



SM bulletin

FOURVIÈRE 1816 - 2016

Friday, 22 July 2016

General Administration

Fr John Hannan is in Lyons for the International Marist Youth Meeting and he will preside over the Eucharistic Celebration in the Basilica of Notre-Dame de Fourvière on Saturday 23 July, where frs Larry Duffy, Alejandro Muñoz and Paul Martin will join him.

INTERNATIONAL MARIST YOUTH MEETING "DARE TO DREAM"

More than 450 young people, linked to the different branches of the Marist Family and coming from the five continents, are currently in Lyons participating in the International Marist Youth Meetings. The meeting is taking place in the days preceding the bicentenary of the Fourvière



Pledge under the theme "Dare to Dream". On the first day, after the inauguration prayer, all groups presented themselves to the others, discovering the richness of diversity in unity. The young people meet also in small groups, to facilitate the sharing. In the afternoon the participants were welcomed by representatives from the four religious branches of the Marist Family, each in one tent, where they explained the life of the founders and his/her charism, the congregation's geography, and the characteristics of each of the congregations. For many it was surprising to discover how international and how modern the four founders' inspirations of 200 years ago still are. In the evening, time for the "Festival Mariste": the music, the traditional dance and the costumes made it a colorful and joyful feast.

The following days the group was "on the road" to visit the Marist places of origin where the young people could "breathe" the air of those places which have been so



important to each of the founders, learning more about the history of the early years of the Marist Family. They traveled from Ste Foy-les-Lyon to La Neylière where the group celebrated the Eucharist together, and then from Cerdon and Belley to L'Hermitage. It was a rich experience, touching the four founders' lives; an experience of walking

together, sharing, listening, learning and praying. On Wednesday afternoon the group gathered again in Lyons for a meeting with the four superiors general of the religious branches of the Marist Family, talking amongst other things about vocation - an inspiring moment for all! Thursday was spent "listening to the world", with workshops on solidarity, voluntary work, etc, and in the afternoon visiting social projects around Lyons. Friday has been spent in L'Hermitage "listening to the heart". The Marist Youth meeting will end with the celebration in the basilica of Notre Dame de Fourvière on Saturday.