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MARIST BROTHERS

WEST-CENTRAL EUROPE



SPECIAL EDITION

BULLETIN

EDITORS

Br. Jacques Scholte
Br. Victor Vermeersch
Mrs Nellie Beelen
Mrs Daphne van Dongen
Sophiaweg 4
NL 6523 NJ Nijmegen
www.marists.eu

TRANSLATORS

Br. Joseph De Meyer
Br. Augustin Hendlmeier



Province of West-Central Europe: 15th anniversary



15th APRIL 2000 - 15th APRIL 2015 15th ANNIVERSARY OF THE PROVINCE



**15 Years ago: a hesitant,
yet determined beginning.
The start of the second restructuring
in the Institute**

Five (or actually seven) countries.
Soon after the launch of the Province Cameroon and Kenya
became part of African Provinces.



THERE WERE MANY QUESTION MARKS:

- How can that work, five countries and four languages?
- How do we get to know 240 Brothers?
- Does everyone have to be willing to move to another country?
- Does everyone have to learn another language?

And many other questions, often of a practical nature, which made them no less important.



October 1999
Meeting in Furth



April 2000
1st Provincial Council



April 2000
Provincial Chapter





September 2000
Provincial Chapter

THERE WAS ALSO:

- A curiosity to explore new possibilities;
- A willingness to participate in Province meetings;
- A warm hospitality towards Brothers visiting from other communities.

After only three years we were able to let go of the “Sectors” and of the idea that the different nationalities should be represented on the Provincial Council; “crossing borders” was no longer a theoretical concept, and careful first steps towards establishing international communities were taken.



February 2003
Meeting of members
of School Boards





April 2003
Provincial Chapter



January 2004
Heeze
Meeting of Superiors



April 2004
Freising
Lectio Divina



June 2004
Handing over of the
Marist school in Recklinghausen

August 2004
Retreat in
Heeze



AND THERE WAS MORE:

- We began to speak of "our Province".
- We began to know each other's names and remember each other's faces.
- We began to learn about various forms of community life.
- We began to feel a new energy emerging.
- We began to become familiar with each other.
- We began to need less simultaneous translation during meetings.

April 2005
Mindelheim
Provincial
Council



January 2006
Meeting
Brother
Joe McKee



April 2006
Provincial
Council



July 2007
Partnership
Commission



February 2010
Ciney
Provincial
Chapter



June 2010
Provincial
Council



June 2012
Meeting of Superiors



October 2012
Province Workshop



IT MAY ALSO BE SAID:

- That everybody wasn't able to follow along.
- That there are some Brothers who remain half-hearted about calling themselves members of the Province.
- That there remains some feeling of nostalgia for the former Provinces.
- That it continues to be difficult to express oneself, to make oneself understood in another language.

April 2013
Provincial Chapter



April 2013
Provincial Council



October 2013
Province Workshop



June 2014
Meeting of
Community Animators



WARMEST CONGRATULATIONS

This 15th anniversary is a reason to celebrate! It is a reason for expressing gratitude towards each other: for the patience we have shown towards each other, for the mutual respect we have experienced, for the passion in our Marist lives we have witnessed in each other, for the challenges we have accepted together, for the hopes we continue to nurture.



June 2014
Guardamar



November 2014
Province Workshop



AN EXPRESSION OF GRATITUDE

We pray to You - the One -
who wants to remain unnamed,
for Your Name cannot be expressed.

You have travelled with us
as the One who is Present,
as the One we were able to imagine.

In many languages,
in many ways, and
at many meetings
we sought, imagined,
sang, and prayed
who You are to us:
the One, the Eternal One,
the Loving One,
He who will be.

We thank You
for the miraculous things
You have done for us,
for Your Name is great.
Let us continue
on the path that You show to us -
not as we think
it should be.
As You give us Your Directions
we will follow in Your Name.

AS WE CONTINUE...

The pilgrim on his path always has a future ahead of him. Yet he does not know where the path will take him. He is shown the way. So too will it be for the way of our Province. We do not know where it will take us, nor how or with whom.

In the mountains surrounding Mount Pilat the paths can only be seen up to the next corner. No further than that. Whether a path is passable, in what state it is, remains a surprise. From Marcellin's experiences we know that we will always be able to continue on our path. As we do, will we be able to take his experiences as an example and remain amazed by them?

THE
BULLETIN'S TEAM
OF
EDITORS
WISHES
ALL
TRAVEL
COMPANIONS
A
HAPPY 15th
ANNIVERSARY