL SOLIDARITY COMMITTEE



Ivan Vodopivec (Eng) writes: We are happy to share with our readers the 3rd and 4th reflection sheets prepared by our committee. We hope to deepen our Marist and Christian commitment with our brothers and sisters in need.

Unemployed and Homeless No.3. (Easter)
DE: bit.ly/3rsIWEy FR: bit.ly/3IWlZAc
ES: bit.ly/3fexedj IT: bit.ly/31jxKi2
EN: bit.ly/39gJOVw NL: bit.ly/3fiszqQ
Education No.4 (Pentecost)
DE: bit.ly/3IVQ1vp FR: bit.ly/31mUoWK
ES: bit.ly/3colgvS IT: bit.ly/3rsnqP8
EN: bit.ly/3rsnsGK NL: bit.ly/3sE5UsZ



BEING
MARY'S
PRESENCE
IN THE
WORLD



WEBINAR IN NORWAY

In preparation for the feast of the Annunciation, Lay Marists in Norway held a webinar, deprived as they have been of their usual meetings by the lockdown. With short inputs from the Marist priests and lay members, the focus was on the shocking realization of what the pregnancy entailed for a girl in her teens, for her family, for Joseph and for her own dreams, for the future. The 30 participants shared on Mary's probable expectations before and after Gabriel's visit. The response was very positive and the leaders are planning another webinar before Pentecost. Many appreciated the way the webinar gave an overview of Mary's place in the Church. Others remarked that they were happy that we Marists were in contact with each other again, in spite of the pandemic.



SPECIAL CLASS AT SAINTE-MARIE À LYON - HELPING STUDENTS FROM OVERSEAS

Mayada Chamy teaches French as a foreign language at the Marist school in Lyon. She writes: "The French education system gives special support to pupils from overseas whose mother tongue is neither French nor



English (UPEAA). Our class is very diverse as we generally welcome young people in secondary school whose ages vary greatly, from 12 to 20. Many young people are refugees from Iraq or Syria. Most of the Iraqi students speak

Aramaic as their mother tongue, the language Jesus spoke. The UPEAA class welcomes all young newcomers, Algerian, Chinese, Angolan, Albanian, Malian, Afghan and Moroccan. Some pupils have never attended school previously, others have followed an ordinary schooling in their country of origin. When their problem is only linguistic, they are integrated into their age group and follow a programme adapted to their needs by the teaching staff and volunteers. At the beginning, the biggest difficulty is to establish a climate of trust. Some find the rigour and discipline difficult. All the pupils initially have problems with pronunciation, especially vowels, and, a little later, with written expressions. Being faced with a blank sheet of paper, can be a big challenge!"

A NEW MARIST PUBLICATION: « AU BOUT DU MONDE, L'AVENTURE MARISTE » (TO THE ENDS OF THE WORLD: THE MARIST ADVENTURE)

Bernard Thomasset (Fr) has been working with "Marists in Education", a lay Marist association working with our schools in France. He writes: "We wished to share with young people the faith that animates the Marists. We decided to do this by producing a comic strip. Our project was to present the Marist adventure from its the origins, in order to show what continues to inspire the Marists of today. Our target audience was mostly teenagers, although we knew we could also reach many adults, who in France are fond of this type of literature. The team set itself the following objectives: to include in the story the young people of today; to present Marist life as a collective adventure - fathers, brothers, sisters and laypeople; to stay as close as possible to the historical truth; to ensure that the images and texts resonate with our times; to keep the suspense alive. The comic book came out in December and was presented to our young people the occasion of a new school year or when preparing for a sacrament.

The book is available in French from the schools or on request from tutellescolaire.fr@maristeurope.eu

