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31/08/2009: Antonio Gimenez de Bagues Appointed Provincial of the Mediterranea Province

28/08/2009: Members of the General Administration in Rome

XXI General Chapter

The Provisional Committee begins work



The Chapter Preparatory Commission has completed its operations and has passed the baton to the Provisional Committee, as determined by the Chapter Statutes. The change of responsibilities shows that we are on the threshold of the Chapter. The constitution and responsibilities of the Provisional Committee are defined in statutes 27 and 28, whose text reads: "Once the names of the Capitulants are known, the Brother Superior General with his Council will appoint the members of the Provisional Committee before the opening of the Chapter (cf C 137.4.9).

He convokes this Provisional Committee some days before the opening date in order to establish the program for the first few days of the Chapter.

Once the Chapter opens, the Order of the Day will always be approved by the Assembly."(27).

"It is the function of the Provisional Committee to organise a suitable ceremony for the opening of the General Chapter." (28).

The Provisional Committee of the Chapter is composed of Brothers Maurice Berquet (L'Hermitage) Co-ordinator, Josep Maria Soteras (L'Hermitage) Secretary, Graham Neist (Sydney), João Carlos do Prado (Brasil Centro-Sul), Emili Turú (L'Hermitage), Manuel de León (East Asia), Yao Kouassi Kan Sylvain (West Africa) and Ben Consigli (United States of America). All are members of the Chapter.

This organization begins functioning on 2 September and will finish when the Chapter names the Central Commission, which assumes responsibility for directing the work of the Chapter assembly.

The Preparatory Commission was composed of Brothers Seán Sammon, Superior General, Luis García Sobrado, Vicar General, Maurice Berquet, Councillor General, Albert Nzabonaliba (Centre-East Africa), Carlos Vélez (Central America), Graham Neist (Sydney), João Carlos do Prado (Brasil Centro-Sul), Josep Maria Soteras (L'Hermitage), Lindley Sionosa (East Asia) and Teodoro Grageda (México Occidental), who acted as Commission Secretary.

MARIST NEWS
N.º 64 - Year I - September 3rd, 2009

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General House - Rome

Province Cruz del Sur

Hermano Horácio Bustos new Provincial



By letter dated August 15, 2009, Brother Sean Sammon, Superior General and his Council appointed Brother Horacio Bustos as Provincial of the Cruz del Sur Province for a three-year term starting November 8, 2009.

Brother Horacio Bustos was born on March 28, 1962 in Parana, Entre Rios, Argentina. After his years of formation, he graduated as a certified primary teacher, and then went on to work as teacher and catechist. He also was the leader of the Remar Movement in several schools. His first degree was in Religious Studies from the Instituto Superior Marista in Buenos Aires. He undertook his first teaching assignments at two schools, Pergamino and Manuel Belgrano, in both places as homeroom teacher and religion teacher.

In 1991, he went to Neuquen to take charge of a new Marist Brothers school, Escuela Domingo Savio, located in a poor neighborhood. In 1995 Brother Horacio was awarded his Licentiate in Clinical Psychology from the Gregorian University in Rome. On returning to Argentina, his work was the guidance of those thinking of entering religious communities (the Marist Brothers and others as well). From 1996 to the present

ent he has been a teacher in Cordoba, at the Verano School for Religious Formators. From 1997 to 2006 he was Director of the Instituto Superior Marista (ISMA) where he was also a professor. (ISMA is an establishment for the formation of teachers: early childhood; primary; religious studies; philosophy.) He has been involved in the formation and guidance of teachers and missionaries studying at the Teachers College in el Chaco, Argentina (Icano, Santiago del Estero).

After obtaining a Licentiate in School Administration in 2003, he joined the Provincial Council in 2006. During the same year and in the year 2007, Brother Horacio was in charge of the Scholasticate (first post-novitiate period) as member of the Formation Committee.

He is an associate of the Americas Network of Marist Apostolic Spirituality and coordinates the Province level involvement with the Network.



Province Mediterránea

Brother Antonio Giménez de Bagües new Provincial

Brother Superior General and his Council have appointed Brother Antonio Gimenez as Provincial of the Mediterranea Province. Brother Gimenez will officially take over his new position at the Province's third Provincial Chapter slated for December 2009 in Guardamar. Brother Antonio will take on the role that has been filled by Brother Manuel Jorques over two three-year terms.

After earning his teaching diploma and a literature degree, Brother Antonio was awarded a Licentiate in Physical Science

from Valencia University in 1978.

Among the appointments he has held are: Headmaster of Alicante Secondary School, Director of the Salamanca Scholasticate, and from 1992-1998, Provincial of the former Levante Province. For the past two years Brother Antonio has been Director of the Luis Vives publishing house, introducing important innovations over the two year span. As the helm of the Luis Vives he will be replaced by Brother Julian Sanz, presently serving as the Economic NOME of Mediterranea Province. NM



In her arms or in her heart

Brother Sean Sammon's Circular on Mary

Brother Sean Sammon, Superior General, has wished to bequeath to the Institute, before the end of his mandate, a circular on Mary, which bears the official date of 31 May 2009. This circular brings to a fitting close the volume of circulars published during the Superior General's term of office.

Brother Sean acknowledges at the beginning that "circulars about the mother of Jesus are hardly a new phenomenon in the history of our Institute" (p.10), and that there have been other productions focused on Mary; but, on the other hand, he claims that "the time appears to be right to find a renewed understanding about the place of Mary within the life and mission of our Institute" (p. 12).

The new publication is presented under an original title: "In her arms or in her heart". This expression is from Marcellin and can be found written in

a letter addressed to Monsignor Pompallier in May 1838. This phrase, recovered from the lips of the Founder, is complemented by two titles describing Mary's presence in Marist life: "Mary, our Good Mother" and "Mary our Source of Renewal", which synthesize the two proposals Brother Sean addresses to the Brothers. The first: "to help you and me grow in appreciation of the Founder's relationship with the mother of Jesus so as to give the one we have with her a more central place in our lives" (p. 19). And the second: "to come to accept Mary as an important source of renewal in our Institute today" (p. 19).

This new Marist publication offers us "a timely opportunity once again to reflect on the place of Mary in our lives and our devotion to her" (p. 13) and invites us "(to welcome) the mother of Jesus in a new way into our hearts and lives" (p. 13) so as "to discover (her) anew in light of all that we have



learned about her since the close of Vatican II, and to develop our devotion to her accordingly" (p. 15).



First Forum on the joint formation of Brothers and Laity

Province *Brasil Centro-Norte*

On 3 August 2009, the Forum on the joint formation of brothers and lay people of the Marist Province of « Brasil Centro-Norte » was held at the Provincial House. It had as objectives: to share experiences of joint formation at the level of the Marist Institute; to become informed about the projects realized, and in the course of realization, by the Central Bureau of

Juridical Associations UNEE – UNBEC; to provide a programme for a brief collective analysis of joint formation in the draft of the Provincial Plan for the joint formation of brothers and laity.

These times of sharing indicated new horizons, raised possibilities of moving forward and helped rediscover the elements which should be guaranteed in

the joint formation of brothers and laity of the Province. It became evident, too, of the great importance of deepening the discussion on formation, in assuring the balance between knowledge and practice, and acting so that the projects are interconnected at the local, regional and provincial levels. We move ahead, in search of a new heart for a new world.



28th general Chapter of the Society of Mary

1st to 23rd September 2009

The 28th general Chapter of the Society of Mary begins on September 1st and concludes on September 23rd, 2009. The Chapter will be held at the "Salesianum", the General House of the Salesian Fathers and Brothers, on the outskirts of Rome city. There will be 41 members of the Chapter. These include the ex-officio members (Superior General, General Administration, former Superior General Joaquín Fernández, and all the major superiors), along with the elected delegates from each of the 11 units of the Society.

This Chapter's representation reflects the significant changes that have taken place in the Society over the last 8 years. First, the membership has decreased in number, and secondly the seven formerly independent provinces of Europe have now formed one province, as have the two former provinces of Atlanta and Boston, who have formed one province of the United States of America.

A pre-Chapter Committee has been



constituted: René Iturbe [chairman], Tony Corcoran [secretary], Hubert Bonnet-Eymard, Paul Frechette, Marcello Pregno and Susitino Sionepoe. The duty of this Committee is to draw up a provisional agenda for the opening days of the chapter and to make whatever other immediate preparations are necessary. These preparations include the task of collating the submissions presented to the General Chapter. A significant number of submissions were received from provincial and district chapters. A summary which can be found on the chapter website. Individual Marists have also been sending in postulates for consideration by the Chapter.

These submissions have been gathered

under the headings of: Government and Authority; Mission; Religious Life, Marist identity and Renewal. Forma-

This Chapter will be preceded by four days of preparation for delegates, allowing them to overcome travel fatigue, to get to know each other and to connect as a body of men gathered for a task of faith.

Within the Chapter itself there will be two special events. One is a meeting with some members of the Marist Laity who will spend an afternoon and evening with the Chapter to discuss the Laity in the Society's mission. A second special event will be the gathering of all branches of the Marist Family on September 12th.



The General House prepares for the Chapter

