ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL SEMINARY VISITATION

The canonical visitation of the Chaminade International Seminary takes place each year, conducted by a member of the General Council and a Unit Superior. This year’s visitation took place from March 15-19, 2018 and was conducted by Fr. Miguel Ángel Cortés, SM, Provincial of the Province of Spain, and Bro. Michael McAward, SM, Assistant General for Temporalities. The visitors are welcomed into the Seminary community for these days, following their schedule, eating and praying with them. They also had time to meet individually with each seminarian, and the members of the formation staff. The visitors enjoyed a very cordial welcome and were impressed by many aspects of the community life, formation program, and fraternal dynamics of the seminary.

This year’s visit took particular notice of how the community has incorporated the comments and suggestions from the visit of last year. In addition, the strong points and challenges of life at the seminary were duly noted. At the end of the visit, the two delegates shared these observations, along with suggestions for the coming year, in a meeting of all members of the seminary community. The official written report has been sent to all Unit Superiors of the Society.

REGIONAL SUPERIOR IN THE REGION OF EASTERN AFRICA

In its meeting of March 28, 2018, the General Council reviewed the responses to the recent Consultation for Regional Superior, submitted by the members of the Region of Eastern Africa.

Taking note of the overwhelming support of the membership, the GC has reappointed Fr. Gabriel Kirangah, SM, to a second term as Regional Superior.

This will be a term lasting three years, beginning on May 23, 2018 and concluding on May 22, 2021.

The GC is grateful that Fr. Gabriel has accepted this appointment and call upon all the members of the Region to collaborate with him for the good of the Region.
I CAN! – World-wide Educators Guide to Challenging Young People in the Spirit of Laudato Si’

«The urgent challenge to protect our common home includes a concern to bring the whole human family together to seek a sustainable and integral development, for we know that things can change… Humanity still has the ability to work together in building our common home… Young people demand change. They wonder how anyone can claim to be building a better future without thinking of the environmental crisis and the sufferings of the excluded». (Laudato si’ 13)

The International Organization of Catholic Education (OIEC) has issued a new guide for teachers which seeks to assist them in what is presented as a new, urgent and real human challenge for the young people in their care. This challenge, famously presented by Pope Francis as “the care for our common home” in his encyclical, Laudato Si’, is to be understood in the broadest sense, as the need to approach all aspects of our world from the desire to live in fraternal communion and mutual respect.

The introduction of the guide, named I Can!, puts it this way: “From the [the realm of] education we wish to respond to these challenges with responsibility, imagination, cooperation and commitment, from every educational institution, from every classroom, from every training activity, both official and non-official. We won’t do it without the children and young people; we won’t do it by telling them what to do or what not to do; we’ll do it by empowering them so they can feel inside what has been harmed, so they can empathize and jointly think of an achievable and attainable solution which they can make possible and share; they will thus be able to convey and to inspire others to help create a global movement of change and improvement of the common home and the dignity of the human person, a movement featuring them, who are full of originality and who lack of the damage, corruption and interests of adults and markets; they will transform their tangible reality and environment and they will bring about thousands and millions of stories of change.”

We have posted this Guide (in English, Spanish and French) on our website at www.marianist.org, under the tabs Family/Society of Mary/Education/Documents. We invite, and urge those members involved in formal and non-formal education to take a look at it and, as fitting, make use of it. We would also be very happy to hear about your experience of using this resource and dealing with these topics. So, please send anything you would like to share to the attention of Bro. Maximin Magnan, SM, Assistant General for Education (geneducsm@smcuria.it), and we will also try to post these ideas and experiences for the benefit of all.

G.A. Communications recently sent

- Death Notices: # 8-10.
- March 21: Communication #3, in three languages, sent to Capitulants and staff members of the XXXV General Chapter 2018, from PrepCo.