



SM bulletin



Friday, 27 February 2015

General Administration

Some of the items on the agenda of this week's General Council meeting, were the preparation of the visitation of Mexico, Brazil and Peru-Venezuela which will be carried out by Fr Alejandro Muñoz in March and April, and the possible names of facilitators for the next General Chapter.

Fr Larry Duffy will be in New Zealand next week for meetings.

Fr Kevin Duffy is back in Rome after visits in the UK.

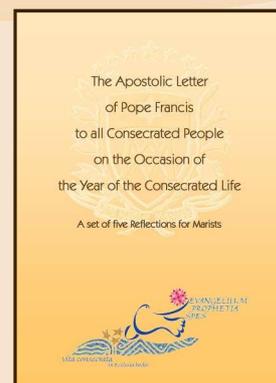
Fr Alejandro Muñoz is on his way to Latin America for visitations of the districts of Brazil and Peru-Venezuela, and the province of Mexico. Amongst other things he will give a replica of the workshop given by Brian Cummings in Rome last October on leadership and administration.

Reflections for the Year of Consecrated Life

In November 2013, during his meeting with the USG (Union of Superiors General) in Rome, Pope Francis announced that 2015 would be a year dedicated to consecrated life. He added, "Thank you for what you do and for your spirit of faith and your service. Thank you for your witness and also for the humiliations through which you have had to pass". To mark the year, the pope has recently written an Apostolic Letter to all consecrated people, which can be downloaded from the website of the Vatican:

http://w2.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/apost_letters/documents/papa-francesco_lettera-ap_20141121_lettera-consacratati.html.

To help confreres in their reflection on the letter, the General Administration has produced a small booklet, with extracts from the Apostolic Letter and questions for reflection, personally and in community. The digital version of the booklet has been sent out to major superiors this week, and will be distributed through them to all confreres.



First Meeting of Marist Laity in Mexico



During the last weekend of February the first gathering of Marist Laity of Mexico took place in *La Jordana*. 103 Marist lay men and women from all the works of the Province where present along with many confreres. The main topic was: "To Reflect on the role of Mary today and the response a Lay Marist can give". The group elected a Provincial Council for the Marist Laity, with representatives of each community. This council will coordinate a series of events during the year, such as pilgrimages and the traditional Marist Youth Olympic Games. This major involvement of Marist Laity is one of the first steps of the Strategic Plan (2014-2017) of the Province, agreed to at the Assembly of July 2014.