



# SM bulletin

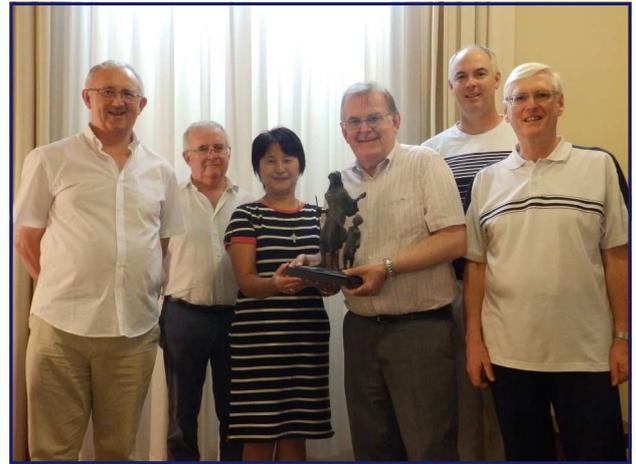
Friday, 9 September 2016

## General Administration

The full General Council started its plenary session on Monday. On this week's agenda were amongst other things several financial items with the study and approval of the various budgets and contributions and a broader view on the Society's long term financial needs; several issues linked to international and local formation and the reports on the Australia and New Zealand visitation and chapters, and the approval of the respective chapter documents.

## JAPANESE GIFT IN MEMORY OF THE MARIST MISSION

On September 4, Mrs Kyoko Murakami from Japan presented the General House with a beautiful statue of Mary and the boy Jesus. The statue is a gift from the Christians of Nara Prefecture in recognition of the 60 years of Marist ministry among them. The bronze statue is a replica of an original one in the once Marist parish of Takada in Japan. Maria Sachiko Yamato,



who generously organized the gift, had two replicas made, one is in Sydney and the other now in Rome, where it will remain as a reminder of the Marist mission to Japan. The statue, *Mother of the Journey*, depicts Mary and the Christ Child crossing the Gaza Desert on their return to the Holy Land from their refuge in Egypt.

## SPECIAL PROJECTS FUND

In the annual allocation of funds for special projects carried out by Marists, the superior general has approved the following donations:

- To the district of Peru 17.000 euro for the replacement of the surface of the floor of the *Colegio Parroquial San José*, Callao, which is in bad shape and needing urgent replacement.
- To the region of Italy, Europe, 15.000 euro for the acquisition of a van. The community in Brescia, Italy, organises social activities particularly for young people in two houses in the mountains: Malosco (900 meters) and Passo Cereda (1.400 meters). The work in the houses, including the maintenance, is supported by volunteers. The van will facilitate the transport to the two houses, supporting the work of the volunteers.
- To the Marist School Atlanta, USA, 20.000 USD, as a gesture of the Society of Mary's support for an outstanding initiative of the school. The *Centro Hispano Marista* was started in 2012 to serve undocumented Hispanic immigrants who were brought to the U.S. as children, assisting them to study for and to pass exams. Each year around 650 students follow courses in order to qualify for permanent residence in the USA.

WE WISH EVERYBODY  
A HAPPY FEAST DAY  
OF THE HOLY NAME OF MARY.