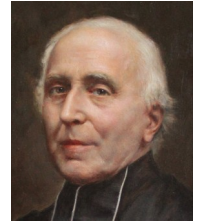


THE COLIN YEAR, 2012-13 - WEEKLY REFLECTION

'FROM THE LIPS OF THE FOUNDER'



Week 01

'Let us take courage and work hard, but always hidden and unknown. Let us keep away from those who rely on a merely human eloquence. The Society must begin a new Church over again. I do not mean that in a literal sense, that would be blasphemy. But still, in a certain sense, yes, we must begin a new Church.' (FS 120:1)

Week 02

'There are three things in the Rule that I earnestly want to be in the mind and heart of all Marists... Firstly, it says that although the Society intends to devote itself to all good works, whatever they may be, and to make use without exception of all means available for the good of the Church and of souls by all means, Marists must behave nevertheless in all things in such a way that they may appear hidden and as if unknown in the world (*quasi ignoti et occulti in hoc mundo esse videantur*).' (FS 119:6, 7)

Week 03

'Secondly, the Rule says that we must behave with such esteem and regard for the bishops that they will look upon our Society as their own (*tanquam suam*). These words were not put there by chance, but only after much reflection. When I was drawing up the Rule and these words occurred to me, my mind was at rest.' (FS 119: 7)

Week 04

'Thirdly, our Rule says that we must not seek to curry favour with anyone whatsoever, neither the great, nor the rich, laymen, nor priests, nor parish priests, with the aim of making some temporal gain by it. That is not what the Blessed Virgin did. She was poor, hidden, unknown, but did she ever ask anything from anyone? She is our model, let us imitate her.' (FS 119: 8)