



SM bulletin

Friday, 23 September 2016

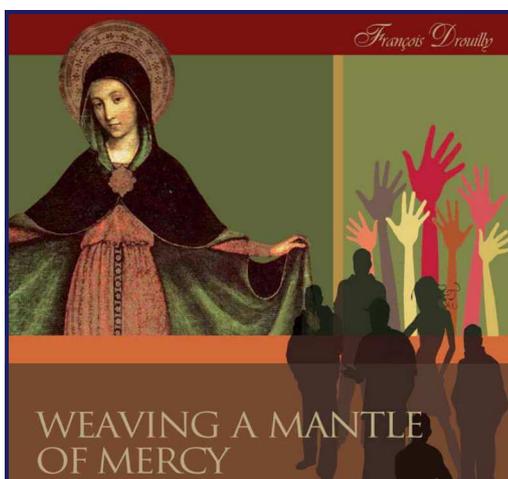
FIRST WEEK OF ARC MEETING



ARC (Annual Review Consultation) is taking place in Rome until September 28. The meeting of the superior general, the general administration and the ten major superiors is being assisted by two co-facilitators, Sr Christine Anderson and Br Michael French. The first item of business was Fr John Hannan's report on the state of the Society initiating an action plan for the coming year. On day two Fr John Harhager on behalf of the Financial Review Implementation Committee presented the second PwC Review of the long-term financial needs of the Society and Fr Paul Martin gave his report on the Society's finances. On

Friday the group was addressed by Mrs Kath McCormack, a member of the Pontifical Commission for the Protection of Minors. This year particular emphasis has been given to individual meetings between the major superiors and the superior general, bursar general and the assistants linked to each of the units. Work is also being done on taking forward the reconfiguration processes in North America and Asia/Australia/New Zealand.

WEAVING A MANTLE OF MERCY



At the request of the Superior General, Fr François Drouilly (France) has written a book with reflections on our Marist spirituality today: "Weaving a Mantle of Mercy. Living the Marist Spirit Today". From the prologue: *How can we assume Colin's wish: "we must begin a new Church"? This "new beginning" must today have an entirely different meaning than at the time of Colin. And we would face great difficulty in agreeing amongst us, on the meaning of this "ambition" of Jean Claude Colin! Let us try the way of personal ownership, of interiorization. Let us examine, in the here and now, what meaning we give these words that punctuate the religious life in our Marist tradition: poverty, fraternal life, obedience, cheerfulness, and many others. Maybe then we will be lucky enough, if "we speak truthfully", to meet the others, to truly recognize each and every one as Marists, beyond the*

particularities of age, country, mentality, history, we shall be able to claim that we belong to the same family.

The book is currently being distributed to all units, it is published in English, French and Spanish.