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Dear Friends

This year has got off to a flyer and I found myself halfway through January and no Newsletter produced. I then decided to wait until after the meeting of the Council for the Marist Way so as to be able to share the latest news. Travel to and from the meeting was fraught by snow, cancelled trains and general mayhem. The return journey was no better. However the meeting was productive and the details for Swanwick are now available.

**SWANWICK CONFERENCE** Friday 12<sup>th</sup> until Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> April 2013. Eileen McCann from



Ireland, who is very committed to the Marist Way, will be the keynote speaker. Her theme will be: "A Marist response to Vatican II". This will be a very worthwhile weekend and is a great opportunity to meet together and discuss things 'Marist'. Accommodation will be limited. Booking forms are now available and the cost, because of the economy and as an encouragement to members, will be the same as in 2010 - £150.00. Keep this weekend free.

**YOUR CHARITABLE PRAYERS** Are requested for the repose of Sr Kathleen Moran SM, who died in Hythe before Christmas and other members of the Marist Way. May they, and all who have died recently, rest in peace. Amen

**MARIST LOURDES PILGRIMAGE** Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> May / 1<sup>st</sup> June. Travel by coach and ferry. Hotel Esplanade £400.00, Hotel Padoue £530.00. Travel insurance included. Booking forms are now available.

*Marist Liturgical Calendar and Mass Intentions 2013*

Date	Feast or Celebration	Mass Intention
Jan 28 <sup>th</sup>	St Thomas Aquinas	
Feb 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Presentation of Our Lord	
Feb 13 <sup>th</sup>	Ash Wednesday. Start of Lent	

M. Coleman SM, Marist Way Regional Animator

## YEAR OF THE FOUNDER

The year dedicated to our Founder began on Thursday, 15 November, the anniversary of his death. In his message announcing the event, the Superior General expressed the hope that by developing a real devotion to his person and deepening our grasp of the teachings and values of Fr Colin, the Society may respond wholeheartedly to the work of renewal and re-foundation. A new Colin website [jeanclaudecolin.org](http://jeanclaudecolin.org) was launched on the 15 Nov. It has been carefully prepared mainly by Fr Ron Nissen (Australia) with help from others.

Start with the Colin Year prayer:

*“God our Father, in the joy of the Spirit we give you thanks for Jean-Claude Colin, our founder. By a gracious choice we have been called to share in that life and mission he strove to implant in the Church. Desiring to live in fidelity to the spirit of Mary and the charism that he left us, we pray for the renewal of ‘this little Society’ and the conversion of heart that it requires. We pray also for Fr Colin’s beatification if that be your will. This we ask through Christ our Lord and the intercession of Mary, our first and perpetual superior. Amen.”*

Read the week’s quote:

Week 09

‘There are some who take the vow of poverty, but on condition that they do not suffer by it. At that rate, who would not gladly take such a vow? There would be no need to be a religious. One of the things I fear most would be to see the Society become rich. Then people place their confidence in their purse, not in God.’ (FS 166:5-6)

Week 10

‘We must have the spirit of Mary, humble and hidden. She did more than the apostles by her prayers. Let us therefore unite silence and prayer with action. The Society of Mary desires that we, her children, should be missionaries of action, and missionaries of prayer.’ (FS 190:3)

Week 11

‘The aim of the Society is to imitate the Blessed Virgin, who was at once so unassuming and so full of zeal for the salvation of the world, working for it in silence.’ (FS 1:2)

Week 12

‘Good Lord, what a great work education is. There is nothing so arduous, nothing which requires so much tact. I would even say that it is more exhausting than supervising adults. But nothing is more meritorious, and nothing greater. I considered whether we would take a special vow in the Society to devote ourselves to education. It is the great-est work.’ (FS 13:10)

Reflect – what does this mean to me - personally? For our community? C. For the whole Society?

End with the Beatification Prayer, including our decisions or plans as the intentions for Fr Colin's intercession, pausing\*\*\* to allow each to include their intention.

*“God our Father, in your servant Jean-Claude Colin you gave your people a zealous priest and religious founder dedicated to serving the Church in the spirit of Mary. We ask you for the glorification of your faithful servant in the midst of your Church and grant us the favour which we ask through his intercession. (\*\*\*) mention requests). This we ask through Christ Our Lord. Amen.”*

Queen of the Society of Mary, pray for us.

☞ Salve Regina...