



SM bulletin

Friday, 15 December 2017

General Administration

Among the items addressed at this week's council meeting were:

The finalisation of assistants' portfolios and responsibilities;
Issuing the *nihil obstat* for those receiving the highest votes in the first stage of the election for provincial of the USA;
Planning for their first plenary meetings in January.

FR JOHN HARHAGER APPOINTED AS GENERAL BURSAR

Fr John Harhager has been appointed by the Superior General to succeed Fr Paul Martin as the Society's General Bursar. John has a broad experience in the field of the Society's finances: Besides his service to his home province, the USA, as provincial bursar, he was General Bursar from 2001 until 2005, and since the 2009 General Chapter he has been a member of the Finance Review Committee, the Finance Review Implementation Committee, the General Finance Committee and of the Investment Advisory Committee. At the recent General Chapter Fr John was elected Vicar General of the Society and he generously accepted to combine the two roles.



GENERAL ADMINISTRATION PORTFOLIOS

The Superior General and Council have decided to take up responsibility for the GA portfolios as follows:

- John Larsen:** Mission directions, Ministries;
John Harhager: Archives, Publications, Reconfiguration and government, Education ministry;
Ben McKenna: Ongoing formation, JPIC, Safeguarding, Religious life and renewal, Contemplative life;
Juan Carlos Piña: Vocations, Youth, Communications (web), La Neylière, City-Centre Evangelization
Paul Walsh: Initial formation, Marist laity, Marist family, Founder's cause.

ORDINATION TO THE DIACONATE IN EUROPE



On Saturday 16 December Tom Kouijzer (Europe / the Netherlands) was ordained to the diaconate by Archbishop Diarmuid Martin of Dublin, in the Marist St Theresa's Parish, Donore Avenue. Among the concelebrants were the provincial of Europe, Fr Martin McAnaney and general assistant Fr Paul Walsh. At the celebration—which was described as “beautiful, simple and dignified, conducted by the archbishop in a fraternal and personal way”—participated members of the provincial council, confreres from the Netherlands, France and Germany, family, friends and numerous parishioners. Tom is completing his priestly formation in Dublin. He is in the second year of a masters in pastoral theology in the pontifical university in Maynooth. He is part of the pastoral team in St Theresa's parish in Donore Avenue.