



# SM bulletin

Friday, 3 November 2017

## General Administration

### MAJOR SUPERIORS FOR MEXICO, OCEANIA AND CANADA



At the conclusion of the election process for a Major Superior in Mexico, the Superior General has confirmed outgoing General Assistant, Fr Alejandro Muñoz, as the provincial of Mexico. He will take up his role on 1 January 2018. Fr Alejandro has already served his province as provincial, before his election to the General Council at the 2009 General Chapter.

The Superior General, with the permission of the Holy See, has extended the term of the current provincial of Canada, Fr Jacques Arguin, for one more year, until 31 December 2018.



In Oceania the provincial elect, Fr Setefano Mataele, has been appointed by the Superior General as acting provincial, until his term begins on 1 January 2018. The former provincial, Fr Ben McKenna, relinquished his position as Major Superior of Oceania after his election as General Assistant. Fr Setefano comes from Tonga, and was formerly a provincial councilor.

### BICENTENARY OF THE FOUNDATION OF THE MARIST SISTERS



In October the Marist Sisters celebrated world wide the Bicentenary of their Foundation. It is indeed 200 years ago that Jeanne-Marie Chavoin and her friend Marie Jotillon left Coutouvre – where they were born and bred - to go to Cerdon, on the other side of Lyon, with its foreign dialect and customs, at the invitation of Fr Pierre Colin, the brother and the parish priest of Fr Jean-Claude. It was in Cerdon, when they were introduced to the Marist Project by Jean-Claude Colin and others, that the details of God's purpose became evident for them. Jeanne-Marie would formulate it later as "we left home and family to begin the Society of the Blessed Virgin". The highlight of the celebrations took place in Coutouvre, where a memorial plaque was unveiled in the local parish church, in the presence of Sr Grace Ellul, the congregational leader of the Marist Sisters, many sisters who came from all over the world, representatives of the other branches of the Marist family and the mayor and many residents of the little town of Coutouvre.