



# SM bulletin

Friday, 28 April 2017

## General Administration

The Superior General in council has approved this week the definitive suppression of the Regions of Samoa, Tonga and Wallis & Futuna as from 1 May 2017. The suppression of the regions is part of a wider restructuring process of the province of Oceania, and was approved unanimously by the provincial chapter in January.

Fr Kevin Duffy is in London where he will attend next week an Evangelisation Conference and City Centre Mission Seminar.

### FEAST OF ST PETER CHANEL

Today all Marists celebrate the Feast of St Peter Chanel. The General House community welcomed about 85 guests coming from the Marist Sisters, the SMSM, the Marist Brothers, our Italian confreres and the members of the International Theologate, together with the members of the General House staff.



The gathering started with a mass, presided over by Fr John Hannan, with two Marist bishops present: Tom Burns and Allan Williams, both from England. The choir was made up by the seminarians who led the congregation with their beautiful songs. After mass a fraternal meal was shared with all guests.

### CHANGE IN CURRICULUM OF THE THEOLOGATE



This week the Superior General and his council approved that the formation programme at the Marist International Theologate in Rome, be extended for a fourth year of integrated theological/pastoral formation, at the end of which the student would return to his home unit prepared for final profession and ordination.

At present "Casa di Maria" offers three years of theology, leading to a Baccalaureate in Theology. It also offers a comprehensive Marist formation programme, including a pastoral component insofar as time and circumstances allow. But this component has proved not to be sufficient, since the emphasis is mostly on Theology. With this change, the whole course, extended to four years, would have a more developed pastoral focus as well as the required theological components. It would be more flexible depending on the various needs of the student.

When the student finally returns to his home unit at the end of the Roman summer, September, of the fourth year he would be appointed to a community (SD26) with a corporate ministry for at least one year during which time he would develop further his pastoral skills under the supervision of one experienced in the particular field of ministry.