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Dear Friends

92 people took part in the Marist Lourdes Pilgrimage this year from various parts of the country and including a group of 15 from Sidcup. A goodly number of the pilgrims had not been to Lourdes before. One of them wrote: "Many thanks for arranging such a wonderful pilgrimage and allowing me to be part of it. So many joys and blessings seemed to be there for the asking..... I met so many people who inspired me... Thank you also for the Marist philosophy of service and simplicity - great!!" Our Marist banner attracted a German couple whose brother is a Marist. It is a small world.

This year the Marist Way will be responsible for arranging the Marist Day in Walsingham on Saturday 2nd July and the theme is '*Mary, witness to the good news.*' The day will follow the usual pattern of mass at 12.00 with the Principal celebrant Fr Hubert Bonnet-Eymard SM, European Provincial, Exposition of Blessed Sacrament 14.00 with a short reflection, Procession to Village 15.15, Evening Prayer at Elham House 16.30 followed by tea and departures at 17.30. Now is the time to book coaches for this very special day.



The Days of Recollection

Dates 18th September (south) at Sunninghill and 25th September (north) Corpus Christi, Wombwell, hosted by the groups from Goldthorpe and Grimethorpe. The theme: "Towards a Marian Church" and will include the basic Marist spirituality in the form of a Power Point Presentation. It is important that we work together in both the coordination and presentation of these days of prayerful reflection.

News of Marist Fathers In August Fr Peter Corcoran will take over the role of Regional Superior from Fr Noel Wynn. It will mean a great upheaval in their lives and we assure them both of our prayers in these difficult times. Fr Norman Arkwright is making a good recovery after his 'interim' hip operation. The results so far have been very encouraging. Fr Peter Murray is proceeding with his course of treatment which involves time spent in hospital. Please remember Norman and Peter in your prayers.

Eight members are going to attend the EUROPEAN MEETING of the MARIST LAITY which will take place in Francheville (just north of Lyon), August 21st / 27th and will be attended by members from all parts of Europe. This should be a very valuable and interesting experience.

Lourdes Pilgrimage Tuesday 13th / 20th September will include a mini cruise from Portsmouth to Santander, with meals and en suite cabins and five nights in Lourdes. Cost £560.00. Booking forms are now available.

Marist Liturgical Calendar and Mass Intentions 2011

Date	Feast or Celebration	Mass Intention
June 29	Ss Peter and Paul	The Pope
July 2	Immaculate Heart of Mary	
23	Fourviere First Promise 1816	Society of Mary

M. Coleman SM, Marist Way Regional Animator

The vision of Jean-Claude Colin was that Marists were called to “begin a Church with a Marian face”; “to renew the Church in the image of Mary, the perfect disciple of Jesus”. Where do we, today, find the power to respond? Here we face one of the paradoxes of the Christian life, that all this activity and energy is rooted in interior solitude and silence.

The desert, solitude and silence were part of Jesus’ very lifestyle. We know why He was led into the wilderness after His baptism. He was led there by the Spirit in order to be tested, as a preparation for His mission. These three events: the baptism of Jesus, His testing in solitude, and then sent out on missions cannot be separated. He was set apart in baptism, purified and tested in solitude, and then sent out on mission. Followers of Jesus experience the same journey; we are drawn into some form of wilderness experience which tests our willingness to put all our trust on God alone. In our personal solitude and silence we too are shaped into an image and likeness of God.

For Colin, the symbol of this experience was Nazareth, which for him represented a state of soul which rested in God, which waited in solitude and silence where the perfect sound of God’s love could be heard.

(A Certain Way—Craig Larkin, sm)