

Issue Number 172• February 2023

COMMUNITY PARIS MAISON PROVINCIALE 104







The Marist Fathers who live in Paris at 104 rue de Vaugirard and 89 rue du Cherche-Midi form the "Provincial Community". This community includes 7 fathers and is international –1 English (the Provincial, Kevin Duffy), 1 Irish, 1 Spanish, 1 Mexican and 3 French.

4 live in an apartment at 104 and the other 3 at 89 where the European provincial headquarters is situated.

The two buildings are connected by a pleasant garden. The administrative and financial services of the French Unit are located at 104. 8 lay people are responsible for its operation. They shared more and more in the life of the community and take part in meals, prayers and common reflections.

The **mission of the community** can be summarized as follows: to offer a space of conviviality, welcome, and prayer to the provincial team, to all our collaborators and to the confreres and people who come to Paris for various meetings and needs.



Some of us also have more **specific commitments**:

Jimmy McElroy is our superior and provincial bursar, Rafaël Rámila offers his services to the pastoral teams of Bury-Rosaire. Jean-Yves Denizet provides literacy classes for the Secours Populaire, François Chauvet remains available for interpretation in various European meetings.

Olivier Laurent pursues the apostolate of the pen and is busy writing a book.

Space forbids an account of the history of the Society in Montparnasse since the 19th century. Marists have been **a missionary force** influencing the development of social Catholicism in France, the foundation of the Institut Catholique, and the spiritual formation of university students that included a President and a Prime Minister. An account of our presence here in the future is also impossible, except to say that the leaders of the Province wish that this Marist place in Paris continue its mission of welcome and collaboration with our lay collaborators.

Olivier Laurent, sm



For many of us, it seems that time is speeding up. It's already time for another monthly number of *EuroInfo*. I find myself still in the north of England, where medical treatments will keep me for a few more months, it seems. You might think that this is a good time to be out of Paris, with regular strikes and Odile, the provincial secretary, having to struggle through thousands of demonstrators in Montparnasse to get home in the evening.



It's the same over here in the UK. Yesterday, it looked as if priests and religious were among the few groups not actually on strike!

Kevin Duffy, S.M.

PRAYER INTENTION:

For the *wisdom to know* what to keep and what to let go, personally and as a community.



Gerard Kuypers (NL) 15.01.2023

Meeting of Heads of Educational Establishments in the Province Passau-Fürstenzell-January 2023



The peace and quiet of the lovely village of Fürstenzell was shattered by the sound of the

"*Maristengymnasium Big Band"* as it welcomed the 27 delegates to the school for their annual meeting. Dr. Roland Feucht the Head of

Establishment and his students gave us a royal welcome with music from Glen Millar to Queen. It was marvellous.

Earlier that day in Passau, the conference heard from our keynote speaker Dr. Anton Spreitzer, the Head of Education in the diocese of Passau, a most interesting and learned talk on 'Contemporary Culture, Catholic Education and Evangelization–a Catholic Legacy'



It was a rich and nourishing talk for all the educators present.



The following day Dr. Alois Greiler s.m presented a review of the role of Chaplaincy in our schools by. His experience and skilful analysis generated lively discussion among the delegates.

While we were visiting the *Maristengymnasium*, we toured the newly completed refurbished wings of the school, which have taken place over the past 3 years. It is a transformation.

Dr Feucht had also arranged a tour of the Cistercian monastery which was the former Marist residence in Fürstenzell. The current owners welcomed us to their magnificent home with its **beautiful plasterwork and ceilings**.



The visit was led by Dr Greiler and was most interesting.



Fr. Pascal Boidin along with some of the other Marist priests present, celebrated Mass in the magnificent **Baroque parish church in Fürstenzell.** The school choir with Dr. Feucht playing the organ, performed beautifully during the Mass. It was a joyous occasion.

In the evening we were treated to a spectacular gala dinner in the school to round off an unparalleled hospitality from the school community in Fürstenzell.

Frank Dowling, Provincial delegate for Education

→ Save the dates! SM Europe Retreat • La Neylière• 16-22 July 2023

P. Arnaldo Pangrazzi, M.I. a Camillian Father has agreed to give the Provincial retreat in Italian in July covering some of the following themes:

 The art of aging; 2) The challenge of dying;
 Coping with losses and grief.

Brief Biography

Fr. Pangrazzi has worked for many years in health care ministry and chaplaincy. From 1998 to 2001 he served as President of the European Pastoral Care and Counselling Movement. He has also served as General Consultor of



his Camillian Order. Last year he conducted an online retreat for our Italian Marist confreres, and we are delighted that he has agreed to lead this year's Provincial retreat at La Neylière. A leaflet and registration form will follow soon.

EMLC-Marist Spirituality in a Synodal Church-30th July-4th August 2023

It is my pleasure to communicate you that the Lay Marists in Europe are holding their **5th European Marist Laity Gathering** in England next summer. It is in a Christian ecumenical centre not far from London. As EMLC Coordinator and on behalf of the rest of representatives in the committee, I invite you to participate in our meeting.

Being part of the Marist family, as different branches of the same tree, means we share the same spirituality and mission. As you have been walking along with us, lay Marists, throughout the years, we will be so honored to count on your presence with us for being such a remarkable source of inspiration and thoughtfulness in our journey. Moreover, we thank you for all the testimony you are bearing as well as the support you are providing.

Finally, please extend this invitation to all members of your communities who are available and eager to come to the gathering, all over the world. In all, we will highly appreciate your contributions.

Follow this link for the poster and registration form: https://bit.ly/3UtSsph. David Sanz-EMLC Coordinator,Spain

Marist Spirituality in a Synodal Church



