

SMbulletin

Friday, 13 October 2023

TWO MARIST BISHOPS AT THE SYNOD



Two Marist Bishops, Rd Paul Donoghue sm (Bishop of Rarotonga and President of the Bishops Conference of the Pacific) and Rd Paul Martin sm (Archbishop of Wellington) stayed for

a few days at the General House before attending the Synod of Bishops in Rome from 4 to 29 October. The Synod unites almost 500 participants from all continents, gathering not only bishops but also religious superiors, including Br Ernesto Sánchez FMS, lay people and more than 50 women (for the first time with voting right), 20 delegates from the Oriental Churches, as well as two Chinese bishops ordained by the Pope.

During the opening celebration of the Synod, the Pope stated that the primary task of the synod is “to refocus our gaze on God, to be a church that looks mercifully at humanity. A church that is united and fraternal, that listens and dialogues. (...) A church that has God at its center and, therefore, is not divided internally and is never harsh externally.”

FINAL PROFESSION

On Saturday, 30 September, Clinton Kube (Cameroon) made his perpetual profession in the Society of Mary in the General House Chapel. The vows were received by the Superior General and many Marists and friends were present at the joyful celebration, graced by the chants of the Casa di Maria choir. Clinton has just begun a license in Church History at the Gregorian University. He will be ordained deacon in Santa Francesca Cabrini Church on Sunday 22 October by Archbishop Paul Martin sm .



FORUM ON EDUCATION IN TOULON



This week in Toulon, France, the Forum of the Marist European Education Network took place. The three-day meeting was attended by representatives from eleven Marist schools in Europe and their supervisory authorities, as well as by Frs John Larsen, John Harhager and Juan Carlos Pina from the General Administration, Fr Kevin Duffy, Provincial of Europe, and Fr Albert Kabala, Superior of the District of Africa. The theme of the meeting was "A Marist heritage for the future: governance structures for the future of the Marist educational mission". One of the key note speakers was Professor Stephen McKinney, from Glasgow University who focused on Catholic

Education through the gaze of Mary. There was a great convergence of ideas and actions to be implemented in the months and years to come, in particular on the transmission of the Marist charism through communication and formation at all levels. The atmosphere during the meeting was very positive and enthusiastic and participants were very much aware of being part of a single body at the service of all and particularly of young people.