

SMbulletin

Friday, 19 April 2024

25TH ANNIVERSARY OF MARCELLIN CHAMPAGNAT'S CANONISATION

On 18 April, the Church celebrated the 25th anniversary of the Canonisation of Saint Marcellin Champagnat, and we join the Marist Brothers in their thanksgiving for the life and mission of our confrere, the Founder of the Brothers. To mark the anniversary, on Thursday a festive celebration took place at the Marist Brothers' General House in Rome. The Eucharist was presided over by Fr. John Larsen, and concelebrated by Fr Gavin Foster from the province of Australia,



who is the Chaplain in a Marist Brothers School in Sydney and currently in Rome. Also present were Fr Ben McKenna from our General Council, and Fr Mika Misinale from the province of Oceania who is in Rome as chaplain at an FMS course for formators. They are pictured here with Br Ernesto Sánchez, the Superior General of the Marist Brothers, Sr Cristina Giustozzi, smsm, Superior General of the SMSM Sisters and Sr Silvia Sanz de Diego, general councilor of the Marist Sisters.



→ The Statute of St. Marcellin Champagnat placed at Piazza Santa Marta in the Vatican on the occasion of his Canonisation.

NOVENA FOR VOCATIONS

Confreres worldwide are invited to pray a *Novena for Vocations*, in preparation for the Feast of Saint Peter Chanel on 28 April. The vocations Committee of the New Zealand province has prepared a [booklet](#) and is kindly offering it to confreres worldwide while they pray for vocations.

PREPARING MARIST SCHOOLS IN IRELAND FOR THE FUTURE



In Ireland, responsibility for the patronage of Marist schools is in the process of being transferred from Marist religious to lay leadership. Passing on Marist values, attitudes and perspectives is essential for this transition to successfully continue Marist patronage in the coming years. To assist in this process, ten directors and affiliates of the newly formed legal body in Ireland, Marist Education Authority Schools (MEAS) gathered for three days in La Neylière to explore Marist origins and spirituality and to relate them to the education context in the Ireland today. The sessions were

led by Fr Martin McAnaney (chair of MEAS), Fr Larry Duffy, Mrs Mary Forde and Mr. Frank Dowling. Naturally, the event included an opportunity to honour Fr Colin at his tomb, and the founding generation at Belley and the shrine of Fourvière. The exceptional hospitality of the La Neylière community and personnel was key to the success of the event. The current challenge to ensure that the founder's intentions continue to be front and centre of the education mission is well underway.