

SMbulletin

Friday, 20 December 2019



The light shines in the darkness,
and the darkness has not overcome it.

John 1, 5

The Superior General
and the members of the General Council
wish you a peaceful and joyful Christmas
and a Blessed New Year!

The Correspondence of Victor Poupinel



Victor Poupinel (1815-1884) joined the Marists in Lyon in 1838. He gave his

life to the service of the Society, particularly to the care for the missions in Oceania where he spent most of his life and where he brought understanding and consolation to the missionaries. He was the link person between the superiors general (Colin and Favre), the procurators at Villa Maria in Sydney, the banks, the missionaries' families, the French marine and the missions in Oceania. He was praised by the missionaries for his fatherly concern, his patience and tact which proved to be of great value in those difficult times. Poupinel was an indefatigable correspondent and he saved his many and accurate records methodically.

This month the eleventh and final volume of the *Correspondence of Victor Poupinel* was published. The collection is of great importance for research and for our knowledge of the history of our missions in Oceania. The substantial work of the critical edition and transcription of the letters, including also biographical notes and an index, has been carried out by our French confrere Fr Bernard Bourtot. In the past 15 years Fr Bernard was also one of the main contributors to *Colin Sup*, he produced the *Conferences and Talks of Fr. Colin*, as well as the three volumes of the documents relevant to the generalate of Fr Favre.



FORUM NOVUM

The first Forum Novum was published in 1989. That makes 30 years of articles and documentation on Marist history, spirituality, and the mission of the Society. The current editor Fr Alois Greiler, notifies that the new volume—21, 1—has a variety of articles, with a focus on Fr Colin's cause and the Colin-Biography by Fr Justin Taylor, but also other interesting reflections: history, spirituality, lay Marists, and mission. An article honors one of the first editors, the late Fr. Edwin L. Keel. As we celebrate 30 years Forum Novum, an index volume has been published (Volume 21, 2—2019), as a tool to research all the articles in the volumes. Both volumes are now available on our website: <https://www.maristsm.org/en/forum-novum.aspx>