

# SMBulletin

Friday, 23 April 2021

## GENERAL ADMINISTRATION



A Zoom consultation meeting (CLOC) was conducted between the members of the GA and the Major Superiors. On the agenda were the welcoming of Fr Christian Abongbung as a new member of the General Council, decisions on the International Novitiate, and the future of La Neylière. It was also decided to continue these meetings during the rest of this year.

The GA has also been planning for the May meeting of the General Councils of the four branches of the Marist Family.

## NOVITIATE 2022

The next International Novitiate will begin with two months of orientation starting about November 6, and will take place in Italy. The permanent place for the novitiate remains “Cerdon” in Davao, Philippines, but for reasons of the pandemic, at this time of planning, Italy seems to be a more accessible and suitable country to host the novitiate. The actual location is currently being arranged.



The Superior General has appointed Fr David Sanchez from the Province of Mexico as the International Novice master. The other members of the formation team will be

Frs Sione Hamala (Oceania) and Joaquín Fernández (Europe).

The Superior General has expressed his gratitude towards the out-going formators, Frs Fernando Ingente (Asia) and Jacob Aba (Oceania) for their service to the Society.

## CASA DI MARIA

After Fr Juan Carlos Pina had returned from visiting the novitiate in Cameroon, Fr Ben McKenna conducted the official visitation of the Casa di Maria scholasticate.

There are currently nine students in residence of whom two are deacons. They are from five different countries and all had previously made their novitiate in the Philippines. This international formation program lasts four years in conformity with the Vatican regulations for clerical students.

Before the official visitation there was a week's seminar on spiritual direction for the four third year students with sessions conducted by Frs John Larsen, Ben McKenna and Pat Devlin while the others were on their annual retreat.

After the Visitation John Harhager gave all of them a half-day session and explanation of Marist finances.

