

Newsletter

May – June 2006

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1. June Incorporation: In the Malta Region, the preliminary training for Candidates has been extended to three years since 2003 and Candidates can only become Members on completing the course in December. For this reason no Incorporation was held in June. Celebrating St John the Baptist, on Sunday 25 June the Members of the Malta Region met at the Auditorium for a Liturgy highlighting the beauty and actuality of the SDC vocation.

2. The 50th Anniversary of the SDC in Australia: These celebrations in Melbourne were held as planned and with the maximum benefit possible. The talks of guest speakers Bishop Joe Grech and Dr Brian Kelty were very well received.

3. The SDC Centenary: The proposals which the Committee passed on to the Superiors General were discussed and amended during joint meetings of the Private Councils of the Superiors General. The approved suggestions are now back with the Committee in order to draw up the final programme and see to its eventual implementation.

4. The Founder's Canonisation Cause: The Commission of Theologians, which was due to meet on 4 July to study the medical report regarding the scientifically unexplained healing with the intercession of the Founder, did not meet. It will do so after coming September.

4. Formation, Spiritual and Cultural: This important aspect of SDC life has continued without miss. Formation meetings for local Servants of different Assignment subjects were held. Special meetings for Elects, Aspirants and their parents were also organised.

5. Candidates on Albania visit: Twelve Candidates, who are in the final third year of their training, are starting a mission experience in Korçë, Albania, on 7 August. Led by the Director of Candidates, REC member Tonio Callus, helped by another two Members, the group will be staying for 15 days at Preca College organising a summer camp for the boys and youths of Korçë. This is the first time that Candidates are being offered such a valuable experience.

6. Members for Peru: On 19 July Tonio Caruana GEC leads a group of five Members from Malta on a mission experience in Lurin, Peru.

7. A Member and a House for Brixton: Noel Kenely, a Speech Therapist from Balzan SDC Centre, joined the Brixton Members on 12 June. Another very positive development there was the project of buying a house for the SDC in London. Through the generosity of the General Treasury and the Brixton SDC Members, the house was bought and it will be available to us as from the end of August.

8. Visits: Paul Farrugia and Joe Azzopardi returned to Khartoum on 12 June. Roberto Zammit of Ruiru will be returning on 26 July. Anton Grima (Żurrieq) is going with him for a six-week mission experience. George Felice of Rooty Hill, NSW, who is currently in Malta, is going back to Australia in July. Lawrence Cachia arrived in Malta from Korçë on 12 July for a short break.

Joseph Abdilla sdc,
Secretary General.