

SMbulletin

Friday, 7 December 2023

MARIST BROTHERS' SYMPOSIUM "SOURCES AND STREAMS"



Frs Alois Greiler, Ben McKenna, Milikiade Rayalu and John Larsen at the Symposium.

This week a Marist Symposium "[Sources and Streams](#)" has taken place at the General House of the Marist Brothers in Rome. It has been a five-day academic conference that has covered topics in Marist history, spirituality, education, formation, leadership, and generally on Marist mission and life. At the opening of the meeting, Br Ernesto Sanchez FMS, Superior General, invited the participants "to listen to the voice of the Spirit, to its calls, personally and as an Institute, to live Marist life and mission with more passion, and to continue to generate and care for Marist life" The Brothers invited two SM confreres to present one session each: German confrere and expert in Marist history, Fr Alois Greiler, spoke about "Why should the Church beatify Jean-Claude Colin?" and Fr Milikiade Rayalu, provincial of Oceania, spoke about Initial Formation in Oceania. Today Fr John Larsen will celebrate the final Mass of the Immaculate Conception .

MARIST INPUT AT A CONFERENCE ON ITALIAN MISSIONARIES IN AFRICA

This week Fr Luigi Savoldelli (Brescia, Italy), who has been ministering for many years in Cameroon, has been invited by the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Rome, to give a talk about his agricultural project in Nkoloman (Yaoundé, Cameroon) at a [conference](#) on the work of Italian missionaries in the world.

In 2014, on the outskirts of Yaounde, the District of Africa started a "[Laudato si](#)" project on a 5 hectare marshy land, planting 7 thousand cocoa plants to date, 13 thousand banana plants and 95 fruit trees (oranges, plums, papaya and avocados), to create opportunities for the young people and families in Cameroon. According to Luigi, the main goal is to "to ensure that young local people can fall in love with their land, learn to respect and cultivate it by considering it as the first gift of God, the good on which to build a community of solidarity, without being forced to leave their country due to misery in an attempt to reach the mirage of the West in a journey full of hardship and humiliation, putting one's life at risk."



MISSION IN DALA HANDED OVER TO THE AUKI DIOCESE



More than 70 years ago our confreres in the Solomon Islands started a mission in Dala, in the Malaita province. They served in St John the Evangelist Parish and also established a school there. Many Marist missionaries have contributed significantly to the mission over the years, including confreres from the Solomon Islands. Prioritizing ministries, the province of Oceania has now decided to hand the Parish over to the Auki diocese.

The Marists have celebrated their last festive Mass in the presence of many faithful. Fr Dylan Hatobu, the Superior of the Community said: "It is a great honour for our past and present Marists to have served the Gospel tirelessly within this vibrant Parish. We have fulfilled our mission and now it is time to hand the Parish to the local Church for them to continue to nurture the seed of faith".