SMbulletin

Friday, 13 November 2026

Five marist Deacons



On Saturday, 31 October, five students from Casa di Maria in Rome: Hansford Mane (Solomon Islands), Manuele Botabua (Fiji), David Romero Vences (Mexico), Eduardo Limón (Mexico), and Joseph Mijares (New Zealand) were ordained deacons by Bishop Alan Williams SM, the bishop of Brentwood, England. These were his first Marist ordinations and he spoke of how pleased he was to do them as he was retiring as Bishop of Brentwood very soon. Following the liturgical celebration, a reception was held below in the parish hall of Santa Francesca Cabrini Church. The celebration was attended by Manu's and Joseph's families, as well as friends and members of the Marist family. The newly ordained deacons have now left Casa di Maria and joined the community at the General House where they will reside this year. They will continue their licence or diploma studies in Sacred Scripture, Spiritual Theology and Dogmatic and Fundamental Theology.

Welcoming the Holy Father in Peru

On 9 November Frs José Maria da Silva and Roberto Furtuoso from the District of South America had the joy of participating at La Punta, Callao, in the unveiling of the statue of Pope Leo XIV and the dedication of the square named after him. Fr José Maria reports: "we experienced a moment of deep emotion, preparing our hearts to welcome the Pope during his visit to Peru. They were days of faith, spirituality, and reflection for the entire Peruvian Church, which is celebrating the 300th anniversary of the canonisation of Saint Turibius of Mogrovejo. On Thursday, I will have the grace to participate in the midday prayer with Pope Leo at the Cathedral of Lima, during a meeting with the priests and members of consecrated religious life in Peru."



The Holy Spirit and Jean-Claude Colin



While Marists around the world prepare to celebrate the anniversary of our Founder's death on 15 November, we are happy to report on this recent publication by Fr Tom Ryan (Australia): In 1998 Fr Gaston Lessard gave a conference at a meeting of the various Marist congregations. His talk focused on the role of the Holy Spirit and Pentecost in Marist tradition and to what extent they can be viewed as 'founding' images in Marist spirituality. In "The Holy Spirit and Jean-Claude Colin: The Person, The Group and The Church", Tom Ryan wonders how much this Spirit - a person of the triune God - is part of Jean-Claude Colin's experience and of the Marist tradition. The book can be downloaded here.

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