



mcoleman117@hotmail.co.uk Website: maristway.org

Dear Friends

We start a new year as the school reopen after the summer break. The weather was certainly changeable and we were blessed with an exceptionally warm day for the Marist Day in Walsingham which was attended by about 450 people. Days of Recollection have been arranged for Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> September in Sacred Heart church, Goldthorpe, given by Fr Peter Corcoran SM and St Peter Chanel School, Sidcup, given by Fr Kevin Mowbray SM. All are welcome to attend. I am due to travel to Lourdes for the first time with the Raphael Pilgrimage (Cheshire Homes) 4<sup>th</sup> / 12<sup>th</sup> September. It should be a very interesting and rewarding experience.

### **European Marist Laity Encounter**

*by Christine Colomban representing Marist Laity in U.S. Province*

The Third European Marist Laity Encounter (EMLE) was held in Los Negrales near Madrid, Spain on August 8-14<sup>th</sup> and international guests had also been invited. Representatives of Australia, Brasil, Canada, Mexico, New Zealand, New Caledonia, Peru, Philippines and USA joined Marist Laity from 8 different European countries and 7 languages were spoken over the week!

On the first evening, tables were set for each country to introduce themselves with specialty gifts for all. It was a very joyful start! The next day, Marist Laity from each country were given an opportunity to share about their reality, through a short history, their own strengths and challenges. This included a presentation of the communities of Cameroun, Burundi, East Rep. Democratic of Congo and Senegal, who could not be with us physically but were in our thoughts and prayers.

On day two, two presentations were given. "The Mercy of God according to the *Evangelii Gaudium*" by Lourdes Azorin revealed that this Apostolic Exhortation is very close to our mission as Marists. The personal encounter with Jesus Christ and the vivid experience of his Love moves us to a pastoral mission where we are to stand and act so the poor and the sick live with dignity. Corinne Fenet lead us into experiencing with the example of the Virgin Mary that God's unique words spoken to us produce an overflowing joy that we cannot keep for ourselves and this is how we become missionaries. Finally, Fr. Jan Hulshof shared three testimonies by Lay Marists from Italy, Norway and England to demonstrate the "social dimension of Marist mission."

The last two days, we all embarked in buses to the beautiful and historical cities of Avila and Toledo. The travel time gave us opportunities to mingle, get to know each other more deeply and plant little seeds for future projects and collaboration between countries. On the last evening, a closure Mass was celebrated, followed by a farewell party where the new committee of the EMLE and our wonderful Spanish hosts were given a standing ovation.

The representatives of the World Marist Laity Coordination, accompanied by Fr. Jan Hulshof and Fr. Alejandro Munoz from the General House in Rome, spent the next three days on a pilgrimage. They visited Le Puy and Fourvière, two places related to the intuition of the Society of Mary as well as Belley, L'Hermitage, Le Bugey and Cerdon, the places of mission.

## Council for the Marist Way

At the last meeting it was decided that meetings would be restricted to two each year - one in April and one in October, The April, to be at Leicester Square and the October meeting to be residential when there will be time for reflection on Marist Spirituality. We will meet in Sunninghill 20<sup>th</sup> / 22<sup>nd</sup> October and a suitable programme is being prepared.

## MARIST PILGRIMAGES

The Fatima Pilgrimage, 11<sup>th</sup> / 16<sup>th</sup> October is almost full and 50 people from various parts of the country will be present in Fatima for the special day on 13<sup>th</sup> October. For the Christmas Extravaganza to Walsingham there will be the three groups: Hull 24<sup>th</sup> / 26<sup>th</sup> November; Middlesbrough (1) 1<sup>st</sup> / 3<sup>rd</sup> December; and Middlesbrough (2) 8<sup>th</sup> / 10<sup>th</sup> December and all are booking up very quickly especially since there are more en suite rooms available . This is always a very good preparation for Christmas.

### *Marist Liturgical Calendar and Mass Intentions 2015*

Date	Feast or Celebration	Mass Intention
12 <sup>th</sup> Sept	Holy Name of Mary. Patronal Feast	For Society of Mary
24 <sup>th</sup> Sept	Anniversary of First Professions in 1836	For Society of Mary
29 <sup>th</sup> Sept	St Michael and the Archangels	

M. Coleman SM, Marist Way Regional Animator

### MARY MOTHER OF THE CHURCH

Father, all-powerful and ever-living God,  
we do well always and everywhere to give you thanks  
and, as we honour the Blessed Virgin Mary,  
to offer you fitting praise.

She received your Word in the purity of her heart,  
and conceived him in her virgin's womb;  
she gave birth to her Creator, and watched over the Church at its first beginning.  
She accepted God's parting gift of love as she stood beside the Cross,  
and so became the Mother of all the living,  
her children brought to new life -through the death of her Son.

One in prayer with the apostles as they waited for the promised Gift of your Spirit,  
she became the perfect pattern of the Church at prayer.

Raised to the glory of heaven.  
she cares for the pilgrim Church with a mother's love,  
following its progress homewards until the day of the Lord dawns in splendour.

Now, with all the saints and angels. we praise you for ever:

Holy, Holy, Holy