



SM bulletin

Friday, 24 August 2018

General Administration

In two recent meetings the general council

- Received reports from Fr Ben McKenna on his visitations of Asia and Australia, and the MAP meeting he attended in Ranong, Thailand
- Prepared for the September plenary meetings and the meeting of ARC in October.
- Planned for the debriefing of the outgoing major superiors of Africa, Australia and Canada, and the orientation of the new ones from Africa, Asia and Australia.
- Reviewed an update from the superior general on the establishment of two new international commissions on interreligious dialogue and ecology.

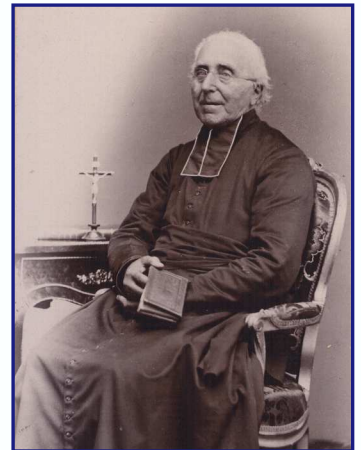
CHANGING OF THE GUARDS AT THE GENERAL HOUSE



On the Feast of the Assumption of Mary a simple celebration took place in the General House during which Fr Tony Corcoran handed over the responsibilities of the Superior of the General House to Fr Pat Devlin. Tony had been looking after the wellbeing of the members of the General House community and her many visitors since 2011, and many confreres and guests will remember his generous dedication to this ministry. Fr Pat arrived at the General House recently. At the beginning of October he will combine the role of Superior with that of the Secretary General of the Society. His email address is pat.devlin@maristsm.org.

THE FOUNDER'S CAUSE

Many of you may well be wondering what is happening about the cause for the beatification of our Founder. It is still in the hands of the commissions (historical and theological) set up by the archdiocese of Lyons to examine Fr Colin's life and work and the impact he has had in the lives of a number of witnesses. These witnesses are being interviewed. The work will resume in September. It has been hampered by one of the two theologians falling ill. The diocese is in the process of finding a replacement. Four historians have been commissioned to examine the historical evidence. They are to meet to coordinate their work. Fr Bernard Thomasset is in contact with the priest in charge in the diocese, and is keeping us informed of developments. Fr Carlo-Maria Schianchi, our General Archivist, is the over-all promoter of the cause.



The other side of the work to be done in promoting Colin's cause concerns his *fama* (reputation for holiness). At the request of the superior general, Fr Ron Nissen continues to promote this. He manages the web-site dedicated to Colin's cause: www.jeanclaudecolin.org. He will shortly be renewing and refreshing the site. He is currently printing the Colin calendar and has a stock of other material on the life of Colin, for prayer and devotion, inviting us all to call on his intercession. For any enquiries, contact ronaldnissen@bigpond.com.

So, the work may be slow, but it is advancing. We need to be part of it.
(Paul Walsh)