

EURO info



SAINT PEDRO CHANEL SCHOOL, MALGRAT DE MAR, SPAIN, 15 DECEMBER

The only Marist Fathers school in Spain has been formally transferred to the Marist Brothers by way of the *Fundació Champagnat* in Catalonia. The transfer will be implemented gradually during the present school year. During a ceremony on 15 December, the new association was presented to the current school administration, the staff and the school council. The Provincial superior of L'Hermitage, Br Pere Ferré, the members of his council and the 4 members of the Board of Management



explained how they are organised in Catalonia and France, and described the network of 9 schools and 15 social projects they manage through the Foundation. The Province of Europe was present at this important moment by Jean-Marie Bloqueau (Fr), the vicar provincial, Joaquín Fernández (Esp), the provincial bursar, and by Fr Angel Antón, legal representative in Spain. Of course, members of the local community working in the school were there too. The future of the school is very promising.



“To be more closely united, work more creatively, and act in greater solidarity we form one province beyond national limitations...”

GREETINGS FROM PARIS!

With this EuroInfo and a new layout, we celebrate an important anniversary – our 100th publication! We thank the many, many people who have made it possible to publish every month since October 2008. Perhaps it is not very modest to say so, but we are proud of what we have been able to achieve. We come to the close of 2016 with the opening of a project in Toulon, celebrations in Dublin and Malgrat, and a reminder of a 200th anniversary soon to be celebrated. You are also invited to pray for the forthcoming European provincial chapter. Again, a special word of thanks to you, our readers and contributors for your messages of encouragement and faithfulness over the years.

*Joaquín Fernández and
Martin McAnaney*

PRAYER INTENTION

The European Provincial Chapter takes place in La Neylière, 9 – 19 January 2017. Come Holy Spirit, grant to us the true gift of discernment. Help us to discern what you are calling us Marists to be, today and in the future, within the context of Europe and with our present and future resources. Impart to us thoughts higher than our own thoughts. Grant us instead humility, peace and love that in all things we may seek not our own interests but those of Christ and Mary.



CENTRE CULTUREL ET SPIRITUEL MARISTE (CCSM), TOULON, FRANCE, 3 DECEMBER



170 years ago, a group of young Marist missionaries led by Bishop Douarre arrived in the southern port of Toulon to sail to New Caledonia. While waiting to depart, they made valuable contacts with local people. It was the beginning of a significant Marist presence in the centre of that city. Today, *La Residence*, rue Clappier continues this presence. The chapel welcomes the public every day, people seeking a time of quiet meditation or seeking a listening ear. In 2014 a group composed of lay people and Marist Fathers, was established to think about the future and to develop a city-centre church devoted to the evangelisation of those on its threshold and those at the periphery. This project supported by both lay and religious, became the CCSM (Marist Cultural and Spiritual Centre). It held its first general assembly and 40 people attended. An animation team of 7 people assures the program of activities: biblical and theological formation, meditation and spiritual life, art and spirituality, social issues, ecumenical and interreligious encounters. For more consult - maristesdanslevar.com



ANNUAL PROVINCIAL RETREAT

"Finding God in the Singing Heart of the World: an adventure in creation spirituality",
La Neylière,

9-15 July 2017:

This event is an opportunity to pray and reflect on the encyclical *"Laudato si"*. The presenter is Mr John Feehan, well known in Ireland and beyond for his award-winning television work on nature and cultural heritage, and creation spirituality. Make sure to book the dates in your diary. More details will be available soon.



200TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FOUNDATION OF THE MARIST BROTHERS

La Valla and l'Hermitage,
2-3 January 2017:

The Marist Brothers will mark the bicentenary of the founding of their Institute by St Macellin Champagnat when on 2 January 1817, two young men began life in community at La Valla-en-Gier. The seed was sown which bore fruit. On 2 January 2017, the Bishop of Saint-Etienne will preside at a Eucharistic celebration at La Valla, and the next day in l'Hermitage, there will be talks, presentations, theatre and prayers. We congratulate the Brothers for this important anniversary and we share in their celebrations, their joy and thanksgiving. Your joy is our joy. We invite all to be united in prayer with these celebrations.

RENEWAL OF VOWS, TOM KOUIJZER S.M., DONORE COMMUNITY, DUBLIN, IRELAND, 20 DECEMBER



Paul Walsh (Ire) writes, "As a Marist community, we chose to hold this celebration within the daily 10 am Mass in St Teresa's parish church. While we kept the ceremony simple, it was hugely appreciated by all concerned. Tom was joined for the occasion by other Marists, Edwin McCallion (Ire), John O'Gara (Eng), the local superior who was delegated to receive the vows, Cormac McNamara (Ire), parish priest, David Corrigan (Ire) and myself. Equally important were the

sisters and other parishioners who came to share the moment with us. Tom's reading out the formula of profession with the candle of his first profession lighted in this hand, and the singing of *O Maria, Mater amabilis* at the moment he signed the formula, were particularly remarked upon. A cup of tea afterwards rounded off a lovely moment - followed by a celebratory lunch with the parish staff."

