

This report...

... summarises my activity and that of the Colin Cause Network in spreading the fama of Jean-Claude Colin during 2021.

Despite the presence of COVID-19 much has been happening Society-wide.

As the Cause advances more can be done to tell the story of Jean-Claude Colin, especially in encouraging prayer through his intercession for graces, big and small...

Colin Cause Network

Membership remained as:

- ◆ Africa (Christian Abongbung)
- ◆ Asia (Lauro Arcede)
- ◆ Australia (Ron Nissen)
- ◆ Canada (Yvan Carré)
- ◆ Europe (Alois Greiler)
- ◆ General Council (Ben McKenna)
- ◆ Mexico (David Sanchez)
- ◆ New Zealand (Kevin Head)
- ◆ Oceania (Aisake Vaisima)
- ◆ South America (Arnaldo da Silva)
- ◆ USA (Leon Olszamowski)
- ◆ Justin Taylor (consultant and advisor)

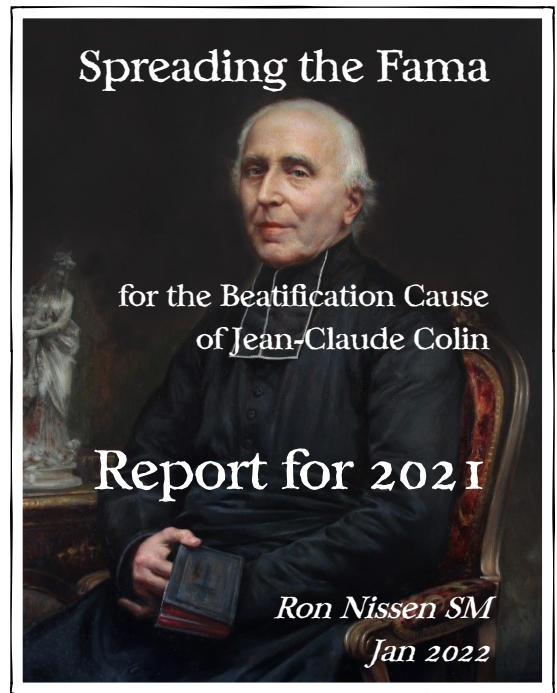
In 2022 membership will need to be reviewed in a couple of Units.

Zoom sessions

The Network met on Zoom three times (Mar, Jul and Oct) sharing news of local initiatives, mostly in preparation for/or review of Marist/Colin anniversaries.

CCN Bulletins

- ◆ Six of these were prepared for network members during 2021, containing Zoom agenda



and summaries, Cause updates, advice of local initiatives and new resources, etc.

- ◆ Members were encouraged to make the Bulletins available to their Unit leaders.

Members' initiatives

These have included:

- ◆ **Africa:** prayer and group activities amongst seminarians and Laity; distribution of resources in English and French district-wide; *Year of Vocations* used to promote Cause awareness, esp amongst Laity, aspirants and students.
- ◆ **Asia:** liturgical celebrations of anniversaries; design of the *MICS Planner for 2022* using Colin Calendar material, Marist prayers and anniversaries; enthusiastic involvement of aspirants; some Cebuano translations; production of Colin T-shirts for aspirants; *Year of Vocations* launch accompanied with Colin material.
- ◆ **Australia:** Coordination of the Colin Cause Network; ongoing maintenance of the Colin



website; assistance with design of *A Short Life of Jean-Claude Colin*; liturgical resources for Marist/Colin anniversaries regularly posted on province website and Facebook; some printed distribution to confreres; Colin calendar for 2022 designed, produced and distributed internationally and province-wide.

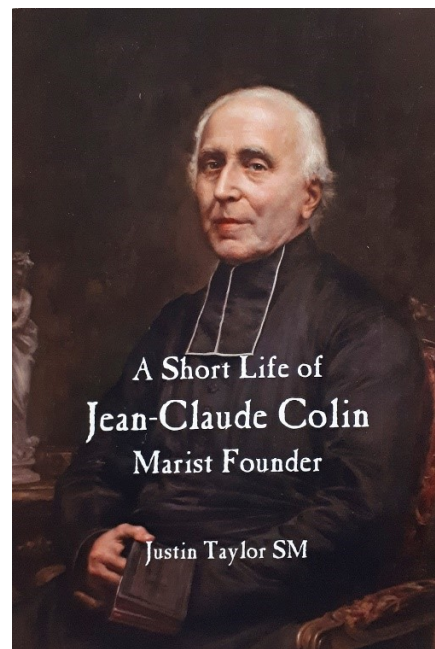
- ◆ **Canada:** novena distribution province-wide; some text adaptations for Laity; five-year program of Marist formation proposed for high school in Quebec; research on ‘final days of Fr Colin’ (later published in *Marist Messenger*) and distribution of papers; Laity group sessions using the *A Short Life of Jean-Claude Colin*.
- ◆ **Europe:** research for and development of Marist Litany project and materials for Year of St Joseph, as one of SM’s key patrons; prayer cards prepared for school display and distribution and parish use.
- ◆ **General House:** novena included with community prayers; updates on Cause progress; novena prayers before the Colin icon; translations for lay staff; preparation of Cause updates for CCN and SM Bulletin.
- ◆ **Mexico:** novena used in major communities; Colin commemoration during Chapter; daily web postings during novena. (David appointed international Master of Novices; he will bring much to this post.)
- ◆ **NZ:** Chapter began with Colin commemoration; distribution of parish packs; printing and distribution of leaflets and novenas province-wide; continuing series of Colin-related articles in *Marist Messenger*.
- ◆ **NZ (Justin Taylor):** valuable comments and suggestions on most aspects of the CCN work; providing *A Short Life of Jean-Claude Colin*.
- ◆ **Oceania:** Resources sent to sector and other leaders; positive responses from many, including senior confreres; Colin-focused material used during COP sessions; sector leaders given updates by Zoom; ‘praying for graces’ widespread throughout province; program being prepared for talks for Laity on Cause.
- ◆ **South America:** Fifteen videos prepared and published from Nov 1 to 15 with Marist Family involvement; monument to J-C Colin prepared for ecological rural project; weekly videos on Colin themes; composition of several Colin-related songs; local celebrations with Laity on anniversaries; Vespasiano community name change to *Comunidade Marista João Cláudio Colin*; Brazil/Peru online connections re Nov 15 events; Peru community using Instagram and

Facebook to promote events; celebrations district-wide with lay communities and youth.

- ◆ **USA:** research on Colin’s approach to education; school/college promotion of Marist hymns; promotion of *Jean-Claude Colin, Sainly Educator for His Time and Ours*; school celebrations, and teaching of ‘*Sub Tuum*’ to all students; Nov 15 celebrations amongst Laity and schools; circulation of Colin material to all pastors in local diocese; videos on life of J-C Colin and the Cause being prepared for online access.

Publications & resources

- ◆ **Anniversary celebrations:** further development of liturgical and paraliturgical resources to support Marist/Colin celebrations of Jul 23, Aug 07, Sep 12 and Nov 15.
- ◆ **Fourvière:** The range of resources on the Colin website is now substantial, including *Vision & Promise* (brief story of Fourvière), now translated into seven languages. The pledge itself is in twenty-eight languages.
- ◆ *A Short Life of Jean-Claude Colin* became available early in the year and has been distributed widely. I have a stock, in all languages, for sending to enquirers



- ◆ *On Whatever Distant Shore* (mini-bio of J-C Colin) is now in five languages.
- ◆ Tom Ryan’s *‘The Reasoning Heart: Jean-Claude Colin and the Marist Spirit’* was published during the year.
- ◆ *Bugey Camino:* Ray Chapman has begun planning for this. The 2022 Colin calendar has been illustrated with this in mind.

Resource enquiries

- ◆ There have been a small number of requests to which I have responded by sending packs of language-specific material, and advising of the present protocols forbidding distribution of relics pre-Beatification.
- ◆ A copy of *A Short Life of J-C Colin* and the Colin Calendar are now included in the packs, as well as updated *Prayers for Graces through the intercession of J-C Colin*.

Colin Calendar for 2022

- ◆ This is the ninth annual calendar.
- ◆ Work started earlier than in previous years, in view of COVID-related international mailing issues.
- ◆ Almost 700 copies were distributed, once again in six languages (English, French, German, Italian, Spanish & Portuguese) and in two sizes.
- ◆ Bulk packs of 25 and 50, and individual copies, were sent to:
 - ◇ CCN members
 - ◇ Formation communities
 - ◇ General Administration
 - ◇ Each member of the Australian province
 - ◇ Australian and NZ Lay Marist leaders and Marist Family members
 - ◇ Others on request
- ◆ Marists in Ireland were sent files to assist a local printer to produce the calendar in bulk.

The calendar:

- ◆ features illustrations of the Bugey in summer, promoting the Bugey Camino.
- ◆ contains monthly quotes from Fr Colin.
- ◆ highlights various Marist anniversaries.
- ◆ is accompanied by a copy of the official icon of Fr Colin.

An online form attracted a small number of orders.

Despite the COVID-induced need for more expensive mailing options, the production and distribution cost per unit remains modest.

Commercial printing of at least the English calendars is being considered for 2022.



Colin website [www.jeanclaudecolin.org]

- ◆ The site continues to be a key repository for resources for the Cause.
- ◆ More printable resources were added and in a range of languages, thanks to the help of translators, mostly CCN members.
- ◆ COVID-19 has prevented my travel to Brisbane, Qld, for the customary several days each year I spend with our web development host. Further development of the site, however, is envisaged for 2022.

Liaison with Unit leaders & General Administration

- ◆ There appears to be good support from most Unit leaders for CCN members and their work.
- ◆ Regular Zoom and email contact with Ben McKenna has been of special help, as has periodic feedback from the General Council. I am grateful for the ongoing support of the Council and the ready availability of Ben with practical ideas and encouragement.
- ◆ Ben has provided updates on the advancement of the Cause to Network members in most Zoom sessions.

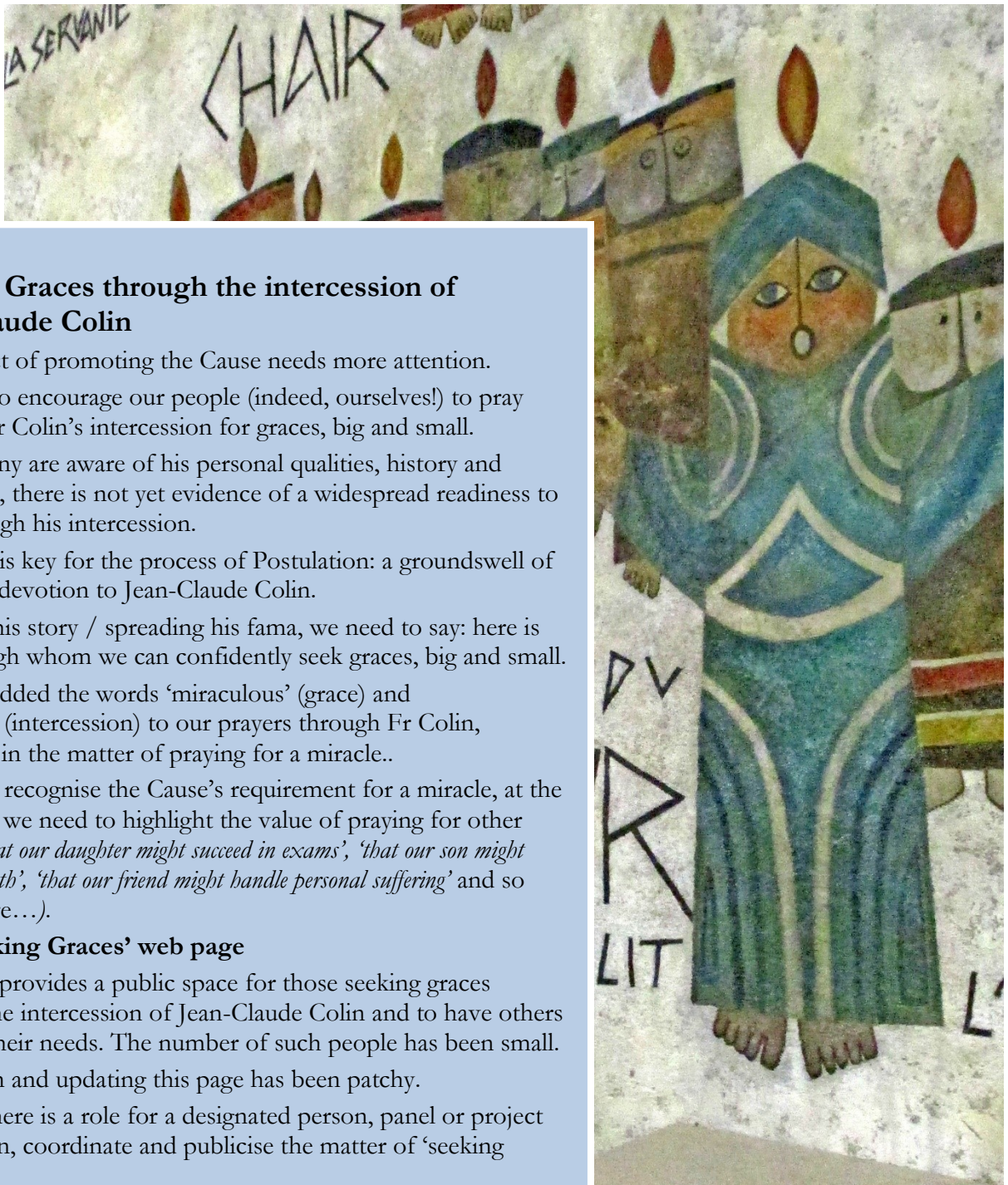
Cost sharing & finances

Some expenses of Colin Cause work continue to be shared with local ministry budgets in Australia, including:

- ◆ Internet & phone
- ◆ hardware & software
- ◆ stationery & consumables
- ◆ networking and other administrative services
- ◆ professional in-services

Colin calendar production and international mailing were amongst the main costs for 2021.

A separate expenditure summary with commentary has been prepared for the General Bursar.



Seeking Graces through the intercession of Jean-Claude Colin

This aspect of promoting the Cause needs more attention.

We need to encourage our people (indeed, ourselves!) to pray through Fr Colin's intercession for graces, big and small.

Whilst many are aware of his personal qualities, history and spirituality, there is not yet evidence of a widespread readiness to pray through his intercession.

The latter is key for the process of Postulation: a groundswell of confident devotion to Jean-Claude Colin.

In telling his story / spreading his fama, we need to say: here is one through whom we can confidently seek graces, big and small.

We have added the words 'miraculous' (grace) and 'exclusive' (intercession) to our prayers through Fr Colin, important in the matter of praying for a miracle..

Yet, as we recognise the Cause's requirement for a miracle, at the same time we need to highlight the value of praying for other graces (*'that our daughter might succeed in exams', 'that our son might return to faith', 'that our friend might handle personal suffering'* and so much more...).

The 'Seeking Graces' web page

This page provides a public space for those seeking graces through the intercession of Jean-Claude Colin and to have others know of their needs. The number of such people has been small.

Promotion and updating this page has been patchy.

Perhaps there is a role for a designated person, panel or project to focus on, coordinate and publicise the matter of 'seeking graces'.

