



SM bulletin

Friday, 21 September 2018

General Administration

In the final days of their plenary meetings prior to ARC the council dealt with the Society's finances, reviewed the numerous tasks set for the GA by the general chapter, received updates on the portfolios of City Centre Evangelisation, JPIC and *Laudato Si'*.

Today they meet with Sr. Judith Moore smsm, facilitator at ARC.

150 YEARS OF MARIST PRESENCE AT ST PATRICK'S CHURCH HILL



The first parish priest of St. Patrick's, Archdeacon John McEncroe, became friendly with the early Marists who had established a house at Hunters Hill and on his deathbed requested that the Parish of St. Patrick's be entrusted to the Marists. That was in 1868. The Archbishop agreed and the parish has been cared for by the Marists ever since.

In 1868 the Society of Mary was asked to take on the care of Sydney's inner-city shrine of St. Patrick's. Sesquicentenary celebrations began on Friday, 14 September, with local and visiting Marists gathering in the crypt of the historic church before reunions and convivialities in the presbytery nearby. Guests included visiting Marist provincials, Frs Setefano Mataele (Oceania) and David Kennerley (NZ).

On Sunday, 16 September, Sydney's Archbishop Anthony Fisher OP presided over at the public celebration. A packed church gathered for the midday Eucharist enhanced by the choir of St. Patrick's and an orchestra of brass and string. Archbishop Fisher unveiled a commemorative plaque near the entrance to the church and joined the large congregation in the church's crypt for an informal lunch.

After 150 years the Marist presence remains at St. Patrick's, where our confreres minister to the people of Sydney, particularly in the sacrament of reconciliation.

"LES FINES FLEURS DE BUTA"

Fr Louis Niyongabo (Af) has published a book, "Les fines fleurs de Buta. Eloges de vie offertes des quarante martyrs de la fraternité de Buta (Burundi)". The book is a reflection on the drama of the forty martyrs of the minor seminary of Buta in Burundi. During the civil war in Burundi, the seminary of Buta was renowned for its multicultural and pacific co-existence between young people of all ethnic groups. On 30 April 1997 a group of armed Hutu rebels entered into the seminary, and ordered the seminarians to self-segregate in two groups, Hutu on the one side and Tutsi on the other, but the youths refused and they were all killed. Louis reflects in his book on the martyrdom of these 40 young men offering their lives in the name of God. Those who are interested in the book can contact the author by email menefr2001@yahoo.fr. The book is available in French and in the near future also in English.

