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Friday, 21 October 2022

COUNCIL OF THE SOCIETY

Last Friday morning the members of CS2022 went to the Basilica of St Peter's, where they celebrated the Eucharist in the beautiful "Cappella B.V. delle Partorienti", in the crypt under the main altar.

Later in the morning they were taken on a guided visit to the "Scavi": the excavations of the ancient Roman cemetery under the crypt, where St Peter was buried by the first Christians after his crucifixion in Rome. His bones were found in 1949 by archeologists.



On Saturday, 15 October, all participants went to Casa di Maria, where in a festive celebration the Superior General received the Perpetual Vows from Christian (Célestin) Ngoura. Christian completed his Baccalaureate in Theology at the Gregorian University in June. He is currently studying at the Salesian University where he has begun a license focusing on the Formation of Vocational Formators and Animators. At the end of this academic year he is due to return to his home unit, the District of Africa.

Sunday provided the opportunity for major superiors to visit the International Novitiate at the Cenacolo di Montauto in Tuscany, where they were warmly welcomed by the novices and their formators. For the others it was a free day.

Since we reported last week, the assembly of CS2022 has progressed with a good amount of work on a variety of topics: Omnes Gentes communities / International Formation, including the revised formation directory / Tasks set by GC2017 / the Student Priests Program / Finance / Governance / the revised Administrative Directory / Fr Colin's Cause / Safeguarding / Marist Commissions / Marist Laity / Education / Ongoing Formation / Process towards GC2025.



Another highlight this week was the election of the new General Council. Three members were re-elected: Frs John Harhager, Juan Carlos Pina, and Ben McKenna. Fr Setefano Mataele, currently the Provincial of Oceania, was elected as a new member to the Council.

In the meantime personal conversations continue including meetings of all Major Superiors individually with the Superior General.

The Council of the Society will close on Friday evening with a Eucharist and festive banquet.