

EURO info



SAHAGÚN COMMUNITY TEAM MEETING, SAHAGÚN, SPAIN, 4 – 9 DECEMBER



To be more closely united, work more creatively, and act in greater solidarity we form one province beyond national limitations...

GREETINGS FROM PARIS!

The confreres who are members of the Sahagún team got off to a good start this month in Spain. In Ireland, a beautiful and moving ceremony of ordination to the diaconate was celebrated in Dublin. A new means of promoting vocations was launched on the internet and there is a general invitation to all Marists to contribute material to be published on it. We thank all our readers and contributors for your faithfulness throughout 2017 and we pray that 2018 will bring you great peace and joy. We continue to welcome your material which echoes the life of the province, they are important to all of us.

Joaquín Fernández and Martin McAnaney



offer them once more the support of the Provincial Council and of the whole Province for that matter. The new Marist community will carry the name of, VIRGEN PEREGRINA, inspired by the statue kept in the

Marcello Pregno writes: “The team of confreres who form the new community of Sahagún - Dani Fernández (Esp), Toño Fernández (Esp) and Andrea Volonnino (It) - met in Sahagún to start planning their presence and the ministry in which they will engage. As provincial delegate for Spain, I joined them for three days, to

museum of the Benedictine nuns monastery where they will warmly welcome Camino pilgrims. During these few days Dani, Andrea and Toño had occasion to experience the wonderful welcome of the sisters, to write their own Charter of Ministry and to become more familiar with this very attractive village, situated towards the



centre of the Camino di Santiago. It has been a blessing to experience with them at the start of journey.”

PRAYER INTENTION FOR THE NEW YEAR

“You crown the year with your goodness....” Ps. 65:11
 Loving Father, we love you and thank you that our names are engraved in the palm of your hand. You love us unconditionally and nothing can ever separate us from your love. May our lives be of use to you in the coming year. May we put our gifts and talents at your service and our neighbour in the manner of Mary, so as to contribute to the healing of the world in which we live.



ORDINATION TO THE DIACONATE,
TOM KOUJZER, ST THERESA'S PARISH,
DONORE AVENUE, DUBLIN, 9 DECEMBER



Tom joined the parish team at St Theresa's parish a year and a half ago on a pastoral placement, an element in his Master's programme of Pastoral theology at Maynooth university (www.maynoothuniversity.ie). The parish made a very appropriate context for him to celebrate his diaconate ordination. The pastoral council, the liturgy team, the choirs, the catechists, the decoration team and many other key ministry groups, got together with Tom to transform the church into a place fitting for the liturgy and to offer hospitality to the wider parish community and guests. Tom extended an invitation to all the members of the province. Along with some of his Dutch confreres, there were others from Germany, Norway and of course, Ireland. These joined with his parents, Paul and Nicolle, and other family members and friends for the occasion.



In his homily, Diarmuid Martin, the Archbishop of Dublin, emphasised the importance of the moment in the ceremony when the people of God, represented by the local parish community, is asked if they approve of choice of this man as a deacon. He thanked them for all they did for Tom by accompanying him in this stage of his formation. The same parish community had also prepared light refreshments for everyone who attended the event. To finish the day, Tom's family and friends, and confreres were treated to a splendid buffet lunch in the presbytery. The deserts even included a traditional Christmas pudding even if it was a little early! No one was heard complaining! Tom will continue to practice his diaconate in the parish while he takes up a placement programme in a Dublin hospital over the next three months.

PROMOTING MARIST IDENTITY
AND NEWS, FACEBOOK PAGE
LAUNCH, 30 NOVEMBER:

You may remember that in 2016 a think-tank group got together to reflect on ways of presenting the Marist Charism in Europe today. Two members of that group, Pascal Boidin (Fr) and Daniel Fernandez (Esp), with the assistance of Anne Marie Salgo, a member of the team at Notre Dame de France (London), have been translating a few of the group's ideas into concrete actions.

These relate to materials and methods to help Marists in Europe to foster more effectively their activities and approach. This is a step in the promotion of vocations.

We are delighted to announce that the European province now has a Facebook page: www.facebook.com/maristeurope You can help circulate knowledge of the existence of this Facebook page by giving it a "like", and by inviting others to do the same.

It is a means of sharing news by means of updates from European communities and beyond. If Marists have something they would like to share, all they have to do is simply send a message to the page or email it to: info@maristeurope.eu. The team is looking for regular contributors. If you are willing to become a correspondent or administrator, you are invited to contact the team!



OBITUARY Brendan Bradshaw (Ire) 10.12.2017