

SOME NAMES AND FACES

PROVINCIAL AND COUNCIL

Kevin Duffy
Provincial
Paris



Declan Marmion
Vicar Provincial
Dublin



Hubert
Bonnet-Eymard
London



Edwin
McCallion
Dublin



Daniel
Fernández
Sahagún



- **Kevin** is still receiving medical treatment in England. After attending the Council of the Society in Rome in October he will take up residence in Paris. For the moment, Declan is acting provincial. Kevin will be full-time provincial, but all the members of the council have other responsibilities:
- **Declan, Vicar Provincial**, is Professor of Theology at St. Patrick's Pontifical University, Maynooth and National Administrator of the Irish unit.
- **Hubert** is superior of the community at Notre Dame de France where he ministers, as well as serving various bodies at the service of the church in France.
- **Edwin** is parish priest of St Brendan's Parish Coolock, Dublin, superior of the local community, and fulfils several other roles in the administration of the Irish unit.
- **Daniel** works in the relatively new ministry of the province at Sahagún in Spain, at the service of people engaged in the Camino to Santiago de Compostela.

PROVINCIAL HOUSE

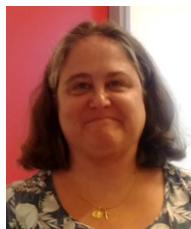
Jimmy McElroy
Provincial Bursar
and Superior
of the Marist
Community



François
Chauvet
Interpréter



Odile de
Villenaute
Provincial
Secretary and
Office Manager



Bertrand
La Clavière
Finance and
Administration
Manager



Cora
Dubruque
Reporting &
Forecasting
Manager



A WORD FROM THE PROVINCIAL

Some health issues have kept me marooned temporarily on the other side of the English Channel. Hence, "A Word from the Provincial" rather than "Greetings from Paris"... First of all, on behalf all their confreres, I'd like to thank Martin McAnaney and Jean-Marie Bloqueau, and the councillors. A lengthy period of transition, mostly on Zoom, has shown us who are succeeding them how dedicated they have been in their work. They are now engaged in a well-earned period of rest and renewal. For the future, we look to the decisions of the recent provincial chapter. The texts have been approved by Rome and we will publish them as soon as possible in the different languages.

For our **MONTHLY PRAYER INTENTION**, we suggest: the **implementation of the chapter decisions**.

Kevin Duffy SM

EUROPEAN PROVINCIAL RETREAT - LA NEYLIÈRE, 17-23 JULY 2022



Jean-Bernard Jolly writes: It was a small group of Marists who ventured out into the new normal to attend the first post-lockdown provincial retreat in La Neylière, which is itself negotiating uncertainties. The pandemic is receding leaving a changed landscape where retreat houses and *maisons d'accueil* are often struggling. There was the traditional warm welcome from the team in La Neylière, of course, under the leadership of its new director, Thomas Guillet.

Sister Georgeanne Donovan, the Superior General of the SMSM's, led the retreat. The title was: **MARIST SPIRITUALITY - THE ANCHOR THAT HOLDS US TOGETHER**. In two talks a day she outlined how we can face an uncertain future with confidence as we re-appropriate familiar mysteries such as Nazareth, the Church at its birth in the early Church, a hidden and unknown presence in the world.



Georgeanne proposed two daily exercises. In the morning, there was *lectio divina* on gospel texts, in the evening an "Emmaus" exercise where two retreatants shared a re-reading of the experience of the day. Rafael Rámila and Ángel Antón of Spain, for instance, shared a reflection based on the Year of Vocation in 2022.

The retreat ended with Marist religious renewing their vows, a celebration of the promise taken at Fourvière, and the commitment of lay Marist Anne Marie Salgo.

The text of the retreat reflections can be found in
EN bit.ly/smretEN FR bit.ly/smretrFR
ES bit.ly/smretrES IT bit.ly/smretrIT

A LAY ASSOCIATE'S STORY

I write this on a coach travelling from a small rural village in the south of Hungary towards Budapest. I'm crossing mountains and fields, the area where I was born in the last decade of Communism and raised in an era of change and freedom in the 1990s. That village was my 'Nazareth', insignificant and hidden from an authoritarian regime. I was welcomed into a modest, hardworking family and a flourishing little parish community where my faith was formed.

I went to England after graduating from university. Before starting full time work, I completed a year in a city centre evangelisation school in London. It was then that I encountered the nearby Marist parish of Notre Dame de France - a place of oasis and peace for me, with an open-minded community which welcomed us for street evangelisation and outreach near Leicester Square.

In 2006 I started to work on the joint evangelisation project of four Catholic parishes in the West End of London and organised the Spirit in the City Festival. I met God in different places and disguises in the bustle of the city which is a melting pot of cultures and nationalities.

I also got involved more closely in Notre Dame de France as part of the extended community of religious and lay people living on the premises. It was a grace-filled experience and felt so natural to share a life of prayer, mission, spirituality, and ordinary life as Mary's family.

I felt no need to claim a title as 'lay Marist'. It was simply my spiritual home. Gradually, I came to want some sort of life-time commitment to the work of Mary that goes beyond collaboration for mission. There was no obvious framework for this, and years of discernment with Marist religious followed. In the end I could make a new form of commitment as Associate of the Society of Mary.

I am grateful that we were able to celebrate it in a simple yet beautiful moment at the end of the provincial retreat in La Neylière on 22nd July. I feel a sense of 'homecoming'. I am not sure what the future holds for my vocation and mission as a Marist Associate, but I know it is the Lord who holds my future in his loving hands.

***O Mary, gentle and kind, inspire us in your way
and continue to call people to do your work!***

(The full text can be read in EN: bit.ly/AMSstory)

Anne Marie Salgo

