



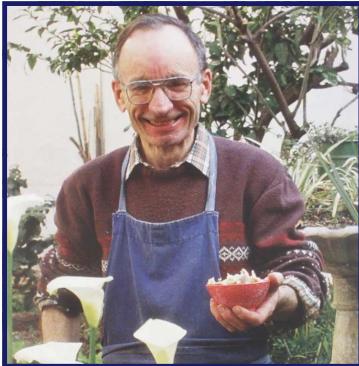
# SM bulletin

Friday, 14 December 2018

## General Administration

During the meeting of the General Council this week discussions took place on Marist Studies and Ben McKenna gave a report after his recent visitation of the province of the USA.

### BEATIFICATION OF BROTHER HENRI VERGÈS FMS



On the feast of the Immaculate Conception, 19 martyrs were beatified in Algeria, who witnessed to faith in God in the 1990s. Among them was Marist Brother Henri Vergès fms. The celebration at Notre-Dame de Santa Cruz in Oran was presided over by Cardinal Giovanni Angelo Becciu, prefect of the Congregation for the Causes of Saints, special envoy of the Pope.

Brother Henri was sent to Algeria in 1969, where he led a life of intense prayer and of profound dialogue with his Muslim friends. Along with other religious present in the country he lived in close solidarity with the Algerian people, never showing fear or distress in the atmosphere of mounting tension and hostility towards foreigners in the 1990s. He was killed in 1994 by two fundamentalists while working in a library.

An imam of the Grand Mosque of Oran declared: "Today we rejoice with you for the beatification of these Christian martyrs who were killed at the time of this national tragedy in Algeria. They were men of peace, men of good faith, men with a very special mission: to spread peace".

### FOUR YOUNG MARIST PRIESTS STUDYING IN ROME

In October four student priests began the academic year after preliminary courses in Italian. They are all working towards a licentiate. At the Gregorian Frs David Sánchez (Mexico) and Arnaldo Da Silva (Brazil) are studying formation and Fr Kosema Masei (Futuna) is studying Missiology. Fr Kevin Medilo (Philippines) is majoring in Interreligious Dialogue at the Angelicum. In this first year David is living at Casa di Maria to experience the formation program and the others are living at the General House.



### KALENDARIUM

Attached to this SMbulletin you will find the Marist Kalendarium for 2019. As usual it is sent out in digital format only. Confreres are invited to print it out for distribution and use among Marists.