



SM bulletin

Friday, 17 October 2014

General Administration

Several members of the General Administration were involved in the various meetings in the General House this week.

While next week most Major Superiors will find their way back home, the members of the General Administration will be gathered in plenary sessions to follow up the matters raised in ARC and in the committees which have taken place in the past weeks.

Workshop on Leadership and Administration

This week the GA organized a Workshop on Administration in the General House, presented by Fr Brian Cummings, former Provincial of New Zealand. Eleven participants from various units of the Society attended, including two members of the GA itself. Topics covered were: the role of an administrator; international dimensions of administration; documents that guide us in the SM; the role of a council; personality typology in the dynamics of administration; effective structures; policies and procedures; minutes and their making; reports - writing, reading, analyzing; time management; record keeping; delegation; communication; gratitude; job descriptions; and care for those in administration.



Preparing for the Colinian Renewal Program



The team responsible for the planned Colinian Renewal Period met for three days this week in the General House, to continue their work of preparation. The three team members are Frs Bernd Kordes (team leader), Bernard Boisseau and Ad Blommerde, all from the Province of Europe. They met with various members of the GA, and with Fr Michael Mullins, on different aspects of the program. The program to be held in La Neylière January – June 2015 is being planned as a contemporary version of the Second Novitiate of Fr Colin, which was requested by the 2009 General Chapter. There will be eleven participants, from Mexico, USA, Europe, Africa, Asia and Oceania.

Papal Blessings

At the request of Pope Francis, the Papal Almoner Bishop Konrad Krajewski, has sent a letter informing all involved parties that as of January 2015 people will no longer be able to purchase scrolls with papal blessings from external shops. Those who wish to request a blessing will have to contact the office of Papal Charities directly via fax, telephone or online (www.elemosineria.va). So the General House will no longer be an agency for Papal Blessings. Whenever someone orders a scroll to mark a special occasion, he may rest assured that the money will be donated to the poor.

