

- The new site retains the original site address: www.jeanclaudocolin.org

- The original site has been preserved and can be accessed from the new site.

‘Seeking graces’

- A key dimension to the Cause is evidence of the efficacy of Fr Colin’s intercession in seeking graces.
- We may think of ‘getting a miracle or two’. But Carlo-Maria Schianchi’s advice is important: *‘Don’t urge the people to prayer for miracles; invite them to prayer for graces through the intercession of Fr Colin’.*
- I sense a groundswell of energy and interest in such prayer.
- On the Colin website there is now a tab on the ‘Cause’ menu for ‘Seeking graces’.
- It contains a small but growing list of people in various parts of the world for whom graces are being sought through Fr Colin’s intercession.
- Our Network confrères will be alerted to this, encouraging them to look within their Units for those who may be appropriately added to this list.
- Language-specific resources (novena, bookmark prayers, etc) are available for them.

Colin Facebook page

- Facebook’s wide embrace and ease of linking to websites remains an attractive avenue of spreading the fama. Nevertheless, at the time of writing, we no longer have a Colin Facebook page!
- As part of their campaign against fake sites, Facebook has been progressively unpublishing any site which carries a name different to the page manager. At the time of its ‘unpublishing’ the Colin Facebook page had ca 12,000 regular followers.
- I am considering re-establishing a Colin page using new protocols acceptable to Facebook.

Resource enquiries

- Since the closure of the Facebook page, requests for Colin-related material have decreased. I have continued to respond to any requests by sending whatever language-specific material is available, pointing out the present protocols forbidding distribution of relics pre-Beatification.

‘Very short life of Colin’

- Justin Taylor engaged me (and several other confrères) in the proofing and suggestions for this work.
- If it is needed I would be available to contribute towards its illustration.

ARC 2019

- Once again, this gathering provided an opportunity to keep awareness of the Cause before our Unit leaders, each receiving a summary report and small resource pack.
- Ben McKenna ensured that my report was well-presented for which I am grateful.

Cost sharing & finances

- Some expenses of Colin Cause work are shared with local ministry budgets in Australia, including:
 - ◊ Internet & phone, hardware & software, stationery & consumables, network and other administrative services
 - ◊ professional in-services (in 2019, I continued with in-services in photo-editing and digital photography)
- a bank account set up by our province business manager for the local handling of Cause budget funds has enabled clearer accounting.
- a separate expenditure summary has been prepared for the General Bursar.

Spreading the Fama for the Beatification Cause of Jean-Claude Colin

Report for 2019



Ron Nissen SM

Feb 2020

Note: Thanks to Ben McKenna's presentation of our conversation summaries in Sydney (late 2019 and early 2020) GA members are already aware of some of the content of this report.

But there is more...

Colin Cause Network

- Some moves were made by Paul Walsh and myself in 2018 to set up a network of confrères as regional contacts for spreading the fama of Fr Colin.
- During 2019 I had several meetings (online and in person) with Ben McKenna to develop this project.
- In Nov 2019 Unit leaders were asked to nominate a confrère for their Unit.
- Concerning the role and selection we suggested:
 - ◇ 'Such men would be the first points of contact in Cause-related matters forwarded by me, and in relaying information to yourself and members of your Unit.
 - ◇ 'We would see them as local animators for the Cause, supported through the significant and language-specific resources available from the Colin website, as well as by periodic contact from me and perhaps fellow network confrères.
 - ◇ **'Suitability, availability and review**
Obviously, we wish to invite confrères with a positive disposition to the Cause, who are at least modestly at home with the various communication media and tools of the day and, of course, who could give energy and time to this work, from time to time.
 - ◇ 'We would envisage reviewing the appointment of our network men annually, a month or so in advance of the ARC meeting.'

- To date, eight Units have a confirmed member of the Network: Africa (Christian Abongbung), Asia (Lauro Arcede), Australia (Ron Nissen), Canada (Yvan Carré), Mexico (David Sanchez), Oceania ('Aisake Vaisima), South America (Arnaldo da Silva) and USA (Leon Olszamowski).
- We have encouraged these men to become familiar with several chronologies of the Cause now available, and with rest of the Colin website.
- NZ has been postponed pending the new provincial's taking office.
- Europe is as yet undecided, having the special circumstances of its variety of countries.
- The next step will be to engage the Network men in developing practical ideas for their role and planning 'baby steps' in local promotion of the fama.

Supporting the Cause

- At the 2009 General Chapter and 2010 ARC, it was clear that support for the Cause was far from unanimous.
- The 2017 General Chapter vote was unanimous, and may possibly have reflected a growing sentiment across the Society.
- Nevertheless, if the Cause is to be advanced, strong, continuing support from the General Council is paramount.
- I have personally experienced this support and am deeply appreciative of this.
- With the establishment of the Colin Cause Network, I see a new level of support being called for, from both General and Unit levels.
- Otherwise, with so many contemporary and pressing issues facing the Society, the Cause might easily become its 'Cinderella'.

Colin Calendar for 2020

- This has been prepared annually for the past seven years and is now in seven languages (English, Dutch, French, German, Italian, Spanish & Portuguese) and in two sizes.
 - In 2019 (and early 2020) distribution of over 300 copies of the latest calendar included:
 - ◇ GA and Unit leaders
 - ◇ Marist formation communities (staff, students and novices) and some larger and city-centre communities internationally
 - ◇ La Neylière Colinian program participants and post-graduate Marist students in Rome
 - ◇ Requests from Canada, Holland, Mexico and Norway following *SM Bulletin* advertising
 - ◇ Australian and NZ Lay Marist leaders and some Marist Family members, Australian communities, and confreres, on request.
 - Illustrations for the 2020 calendar are views of the French countryside familiar to Fr Colin and the early Marists.
 - There are monthly quotes from Fr Colin, drawn from those used in the Colin Year of 2012-13, and in seven languages.
 - Feedback, from formators and students, indicates that the calendars are contributing to the awareness of Fr Colin's thoughts, Marist Family dates, anniversaries.
- ## Colin website
- This was redeveloped during 2019. Indeed a new site was constructed.
 - Since the site continues as a useful repository for resources on Fr Colin and the Cause, attention has been given to simplicity and ease of access to these.