



GREETINGS FROM PARIS!

The power of the message of Easter is the promise of a new start and life! Despite our human frailty and sins, the pain and struggles of life are not the last word on our world. This Word

belongs to God's compassion and healing, urging us to hope and love.

Its fruits are love of our neighbour, coupled with a passion for justice and peace in our world. In spite of the images of war and distress in the Ukraine which we witness daily and could lead us towards despair, we place our trust in the full power of the Gospel message. We hear of the welcome of refugees in Italy, opportunities for fresh starts in La Neylière.

The province too will hold its annual retreat there to embrace the renewal of the grace of our Marist vocation.

(EN bit.ly/SMEUretreat
FR bit.ly/SMEUretraite).

We wish all our readers a blessed Easter!

*Francisco Chauvet and
Martin McAnaney*

EURO INFO

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF *MARISTES EN EDUCATION* (MEE), 17-19 MARCH, LA NEYLIÈRE



As a French lay association recognised by the Church, MeE promotes the Marist characteristic spirit and values in Marist schools in France. Brigitte Chaignon, moderator of the organisation, writes: "Members and friends of the association from the seven Marist schools in France gathered at La Neylière for their annual general meeting. We were very pleased to be able to gather again after two years of Covid restrictions. Fr Hubert Bonnet Eymard and Pauline de Lambilly both from Notre Dame de France in London also attended. From the education network in Ireland, Catherine Kirk and Daniel Deery participated as observers. Our theme for the year is: "I believe, I believe in it" or "The one who climbs never stops going from beginnings that never end" - Gregory of Nyssa. Besides opportunities to pray in the Chapel again, there were two talks. The first one animated by Fr Federspiel was inspired by the encounter between Christ and Bartimaeus, "The pedagogy of God in Revelation, or how God goes about helping his people to grow". Emmanuel Tilmont, deputy director of Fénelon in Toulon, gave a presentation to help us reflect on the theme: "Jean Claude Colin's advice to teachers – leaven for growth, words of hope?"



Afterwards, some participants walked in the surrounding countryside, others visited the Oceania and the Colin Museums. The evening concluded with a lyrical concert by the Little Singers of Lyon (bit.ly/MeE2022). The following day there was an exchange of news, followed by an inter-establishment meeting to lay the foundations for further reflection, which is the basis of the life of our association "Marists in Education". During the Mass of Saint Joseph at the end of the gathering, we welcomed new members to the association. The session was both convivial and rich and it should have an important impact on our educational establishments.



BEING
MARY'S
PRESENCE
IN THE
WORLD



PRAYER INTENTION

God of peace and justice, who changes the hardened heart and breaks the power of violence, we entrust to you the people who suffer violence in our world, especially the people of Ukraine. Strengthen in us the message of hope which radiates from the empty tomb of Easter. Confirm in us the truth that you are with us both in suffering and in a life lived to the full so we can live in the truth of your love. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

MARIST VOCATION YEAR REFLECTION SHEETS



During this special year focused on the Marist vocation, a series of reflections sheets has been prepared. The one for this month is on Living the Marist Vocation with passion by Justin Ratsi.

Links to the different languages:

Deutsch: bit.ly/mvy5de

English: bit.ly/mvy5en

Español: bit.ly/mvy5es

Français: bit.ly/mvy5fr

Nederlands: bit.ly/mvy5nl

Italiano: bit.ly/mvy5it

THE MARIST COMMUNITY HOUSE, BRESCIA, WELCOMES UKRAINIAN REFUGEES

People from all over Europe are offering to welcome Ukrainian refugees forced to flee their country because of the war in their homeland. The local diocesan authorities through Caritas in Brescia, are running a program to facilitate this welcome. The local Marist community decided to open its doors to a group of 12 Ukrainian refugees. This group comprises of particularly vulnerable people, families of deaf-dumb mothers and children. The community is looking for other ways to offer a response to this urgent and enormous crisis.



NEW COMMUNITY HOUSE FOR THE MARIST COMMUNITY OF SAHAGÚN

Angel Anton (Spa) writes: "The Marist ministry of accompanying pilgrims on the Camino de Santiago was launched in Santa Cruz hostel, Sahagún (León, Spain) in March 2018. Up until now the Marist community has been based in apartments leased to us by the Bishop of Leon. However, this is no longer sufficient for our plans to consolidate our presence there and our collaboration with the wider Marist family.

The Superior General, Fr John Larsen, recommended that we seek a more appropriate accommodation for the community and for our partners in mission. After much research, we finally bought a building suitable for the needs of the community about a five-minute walk from the hostel. Our new house has two floors, with a garage for two vehicles and large terraces. It has seven bedrooms, a kitchen/dining room and enough space for a small chapel. Some volunteers have already signed up and will be joining us soon! As we say in Spain: 'Aquí tienen su casa' (you're all welcome here!)."



LA NEYLIÈRE WELCOMES A NEW DIRECTOR

On 10 February, the Marist community, the Association Neylière-Avenir, and the whole hospitality team welcomed Thomas Guillet as the new Director of the Hospitality service. He succeeds Sophie Kespy who recently left the project after guiding it for more than 13 years. Thomas has been in the Rhône-Alpes region since 2011 and lives in Brignais with his wife and three boys. He joined the association Habitat et Humanisme in 2020 for a one-year mission. This association which was established by Fr Bernard Devert, aims to "provide access to decent housing for people in difficulty, while preserving a social mix". In this environment he discovered human and spiritual values close to his own. Thomas decided to leave his position as Property Manager within the group and found another post in La Neylière.

One of his first actions is to strengthen the links with the parishes of the Lyon and Saint-Etienne dioceses, inviting them to participate in two summer retreats and making the house available for marriage preparation sessions, "Alpha" or "Alpha couple" groups, youth gatherings and any type of retreats, parish pilgrimages, liturgical team meetings etc. Thomas is happy and enthusiastic about the idea of helping to write a new page in the history of Marist presence in La Neylière. Link to the activities at La Neylière: www.neyliere.fr

