

Newsletter

March – April 2006

02 / 06

1. Incorporation in Gozo: On Sunday 12 March, at the Victoria Centre in Gozo, Jason Debrincat was received as a new Member.

2. The Malta Regional Chapter: The booklet of the *Acts of the Regional Chapter* was handed out to the Delegates and to the Local Superiors during the Easter Programme with the Superior General on Easter Sunday in the evening. All Members in the Region were encouraged to read the booklet in order to keep abreast with the main events and reports of the different Commissions.

3. The new Bishop for Gozo: On 26 April the Private Councils of both sections of the Society met formally with the new bishop for the Diocese of Gozo, Mgr Mario Grech. Apart from exchanging greetings, the bishop asked to be more enlightened on the Society in Gozo and Malta. Then he met all members, females and males, at the Xewkija Centre during a special welcoming programme. He encouraged us all to be very close to the Incarnate Word if we want to remain relevant. Before parting, the Superiors General presented Mgr Grech with a golden ring bearing the image and relic of Blessed George Preca.

4. The 50th Anniversary of the SDC in Australia: For this celebration in Melbourne the Superior General and the General Executive Council were represented by the Assistant Superior General Emanuel Curmi and Carmel Cauchi GEC. The climax of the event was a seminar on Saturday 29 April given by Mgr Bishop Joe Grech and Dr Brian Kelty, and a solemn thanksgiving Mass at St Mary Star of the Sea, West Melbourne, on Sunday 30 April, with Bishop Mark Coleridge as main celebrant.

5. The SDC Centenary: The Committee made up of seven superiors from both sections of the SDC, set up last December to prepare for the SDC Centenary, presented a set of ideas to the Superiors General. The proposals were briefly discussed by the GECs and the final programme will be formulated by the Superiors General during a joint meeting of the Private Councils.

6. Formation, Spiritual and Cultural: Apart from the regular formation meetings for various SDC categories, another formation week, first of four in the 2006 cycle, was held during the last week of April. All SDC Centres took part. The subjects chosen for this year are: Bible, Missiology, Catholic Social Teaching, and Church History.

7. Visits: Paul Sammut GEC visited Sudan and Kenya from 5 to 26 March. In Kenya he was also accompanied by Joe Azzopardi of Khartoum. From 17 to 19 April the Secretary General, Joseph Abdilla GEC and Anthony Grima REC visited the diocese of Lamezia Terme, Calabria (S. Italy) in order to meet Bishop Mgr Luigi Cantafora who is urging the SDC to start a presence in his diocese. Paul Farrugia and Joe Azzopardi of Khartoum as well as Roberto Zammit of Ruiru are currently in Malta. Reno Gauci (Melbourne) and John Camilleri (Brixton) were on short visit here in mid April.

Joseph Abdilla sdc,
Secretary General.