

COUNCIL OF THE SOCIETY 2022



Many of the participants at the recent Council of the Society in the General House in Rome remarked on two characteristics of this gathering. First of all, there was a high degree of unity or communion among the confreres. Different views on important issues, such as the shape of the Society's missionary strategy for

the future, did not interfere with the fraternal spirit that prevailed. This spirit of fraternity was certainly due in part to a second characteristic of CS2022: its prayerfulness, with each working day beginning with a shared hour of adoration.

A surprising development was an initiative of the major superiors of Africa, Canada and Europe – a Region of Cooperation between these units,



building on an already existing history of working together. Watch this space.

A highlight was an early Mass together in one of the grotto chapels of St Peter's, and a visit to the probable site of St Peter's tomb under the Basilica.

ONE HOUR OF ADORATION

Some of you will remember the Superior General's remarks in a recent number of the SM Bulletin about his visit to our community in Norway. He mentioned how the local bishop in Oslo recounted that they had been suffering from a drought of vocations. However, this has been reversed.

According to the bishop, this was because they had introduced an hour's prayer before the Blessed Sacrament each week for vocations, and every week Mass was said in each parish with this intention. John Larsen recommended it to the Society as a whole. At the recent Council of the Society, he repeated this invitation. At our recent council meeting in Paris, we decided to act on this.

So, I would like to ask each community in the province to organise an hour's prayer together before the Blessed Sacrament each week for vocations to the Society of Mary, and to arrange to have a mass said each week with this intention.

Let's hope that what happened in Oslo happens for us!



GREETINGS FROM PARIS!

After greetings from the North of England and from Rome, in the last two EuroInfos, finally Greetings from Paris.

After many sessions on Zoom, the Provincial Council finally met physically here in Montparnasse.

As you can see in one of the pictures in this issue, this meeting took place in the meeting room newly furnished with a magnificent screen.



The world has changed as covid recedes, and Zoom has become part of life. We found though that good though Zoom is, there is something irreplaceable about meeting together face-to-face.

Kevin Duffy, S.M.

PRAYER INTENTION FOR THE MONTH:

VOCATIONS to the Society of Mary in Europe

THORPE CUP

On Wednesday 12 and Thursday 13 October teams from 10 Marist High Schools in Europe came together to compete for the Thorpe Cup. The tournament took place in Ste Marie Lyon LA VERPILLIERE.

A thousand thanks to the director of La Verpillière Jean Baptiste Frondas and the director of sport David Venet without whom this tournament would not have been possible. Their offer to host the tournament was most generous and the facilities at the High School were excellent. All the participants were warmly welcomed by the school community. The Marist spirit is a lived reality.

HISTORY OF THE THORPE CUP



Mr. Thorpe was a business man in Hull England, who had two sons in the Marist grammar school in Hull. When the Hull and Middlesbrough Marist schools organised a football competition, Mr Thorpe sponsored the cup. The first matches took place in 1947. Interesting fact: Fr Tom Goonan s.m. (87, presently in Wells, England) played in the first match. Shortly afterwards St. Mary's Blackburn got involved.

The Marist schools in Middlesbrough and Hull were transferred to diocesan management in the 1990's. The cup was then competed for by St Mary's Blackburn and Chanel College Dublin. The last competition was in 2016. Chanel were the winners.

TOURNAMENT

On the first night all of the participants travelled to La Neylière to spend some time in this wonderful heritage house of the Marist Fathers and the resting place of the founder Jean Claude Colin.

We finished the evening with a table quiz with mixed teams from the schools. It was a lively affair.

The team Captain of Chanel Scott Ryan along with Philip Ardiffe from Chanel hand over the Cup before the competition to the hosts of the tournament, Jules Breuraert captain of La Verpillière, and David Venet from La Verpillière.



For demographic reasons, St Mary's Blackburn closed its doors in June 2022. The Cup has now been repurposed for a five a side football tournament for the network of Marist high schools in Europe.

The first competition with 10 High Schools participating took place in Ste Marie Lyon La Verpillière in October 2022.

The tournament took place in a very good atmosphere and many players were awarded prizes. The semi-finals were played between SML St Paul and SML La Verp, and SML Meyzieu against CUS Dublin.

In the final, the team from La Verpillière won the trophy after extra time (3-2), a victory on the wire and a very balanced match. The good humour and team spirit was evident in both teams, who played in front of more than 300 students.



Fr. Roger Lordong s.m. on behalf of the Marist Fathers in Europe presents the Thorpe Cup to Jules Breuraert, captain of the winning team from La Verpillière.

Here is the final ranking:

- 1 SML La Verpillière
- 2 SML Meyzieu
- 3 SML St Paul
- 4 CUS
- 5 Chanel
- 6 Bury - Rosaire
- 7 Dundalk
- 8 Fénelon
- 9 La Cordeille
- 10 Riom



SEE YOU ALL IN MEYZIEU LYON IN 2024

<https://european-marist-education.over-blog.com>