

SMbulletin

Friday, 16 October 2026

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

After several weeks of convalescence, **Fr Declan Marmion** returned to the General House where he was warmly welcomed by the members of the community and staff.

Fr Albert Kabala has visited the Marist confreres in Spain, including the *Omnes Gentes* community in Sahagún on the Camino and **Fr Juan Carlos Piña** has had a break this week. Both are returning to Rome over the weekend.

On Monday a **Plenary Session** of the General Council starts. The ARC meeting's aim is **Review** and **Consultation**, and the discussions held on a wide range of topics along with Major Superiors, will now come back to the General Council for further discernment and decision. On the agenda of the plenary session, there are topics such as the possible scenarios to expand initial formation, the Education Pathways Working Group, how to support Restructuring, the future of La Neylière, the International Mission communities, Vocations Promotion etc, as well as some tentative planning for the months and year ahead.

EAPI RENEWAL PROGRAM



Frs 'Aisake Silatolu (Tonga) and Benedicto Manacen (Vanuatu) are participating in the EAPI Renewal course in Manila, which takes place from August to November. EAPI stands for "East Asian Pastoral Institute" and is a Jesuit-run residential pastoral institute founded in 1965. For one semester every year, the institute hosts men and women from

different parts of the world – laity, religious and clergy – for *personal renewal, for a spiritual pause and review of life, for growth and greater effectiveness in their ministries as pastoral ministers and leaders of communities*. The program includes time for a Sabbatical renewal experience, and topics such as living in a multicultural context, the aesthetics of Self-care, ecological conversion, Vatican II and synodality, leadership, spiritual discernment.

THE NEW NEW ZEALAND WEBSITE AND A MARIST RESOURCES PLATFORM



Recently the Province of New Zealand has launched not only their own new website, sm.org.nz, but also a new platform for Marist resources, maristresources.org. The platform gathers a digital library with a wide range of quality Marist resources, divided in sections: Colin, Constitutions, Education, History, Marists and Spirituality. In each of these you can easily find interesting titles of Marist publications and you can also search by author. The innovation is that the website has an AI tool which enables users to ask specific questions of the texts and get authentic Marist responses as the AI tool is restricted to the digital library only and cannot

access the internet. Responses always give references to the actual texts which can then be downloaded for further research. It is hoped this site can support Marist Educators, Marist Formation Staff, Marist Laity and anyone interested in learning more about Marist Spirituality. Currently the library consists of 350 books and articles, and is expected to increase to over 1500 items. The website is provided with an automatic translation system and material can be provided in several languages. [Fr Frank Bird](#), the creator of the website, presented the platform during an online session at the recent ARC meeting where it was received with interest.