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Dear Friends

Advent is a season of mixed origins, as a consequence of which it has long been far from clear whether it is primarily concerned with the first or the second coming of Christ. The new Roman calendar states firmly that it is concerned with both and with both as they are related one to the other. On the fourth Sunday, and on weekdays from 17 December, all the emphasis is on the forthcoming feast of the Nativity. But the purpose of our celebrating is summed up in the Preface for this period:

In his love Christ has filled us with joy,
As we prepare to celebrate his birth,
So that when he comes he may find us watching in prayer,
Our hearts filled with wonder and praise.

The Son of God is coming in great power: all mankind shall see his face and be reborn.

Come, Lord Jesus, do not delay.

You will bring us wisdom, fresh understanding and new vision.

Come, Lord Jesus, do not delay.

You will bring us good news, and power which will transform our lives.

Come, Lord Jesus, do not delay.

You will bring us truth, showing us the way to our Father.

Come, Lord Jesus, do not delay.

Born of a woman, you will open in our flesh the way to eternal life and joy.

Come, Lord Jesus, do not delay.

MARISTS IN HISTORY

GUILLAUME DOUARRE had been a priest for eight years when he joined the Society of Mary. On the day of his profession, at age 32, he was named as coadjutor to Pierre Bataillon who had just been named as Vicar Apostolic to Central Oceania. Douarre was consecrated bishop in Lyons and then went to Wallis Island where he consecrated Bataillon as his bishop. Douarre and his missionaries established the faith in New Caledonia after three difficult attempts. He died of fever and exhaustion at the age of 43. As a bishop he made no claim to privileges, but lived like his missionaries, and close to the people.

His confrere and long time friend Pierre Rougeyron wrote: "Having no material resources we have undertaken to earn our living by the sweat of our brow. Bishop Douarre laid aside his episcopal insignia; he was the first to give us an example of hard work as of other virtues. From that moment and until now he has forgotten that he was a bishop and has mingled among his brothers; or rather, he has remembered what it really means to carry the burden of the episcopate. Being a bishop might be something glamorous elsewhere, but in the missions, especially at the beginnings, the one who accepts the heavy miter must be a person of devotedness and largeness of soul.

WALSINGHAM AND THE THURSFORD SPECTACULAR This winter break and preparation for



Christmas has been popular for over ten years now and the magic worked again this year. Three groups of people, one from Hull and two from Middlesbrough, totaling 140 people travelled by coach and enjoyed the peace and calm of Walsingham, the Nazareth of England, an Advent Service of Light, a lovely Christmas dinner and the spectacular Thursford Christmas Extravaganza which employs over 120 professional entertainers and recalled every aspect of Christmas. This year is the 950th Anniversary of the Walsingham and every pilgrimage has been presented with a special commemorative certificate. We will remember our time in Walsingham for a long time.

Marist Liturgical Calendar and Mass Intentions 2011

Date	Feast or Celebration	Mass Intention
Dec 25	Birth of Christ in Bethlehem	
30	Holy Family	
Jan 10	Mission of Oceania to Marists 1836	Society of Mary

M. Coleman SM, Marist Way Regional Animator



When the appointed time came, God sent his Son, born of a woman, - born subject to the Law, to redeem the subjects of the Law and to enable us to be adopted as sons.

Gal 4:4-5

May God's Blessings be with you
and your loved ones during this
Holy Season and in the New Year.