



SM bulletin

Friday, 22 June 2018

General Administration

After a short stay in Sydney, Fr John Harhager arrived safely in Fiji where he has begun the visitation of the province of Oceania.

After having attended the MAP meeting, Fr Ben McKenna will take a short break next week and then proceed with the visitation of Australia.

Fr Juan Carlos Piña is on his way to Guatemala for meetings in preparation for the International Marist Youth gathering in January 2019.

Fr Paul Walsh has left Canada and on his way back to Rome he is spending a few days at Notre Dame de France in London.

MAP MEETING IN RANONG



The Marist Asia Pacific Meeting (MAP) this year was hosted by the District of Asia, in Ranong, Thailand. The opportunity was given to the participants to visit the educational work and the HIV-Aids

care, both services of the Marist Asia Foundation for the Myanmar immigrants / refugees. Each of the four units (Asia, Australia, New Zealand and Oceania) gave a report on their current reality, followed by a sharing on personnel working in units other than to those to whom they belong. Other matters dealt with were: reflections on GC2017, lay Marists, health, preparation for ARC 2018, financial matters, studies and courses, standardization of agreements / contracts between units, safeguarding and professional standards. Further discussions were held on reconfiguration within units, and possible future scenarios for MAP; ecology; a possible new community working with migrants and education, ongoing formation - especially supporting and sponsoring of younger Marists within MAP, and care for ageing confreres. It was acknowledged that as well as practical projects which MAP has fostered over the years, the annual meeting of leaders, in a fraternal and collaborative manner, has built up relationships of trust and freedom, support and encouragement to walk in a discerning manner the path ahead.

RETREAT AND ASSEMBLY IN CANADA

While on visitation in Canada, General Assistant Fr Paul Walsh attended the meeting of the Canadian confreres gathered for their annual gathering. The gathering started with two days of silent retreat. The following two and half days were given over to an assembly. On the agenda were reflections on the Decisions and Declaration of GC 2017, community



life, ministries, vocations and the future of the province, including also problems related to ageing and infirmity. The final act of the assembly was a Eucharist and banquet in Villa Beauvoir to celebrate 7 confreres who were marking 60, 50 years of religious profession and 50 years of priestly ordination. One confrere came from Dakar to join with his former fellow-novices to mark the occasion.