

# SMbulletin

Friday, 24 January 2020

## GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

This week the members of the General Administration continued their plenary session. They had discussions on the Commissions, the international missions of the Society, safeguarding, financial matters, the GA calendar for 2021, vocations and recruitment, job descriptions, Marist Studies. Next week will be the final week of the plenary session.

## START OF NOVITIATE 2020



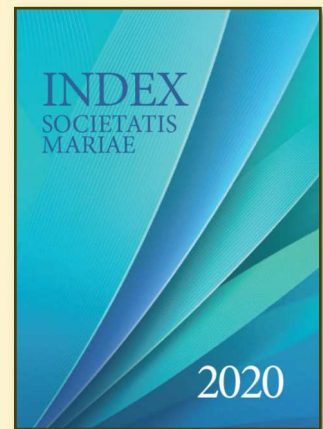
On Saturday 18 January the new novitiate year started in Cerdon, the Marist Novitiate House in the Philippines. Early morning, in a simple ceremony, the four present novices from the Province of Oceania were welcomed by the

formation team. They are: Viliame Cama (Fiji), Charles Sangul (Vanuatu), Luke Waikabakaba (Fiji) and Peter Carde Matarakawa (Fiji). Each of them received a lighted candle and all together they prayed a Marist Litany. Then the soutanes to be used for the liturgical celebrations were blessed and the novices wore them for the first time. Then they had a time of prayer and celebrated the Eucharist. This ceremony may be repeated again when the other four novices from the District of Africa will be granted visas to enter the Philippines to join the novitiate. The formators are Frs Fernando Ingente (Asia), Jacob Aba (Oceania) and Joaquín Fernández (Europe).

## Index 2020

The Index 2020 has been printed and is currently being distributed to all units of the Society.

On 31 December 2019 there were 678 professed members in the Society: 599 priests, 53 brothers and 26 seminarians.



## START OF THE COLINIAN RENEWAL PROGRAM

The 2020 Colinian Renewal Program begins today, 24 January, with the arrival of the participants at La Neylière.

Fr Ray Chapman, the director of the program, writes: "The theme for the renewal is: "...the Holy Spirit will come upon you...". The words are those of the angel Gabriel who spoke to Mary at the moment of the Annunciation. It was a decisive moment in Mary's life and it seems appropriate as a theme for this renewal as I am sure it is going to be a very significant moment in the lives of the participants. To that end, we would greatly appreciate the prayers of all Marists".

The confreres will receive a special welcome, not only from the local Marist community at La Neylière, but also from the local catholic community with whom they celebrate the Sunday Eucharist.