



Nemi, 3 October 2025

### Election of the Superior General



Yesterday morning, in an atmosphere of prayer and discernment, the capitulants elected Fr Declan Marmion, SM, as the 15th Superior General of the Society of Mary.

The election unfolded in silence and reflection, accompanied by the *hymn Veni Sancte Spiritus*. When Fr Declan Marmion was elected, according to the solemn tradition, the outgoing Superior General asked him if he accepted the call to lead the Society for the next eight years, which he generously accepted.

In his first words, Declan thanked the capitulants for their confidence and reminded them that leadership is always a shared mission. Reflecting on Caravaggio's painting of the call of Matthew, he spoke of God's surprising

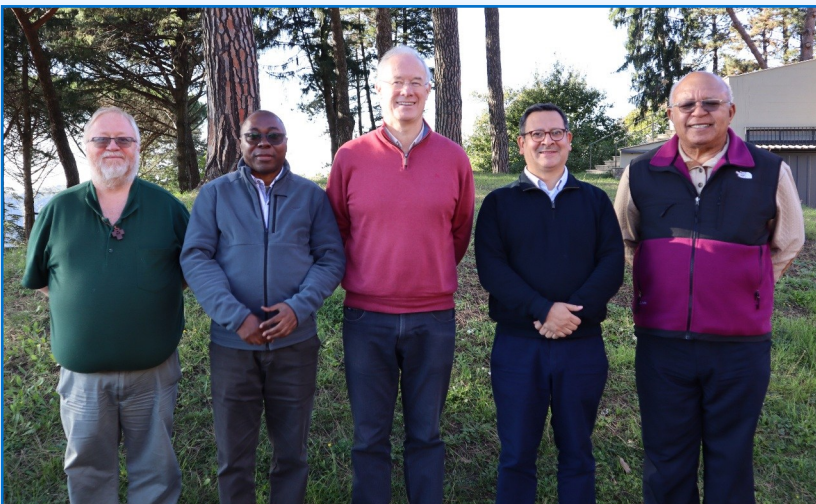
invitations—often unexpected and sometimes met with hesitation, yet always strengthened by grace.

Entrusting this new chapter to Mary, he invited everyone to pray for one another and to move forward in faith. The assembly responded with the Magnificat, a song of thanksgiving and hope. Later, a joyful Eucharist and celebration brought together the wider Marist family, with Marian hymns sung in different languages in gratitude and acceptance to the New Superior General.



### Election of the General Councilors

This afternoon the Capitulants have elected the following confreres to form the General Council for the next four years—in alphabetical order:



Frs Tony Kennedy, Albert Kabala, Declan Marmion, Juan Carlos Piña and Aisake Vaisima

- Fr Albert Kabala, sm— Superior of Casa di Maria
- Fr Tony Kennedy, sm— District Superior of Australia
- Fr Juan Carlos Piña, sm— member of the former General Council and Procurator General
- Fr Aisake Vaisima, sm—head of the Marist Investment office of Oceania in Sydney.