

SMbulletin

Friday, 4 September 2026

CANADA: FROM PROVINCE TO DISTRICT

The Superior General has suppressed the Province of East Canada and erected the District of Canada. The official transition will take place on the Feast of the Holy Name of Mary on 12 September. It is the result of a long and delicate process of prayer, discernment and dedicated work. The statutes of the new District were approved and after having consulted the confreres in Canada, the Superior General has appointed Jacques Arguin to be the first District Superior, for a term of 3 years.

SEASON OF CREATION



On 1 September, the World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation, Marists worldwide participated in celebrations in unity with the Universal Church. The celebration marked the start of the “Season of Creation”, which is an ecumenical journey of prayer and commitment to safeguarding our common home which will end on the Feast of St Francis on 4 October. In his message for the World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation 2026 Pope Leo XIV called the Church to safeguard the many “ecosystems” entrusted to us: the ecosystems of creation, of human relationships and of the human heart itself. The whole message can be found on the website of the [Dicastery for Integral Human Development](#). The newly promulgated *Mass for the Care of Creation*, approved by Pope Leo XIV, as well as other material is available here: [Formulary](#) and [Lectionary](#), [pastoral resources](#).

TOWARDS PERPETUAL PROFESSION



During August, five students from Casa di Maria; Hansford, Manuele, David, Joseph and Eduardo accompanied by Fr Pat Breeze, spent time in France reconnecting with the Society’s roots. The group was hosted by the confreres of the Marist community of La Neylière, who gave them a warm welcome and accompanied them with their wisdom on their journey. Visiting Marist places, meeting people who continue to cherish and share this history, and experiencing the hospitality of the Marist family helped them discover that the Marist history is a living story that continues to shape the vocation and mission of those who bear Mary’s name today. They learned that our Marist history, rather than being something completed, is a heritage entrusted to each new generation. Their time in France was therefore an occasion to remember where the Society of Mary comes from, to ask where Mary is leading it to now, and how they can contribute to that mission.

A RETREAT IN SAMSUN

In August the Omnes Gentes mission in Samsun, Türkiye, hosted and led a workshop specifically for the Catholic students – mostly from different countries in Africa – who are studying in local universities. The four-day workshop included themes around Christian discipleship and leadership for young people. The students enjoyed being with other young Catholics in the house of our Marist community to share their prayer, their lives and their challenges. They also discussed together how the theology of “inter-religious” dialogue affects their day-to-day lives in Türkiye. The workshop included time to relax and celebrate and was much appreciated by the students.