

## Notes from CCN Zoom

Mar 08/09, 2023

The session opened at 6.00 am Sydney DST, Thu, Mar 09

### Welcome and prayer

Alois Greiler welcomed 'new faces', Stephen Ihejirika (Africa), Lutoviko Manu (Oceania) and Renan Valencia (South America) and led an opening prayer.

### Units represented

- Africa (Stephen Ihejirika)
- Australia (Ron Nissen)
- Canada (Br Mario Béland)
- Europe (Alois Greiler)
- Oceania (Viko Manu)
- South America (Arnaldo da Silva and Renan Valencia)



### Apologies

- Lauro Arcede (Asia)
- Ben D'Souza (NZ)
- Justin Taylor (NZ)
- Leon Olszamowski (USA)
- Later from Ben McKenna (GA)

### Hannah Bennett



Updates from Hannah have been posted on the Colin website, 'Seeking Graces' page since 2017. Her latest message (Feb 10, 2023) is: *'I wanted to let you know, I spoke to my neurologist earlier this week (about my recent MRI scans completed last Friday) and he said, and I quote, "if someone were to look at the images of your spine not knowing your medical history they would have no idea you have MS"!!! So wonderfully exciting!! '*

According to Carlo-Maria Schianchi, this would not constitute a satisfactory 'miracle' according to present Vatican norms (eg, instant, unrelated to drugs, lasting, etc.). As well as being posted on the Colin website, Hannah's news has been offered to *SM Bulletin* for wider distribution.

## Sharings from Units

- What is the awareness of the Cause of Jean-Claude Colin in my Unit?
- What is one step I am hoping to take to spread his story?

### Africa

- Lay Marists are very much part of the Cause enterprise.
- Prayer resources are distributed amongst them
- No plans yet for 2023

### Australia

- Setting up a small Network support group with two Marists and three lay persons, incl one Lay Marist/married couple
- Planning for several 'Colinian' functions at Villa Maria monastery
- Marist (esp Colinian) anniversaries featured on the District website
- Resources provided for communities and individuals: prayer cards, incl praying for a miracle; canvas prints of Colin icon

### Canada

- Not a great awareness of the Cause in the province
- The new community is 500 km distant from Quebec where most Marists reside.
- Soon, links will be sent to confreres for the Colin website, esp Hannah Bennett's reports.
- Need to keep repeating items/news about the Cause

### Europe

- In Germany, the Cause is not a central issue.
- Information to be supplied to Euroinfo in April.
- German translation of the *Short Life of Jean-Claude Colin* has been completed; publication soon.

- One page resources distributed to the Marist school for use at morning prayers for anniversaries (eg Feb 28, Mar 09).
- Agreement about the need for to repeat, recall, remind...
- Colin website is a 'treasure' of resources for telling the Colin story.

## **New Zealand**

Ben D'Souza sent the following report:

- I've printed new Fr Colin Novena prayer cards, with the canonisation prayer.
- Also working on a booklet about marist spirituality and Fr Colin for men in accompaniment/ discerning Marist life, and another for parishioners. It's based on your article "on whatever distant shore"
- I will be talking about the founder to younger men and see what energy they can bring to the CCN. There is one seminarian who has written a lot of work and is presently compiling an animation series.
- Also consulting a local artist regarding a statue of Fr Colin.

## **Oceania**

- Province-wide prayers for the sick (eg Sr Nanise) through the intercession of Fr Colin.
- Nov 15 anniversary celebrations encouraged
- Feedback on the Cause from Superior-General during recent visitation.
- One of St John's College houses named after Fr Colin; students learn about the life of Fr Colin; enthusiastic interest in Marist Fijian history by ex-student.
- Future planning to start before long after consultation with 'Aisake Vaisima and Provincial Council.

## **South America**

- Cause prayer used daily at night prayer in formation community; also praying for graces.
- Other communities encouraged to follow this pattern; some do at various intervals.
- New community at Bahia named after Jean-Claude Colin.
- Knowledge of Fr Colin and the Cause will be spread in the new mission areas.

- 2023: students studying the *Short Life of Jean-Claude Colin*; the Marist Brothers will be translating this into Portuguese; this will be used in the formation community and amongst Lay groups.
- Brazilian novice (Mauro) has left novitiate.
- Novena for vocations to be used leading to Nov 15 anniversary.

## International

- Ron has begun establishing further Network groups throughout the Society, esp amongst younger Marists.
- Present plans are to invite small groups in
  - Africa
  - Asia (Formation community/MICS)
  - Australia (Marists and Laity)
  - NZ (Ben & seminary community)
  - Oceania (Marist College, Suva, students)
  - Rome (student-priests)
  - Rome (theology students)
  - South America (Brazil formation community & other Marists)
- Planning has begun for the 2024 Colin calendar.
- Further development of Colin website.
- Ron encouraged distribution of **both** hard copies **and** electronic links/copies for selected resources.

## Next Zoom

No date set, but possibly in two or three months' time.

The meeting closed in prayer at 7.10 am Sydney DST, Thu, Mar 09.