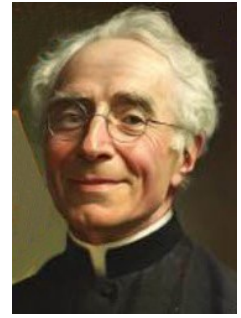


# Spreading the Fama

for the Beatification Cause of Jean-Claude Colin

## Report for 2024

Ron Nissen SM



This report summarises my activity and that of other Marists in spreading the fama of Jean-Claude Colin during 2024.

Features of the year include:

- growing initiatives by Marists worldwide
- connections with the Marist Family
- use of the Colin website and its resources
- the Colin calendar for 2025
- sesquicentenary preparations

### **Colin Cause Network**

Throughout the year membership has included Stephen Ihejirika (Africa), Lauro Arcede and Christopher Ganzon (Asia), Ron Nissen, (Australia), Mario Béland (Canada), Alois Greiler (Europe), Ben McKenna (General Council), Joaquin Fernandez (Mexico), Ben D'Souza (NZ), Lutoviko Manu and Petero Matairatu (Oceania), Leandro Martins (S America), Leon Olsamowski (USA), Justin Taylor (consultant and advisor). At the time of this report adjustments to the Network are likely to be made in Africa, South America and USA.

Cause updates, summaries of local initiatives, new resources, suggestions for anniversaries, etc. were shared in occasional bulletins and Zoom sessions.

### **Formation communities**

In pre-entry engagements with potential candidates, vocation ministers and formators are highlighting the person of Jean-Claude Colin, as well as including Colinian history and spirituality in the syllabus of ongoing Marist formation.



International novitiate community with Alois Greiler:

*'Why beatify Jean-Claude Colin?'*

### **Marist Laity**

Network members report growing interest in the person of Fr Colin and celebration of his life amongst the lay groups in their care, for example, in the naming of chapels, communities, etc. and requests for resources.

### **Seeking Graces**

Two young Australians are among the increasing number of people who have sought or are seeking the intercession of Jean-Claude Colin for healing. Their stories speak for themselves and may well be iceberg-tips of what is happening more widely as the fama of Fr Founder spreads.

For the past two years **Hannah Bennett** (27) has no longer had any symptoms of Multiple Sclerosis with which she was diagnosed at age 20. Indeed, in 2024 Hannah engaged in six weeks of volunteer work at the Redemptorists' *Sarnelli Mission* in Northern Thailand, as a speech therapist, specialising in work for disabled youngsters. She is a picture of health.

The nephew of Fr Michael Rego SM, **Anthony de Salis** (26) is in his third year of remission from Hodgkinson's Lymphoma and back into his favoured sport of long-distance running. He now participates in interstate marathon events.



### **General Administration**

Zoom and email contact with Ben McKenna continued to be of special value with practical ideas, encouragement and updates on the Cause process and periodic feedback from the General Council.

## The Colin website: [www.jeanclaudocolin.org](http://www.jeanclaudocolin.org)

Feedback from confreres suggests that the Colin website is being well used as a source of resources to promote awareness of Jean-Claude Colin in our various Units

Content from the site is often seen on social media postings by confreres, especially younger Marists, and on formation and vocation pages and in a range of languages.

Several multi-lingual printable resources were added during 2024.

Technical in-services were provided by web consultant, Justin Lynch, in Brisbane, Qld. Present focus is on platform upgrades and security enhancement.

## Calendars

With 1,300 copies prepared and distributed during 2024, the Colin calendar for 2025, the twelfth annual issue, highlights the sesquicentenary of the death of *Jean-Claude Colin in 2025*

Monthly quotations and illustrations reflect the initiatives of Fr Founder during his generalate.

Language-specific copies were available for each member of the Society sent to Unit centres and formation communities, General Administration & staff, Australian Lay Marist groups and professed Marist Family members and others on request.

The calendar continues to be a useful reference for Marist anniversaries and *Kalendarium* Mass intention reminders as well as principal liturgical dates.

Despite increases in express international postage the distribution cost per unit remains modest.

## Translations

The valued work of translators continues to be key in spreading the fama and production of the calendar and other resources. In 2024 I called on the help of Ad Blommerde, François Chauvet, Renato Frappi, Alois Greiler and Paddy O'Neil.

## Sesquicentenary

Nov 15, 2025, will be the 150th anniversary of the death of Jean-Claude Colin.

My hope has been to engage as many Marists as possible during 2024 in focussing on the forthcoming sesquicentenary year to sharpen our awareness of Fr Founder's place in the Society's history and our appreciation of his spirituality and gifts.

## New image of Jean-Claude Colin

Working with Marist Laity Australia co-leader, Andrew Dumas, I have begun to use a technically-generated image of Fr Founder derived from the 1866 photographs, the 1927 Tollet portrait and notes from archived passport descriptions, aware of the care needed in maintaining credible authenticity.

## Finances and cost sharing

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, web consultation & professional in-services.

Colin calendar production and international mailing were once again amongst the main costs for the year, as well as interstate travel for web consultations and in-services.

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

*San Nissen Sm.*

Feb 02, 2025

