



C.U.S.
Catholic University School

CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY SCHOOL (DUBLIN, IRELAND): DEVELOPMENT AND TRANSFORMATION

Entrusted by Cardinal Cullen to the Marist Fathers in 1863, our school moved to its present location in 1867 in Lower Leeson Street, in the heart of Georgian Dublin. It has since served generations of boys in a holistic Marist Catholic education.

We currently have 540 students attending our school. With the generous patronage of our Marist Fathers, the transformation of CUS from an historic school with high academic achievement into a modern educational hub with state-of-the-art facilities promises a myriad of positive educational outcomes for generations of Dublin boys into the future.



Plans for the Lecture Theatre
and Social Spaces



Proposed Courtyard with Gymnasium
(Ground Floor-Left)

The addition of a contemporary gymnasium fosters physical health and wellness among students, promoting active lifestyles and instilling lifelong habits of exercise. Moreover, the creation of a dedicated social space provides students with a conducive environment for collaboration, creativity, and social interaction.

This fosters a sense of community and belonging, strengthening peer relationships and facilitating holistic development beyond academic realms.

The integration of a lecture theatre offers expanded opportunities for enriched learning experiences, enabling CUS to host lectures, seminars, and presentations by guest speakers in the heart of Georgian Dublin.

CUS was founded in the 19th Century with a view to a renewal of Irish Catholic education. St John Henry Newman's hoped a Catholic University would be a part of it. Hence the name of the school. With our guiding Marist vision, the school will now serve students at another pivotal moment.



Annual Outdoor School Concert 2023

Clive Martin, CUS principal

DEAR MARIST FRIENDS

The provincial administration is located in Montparnasse in Paris. I am only gradually learning the remarkable history of the Marist contribution to the church and the world from the communities located in this quarter since the middle of the 19th century. Teams of Marists teaching theology and philosophy in the *Institut catholique de Paris*, pioneering the Catholic scout movement, helping initiate Catholic social movements, hearing confessions, accompanying people, running a hostel for university students... The list goes on and on.

Perhaps a history of the Marists in Montparnasse needs to be written so that the young Marists of the future know fully the tradition they inherit?

Another question suitable perhaps for this Lenten season of self-examination and conversion could be: why were many of the Marists of the past more missionary and creative than we are?

Kevin Duffy, sm

PRAYER INTENTION
for the gift of missionary
creativity

OBITUARY

Bernard Jeunink (NL)

11.03.2024

20TH ANNIVERSARY OF “MARISTES EN EDUCATION”

A GROWING GROUP OF LAY MARISTS WORKING IN EDUCATION

A BRIEF HISTORY

OCTOBER 2004: Mons. Cardinal Barbarin, then Archbishop of Lyon, registered “*Maristes en Education*” as a public association of the faithful. This was the starting point of a search based on the conviction that the Marist spirit needs a body in which to be embodied alive.

FEBRUARY 2004: It was good to come together again at La Neylière and later at Fourvière to give thanks to the Lord for these 20 years and to entrust to Him the journey ahead.



Hubert Bonnet-Eymard, sm (one of the founders of MeE)

I wondered whether this meeting would be a retreat or a training course. It was neither, it was a gathering of teachers and catechists, laypeople and religious on the theme of ‘Being One’. Singing a canon or recalling Marist principles is a way of being one, of moving forward together, gently, with kindness and high standards. The welcome given to everyone was exemplary, echoing the Gospel message, making sure people were comfortable, without judgement or prejudice. We are living in changing times. The de-Christianisation of society, the lack of knowledge of biblical texts and the denigration of Catholic schools by some, can be compared with the Church experienced by Jean-Claude Colin during the French Revolution. Today too, we need to build a new Church. The search for meaning and the sacred is an opportunity to bring the Marist message to life, provided there is a good formation of lay people.

Hélène Diethrich, London Chaplaincy

Returning to La Neylière for three days meant finding a large family touched by the Marist spirit, wishing to understand better who Jean-Claude Colin is, and the mission of his community. For us, the French-speaking chaplaincy in London, who have the specificity of not being in the schools, but on the doorstep of these schools, La Neylière reminds us that we are not alone in our mission. The theme of this session,



‘togetherness’, takes on its full meaning. Two other points particularly struck me: every year, new lay members join “*Maristes en Education*”. This year, four people made their commitment in La Neylière. To mark the 20th anniversary of the association, the session ended with a magnificent Mass presided over by Archbishop de Germay in the Fourvière Basilica. Lunch followed at *La Solitude*, a Marist school.

Bénédicte Collet, London Chaplaincy

THE VOCATIONS COMMITTEE

A new Vocations Committee started its work last May. We have met monthly both by Zoom and in person since last January in Paris. We took as reference text the talk given by Fr Stephen Wang two years ago during the Marist Vocation Year. In that talk, he highlighted seven traits of a religious order that attracts young people. The Vocations Committee realized that the SM in Europe needed to improve the first three: **Identity, Purpose and Visibility**. This led us to conduct a survey to help us deepen our understanding of our Marist identity. We will pinpoint four ‘pillars’ in order to articulate and present it today. The team is working on how we can make the Society of Mary more visible. (Read the details: [Vocations survey PDF](#)) Currently we are developing ideas and initiatives that can help us share more explicitly the purpose of the Society, what we are here for.

Daniel Fernandez, sm