Colin House is named after John Claude Colin, the founder of the Marist Fathers. The Marist Sisters ran Chavoin College at Burwood from 1967–1979 before it became the Senior Campus of Emmaus College.

John Claude Colin was born in 1790 in the Rhone region of France and was the eighth child of nine children. His parents owned and cultivated a piece of land, and during the winter turned to weaving. The home in which John Claude was born was secure and loving, despite the cataclysmic times of the French Revolution. His parents died in 1795, leaving the children orphaned.

John Claude was cared for by relatives before entering the Seminary to become a priest. It was in the Seminary that John Claude and some of his companions were guided by God to found a Society of Mary whose members would call themselves Marists (Marist = Mary + Christ). Father Colin was to be a founder of the congregation and along with Jeanne-Marie Chavoin he co-founded the Marist Order of Sisters.

John Claude's life is the story of a man touched by God in a remarkable way: a man whose temperament and personality, transformed by grace enabled him to find a particularly effective response to the deep spiritual needs of his time. John Claude died in 1875. Since that time the Marist Order has spread to many areas of the world including Australia.

**Colin House Prayer**

God of Wisdom,  
Your thoughts are very deep, your works are great,  
May we the members of Colin House be open to your Spirit  
as you guide us in truth and knowledge.  
May we, like Mary, always reflect on your word and be  
receptive to where you may lead us.  
Amen

Amen.

**Heraldry**

Elegant shield divided by a fess belt representing honour. The six panel gyronny is an indication of unity.

**Colours**

Blue is the House Colour of Colin. Blue indicates truth and loyalty, is the colour representing Mary associated with the Marist origins. Banners show complementary colours of blue and orange on white. Orange indicates worthy ambition, vitality with endurance.

**Symbolism**

The Marist logo is used to depict the Catholic symbol of the cross, formed together with the Emmaus 'road'. The six pointed star is used on Marist crests and has a meaning of the divine mind. The French 'fleur de lis' or 'flower of light' is recognised as a symbol of Christianity signifying purity, and is shown to reflect French origins of John Claude Colin. The torch, also a Christian image, depicts enlightenment.

**Elements**

The element for Colin is water and is shown as a horizontal wavy line. The platypus is an indigenous water symbol. The animal is drawn in a stylised aboriginal form.