

## **Mark Masonry in Romania, the situation as at November 2021**

Since the advancement of the first of our Romanian brethren into The Mark Internet Lodge in November 2017 at Castleton Masonic Hall near Newport, Monmouthshire, the introduction of the Mark Degree into the country has been nothing short of spectacular. To date, there are 13 Mark Lodges and a total membership of approximately 350 brethren and all this has been achieved within 4 years despite the disruption of the Covid pandemic.

Having been halted for some 18 months, the last consecration being in March 2020, the programme re-commenced in September of this year with the consecration of the Ion Creanga Lodge No. 2028 in Craiova on Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> September and the Matei Corvin Lodge No. 2027 in Hunendora on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> October by RW Bro. Michael Whelan the Provincial Grand Master of the Province of Dorset.

These were soon followed later in the month by the Constantin Moroiu Lodge No. 2032 in Constanta and the Sanctuarum Lodge No. 2033 in Bucharest and on these occasions the ceremonies were undertaken by RW Bro. Derek Thomas, Past Provincial Grand Master of Monmouthshire.

A petition for what will be the 14<sup>th</sup> Mark Lodge has now been submitted to Mark Masons' Hall for the Thomas Dunkerley Lodge to be held on Dorohoi and it is hoped that the consecration of this Lodge will be undertaken in January 2022.

Arad will be the venue for the next Lodge and it is anticipated that its petition will be submitted to Grand Lodge by mid-December enabling the consecration ceremony to be held towards the end of March 2022.

Looking further head in excess of 100 brethren are expected to be advanced into our Order during 2022 with a further 5 Lodges being formed in Bucharest, Targovista, Baia Mare, Constanta and Brasov and of course there is the possibility that a District of Romania could also be constituted during the year.

Plans for all the above will be posted on The Mark Internet Lodge website and the Grand Inspector VW Bro. Cristian Mihutoiu and his brethren will ensure a warm welcome to all visiting brethren particularly from the United Kingdom.

***RW Bro. Derek Thomas, Past Provincial Grand Master of Monmouthshire***

*Submitted by W.Bro. Rev. Dr. Derek J. Oliver, PPGJW (Mon), PPGJW (Essex)*

*Chaplain & Information Officer, The Mark Internet Lodge No.1975*

The Consecrating team for Constantin Moroiu Lodge of MMM No 2032

