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## Updates

**10/06/2010:** Lay Marist life's testimony - Maria de Lourdes Leal dos Santos, Brazil

**10/06/2010:** Visit to the communities of Mostaganem and Oran

**09/06/2010:** Marist News 108

**09/06/2010:** Australia - Marist Student Leaders Weekend - Yepoon

**09/06/2010:** Wrapping up the Les Avellanes symposium, Br. Josep M. Soteras

**09/06/2010:** Photo gallery: Remodeling work at the Hermitage - 102 (June 9th)

**08/06/2010:** Italy - Seminar of SEDOS in Ariccia

**08/06/2010:** Ad Gentes Project

**07/06/2010:** Photo gallery: Feast of Saint Marcellin - General House

**05/06/2010:** Br. Emili Turú - Message for the feast of Saint Marcellin Champagnat, 2010

**04/06/2010:** Worldwide presence - Photo gallery number 257

**04/06/2010:** Deceased Brother: Artur Antunes Martins (Compostela)

**04/06/2010:** Brother Emili Turú speaks at the Union of Superior Generals

**03/06/2010:** Spain - Symposium on structures of animation for Marist spirituality

## The Marist Mission in Higher Education

### Marist International Network of Institutions of Higher Education



Spain 2008

The first Meeting of representatives of the Marist Institutions of Higher Learning, in Curitiba in November 2004, gave birth to the International Network of Institutions of Higher Education, animated by the Mission Bureau of the General Council. Today these structures of animation are harvesting the precious fruit of their work.

Following the 1st Meeting of the Network (IHE), held in Curitiba (Brasil), from 5 to 8 November 2004, a commission was created to work out a proposal for reflecting on the Marist pedagogical principles applied on the level of Higher Education. Its members were Brothers Clemente Juliatto, Félix Roldán and Gentile Paganotto.

The first version of the document was

sent to the IHEs on 30 September 2006, a little before the holding of the 2nd Meeting of the Network, held in Guadalajara (Mexico), from 9 to 12 November 2006. The plenary assembly of the Network studied this version, gave suggestions for inclusion in the text, and approved a working calendar for the period up to the 3rd Meeting. The work was entrusted to the same commission, with the addition of one more member, Brother Pablo Franco.

A second version was sent to the IHEs on 22 November 2007. Once again, contributions and suggestions were collected in writing, and a third version was drafted.

This version, sent out on 16 October 2008, was studied at the 3rd Network

#### MARIST NEWS

N.º 109 - Year II - June 11th, 2010

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#### Edit:

Marist Brother's Institute  
General House - Rome

Meeting held at Alcalá de Hénarès and Salamanca (Spain), from 17 to 21 November 2008. The plenary assembly approved it in its general lines and asked Brother Clemente Juliatto to see to the final edition, with some minor adjustments.

The definitive version of the document was sent to Rome on 5 February 2009. The work of editing and translation was completed on 25 April the same year.

The original working language was Portuguese, and translations were

made into Spanish and English. No translation was made into French, since there were no French-speaking IHEs. The setting up for printing and the verification of criteria for printing became the responsibility of the Communications Department for the Institute in Rome.

On delivering their work, the authors requested the writing of an « introduction-presentation » of the document by the Brother Superior General, which would guarantee its official dimension for the Marist world. In view of the proximity of the holding

of the XXI General Chapter, it was decided to wait for the new Superior General to make the presentation.

The principal co-authors of the text are Br. Clemente Juliatto and Mr. Ricardo Tescarolo, and the collaborators in the editing, Mr. Paulo Eudardo de Oliveira and Brs Manoel Alves, Pablo Franco, Bené Oliveira, Gentil Paganotto, Félix Roldán and Frederico Unterberger.

Read the text of the document in: [www.champagnat.org/en/240106400.asp](http://www.champagnat.org/en/240106400.asp)



# Europe calls for the consecrated life

## Brother Emili Turú speaks at the Union of Superior Generals

The Union of Superior Generals held its six-month assembly at the Salesianum in Rome, from 26 to 28 May 2010, to reflect on "Europe calls to the consecrated life. The situations and the implications". 130 Superior Generals and some Councillor Generals took part in the assembly.

The study sessions which the Union of Superior Generals organize every six months took place in the General House of the Salesians. Brother Emili Turú, our Superior General, spoke in conjunction with Fathers Mauro Jöhl, OFMCap. and Adam Zak, SJ to present religious life in view of the contemporary situation as it is lived in Europe. Br Emili offered an analysis of religious life in Mediterranean Europe while the other two spoke about their view of religious life in North and Eastern Europe respectively.

The Friday morning began with work sessions on the topic: "Committed

laity and consecrated life". Motivation for the reflection was the responsibility of Judith King, from Ireland, and Ana Sarrate, from Spain, a member of the extended Marist Bureau of Laity.

A matter that has for some time come to form part of the priorities of many religious orders and institutes is surely the ever increasing problem of the presence of consecrated life in Europe. In view of an outstanding number of works, there were laments about the decline or absence of new vocations almost everywhere, aggravated by the growing number of elderly religious. Although it may only be in numbers, the fate of not a few religious institutes, who have their origins precisely in Europe, is at stake.

The first to take notice and to be con-



cerned are none other than the Superior Generals. In the two assemblies planned for 2010, in May and November, the agendas feature the topic of consecrated life in Europe. That very fact shows that the situation is considered very serious. The May meeting endeavoured to bring them face to face with the reality in front of them, and in November they will seek to identify proposed programmes for confronting their future seriously.



# Ad Gentes Project

## Br. Teófilo Minga - Project Coordinator Ad Gentes

From the 2nd to the 28th of May, I made my first trip as Coordinator of the Ad Gentes Project. I had the chance to visit and to meet with people deeply involved in this project both in the Philippines and in Thailand. In the Philippines, at the MAPAC compound in Manila, I met the current "Davao 2010" group that will begin the three-month training mission in Davao, Mindanao, southern Philippines. They will start on June 15. This training program is administered in a way which should lead to a discernment regarding each one's future in the mission. At the end of this phase, all participants must find the future path that the Lord is reserving for them within Mission Ad Gentes and find the path in each one's proper way.

This group is composed of seven lay people and five brothers. They have been in Manila since October 2009 in order to learn English. A good, basic knowledge of English is of great importance because it is the language of communication in the Ad Gentes sector. As in any group, there are those who pick up languages quite easily and those who have more difficulty. With few exceptions, all members of the group felt confident in their ability to master the basics of the English language: just what they need to follow the course of Davao, since it is given in English. This will not prevent the General Council from assessing and evaluating this and other similar courses, nor from trying to find ways of organizing them properly, in order to produce better results. All participants will have a great advantage if they arrive in Davao with a good preparation in English.

The group contains some features not



Group "Davao 2010"

found previously, most notably presence of lay people. Also for the first time, there is a couple "applying" to move into the Mission Ad Gentes countries, after the Davao course. This has led the leadership team to seek new housing arrangements to respond in the best possible way to this situation. We left the house of the Sisters and opted to rent several houses to accommodate the new group. Economically, it was worth it: the rental price is much more affordable. More important than financial considerations, however, is the possibility that this new situation offers us for a better distribution of candidates: all the women will be in a house; the couple will remain alone in a different house; the brothers and one layman will be in a quite big property where there are three houses, which means three small communities. This distribution into different hostels will solve many problems we would face if all were living in the same house without appropriate spaces. We thank all those who contributed their time and efforts in Davao city searching for such houses, so that this new situation became possible.

I was able to interview all the brothers and all the lay people. In doing so I was very happy. All of them have great qualities and can be builders of projects that are arising constantly in the new communities of Mission Ad Gentes. However, it is true they have to make a personal effort to find the best way to find a convenient rhythm fitting for a community made of both brothers and lay people. This is not always easy. Yet the experience of this group can enlighten the decisions that can be taken for future groups of lay people and brothers. Apart

from this organizational principle which must still be studied and lived with great flexibility, an idea was emphasized by all: you cannot conceive the future of the Mission Ad Gentes, without lay Marist missionaries. Together with the brothers, they play a significant role in the mission, not only as collaborators but as people who, whether married or single, are living the same Marist charism.

They will make their presentation on our website in the near future because they are about to start the course of Davao. It is good that the Institute gets to know these men and women who have committed themselves to this wonderful adventure of Mission Ad Gentes. The course of Davao will help them to discern the next step: to set out like Abraham, in an attitude of faith-based obedience to the country that the Lord will show them.

Br. Teofilo Minga  
Project Coordinator Ad Gentes

# Symposium on structures of animation for Marist spirituality

## Monastery of Les Avellanes



The House of Spirituality at the Monastery of Avellanes (Spain), has organised a symposium on structures of animation for Marist spirituality. This event forms part of the programme for celebrating the 100 years of Marist presence in this house. Forty Brothers and Lay people from the five continents, representing 15 Provinces of the Institute, met from 17 to 21 May 2010 at the invitation of the Marist Province of L'Hermitage, supported by the Superior General and his Council and the Marist community resident in the house.

This symposium was a response to the insistent call of the last three General Chapters for growth in spirituality and conversion. The invitation was addressed to the whole Marist world to become aware of the actual situation in this area and to reflect together and discover ways of working together in the animation of Marist spirituality.

The meeting place was the house of Avellanes, a place of peace and tranquillity in beautiful surroundings where the vista is lost in distant horizons. Its cloisters resound with the presence of the many Brothers who spent their years of formation here. There are the cemetery, recently remodeled, with the remains of the Brothers who have preceded us, the Church, where the

remains of a good group of martyred Brothers rest, the walkways and paths which recall the histories of so many persons who have worked so generously for God.

The methodology used in the symposium was 'see-judge-act.'

During the "see" phase, the participants shared significant experiences which they had enjoyed in some places, such as the spiritual exercises in everyday life, the NUDO project of the Teresians, the IDEM (Itineraries of Marist Spirituality) of the Compostela Province and the experience of the Avellanes community. In the same way, an analysis was made of the existing Marist structures for the transmission of the spirituality to the men and women of the XXI century. It was confirmed that different structures exist in the Provinces for transmitting Marist spirituality, but that some offer occasional meetings without providing follow-up, without inspiring a process. Marist spirituality passes through the way of solidarity and mission. It requires communities to be authentic schools of prayer and spirituality. It needs solid structures and support in all provinces to animate spirituality.

The first part of the symposium closed with the paper of Fr. Ramon Prat: "Questions and hopes of our time: the luminous serenity."

The "judge" phase opened with a paper by Asunción Codes, a Teresian Sister: "Pastoral criteria which have to be present to favor spirituality today". In her talk, she insisted that it was necessary to educate in human interiority, to make the way or itinerary personal, to provide education about the new

spaces or scenarios for experiencing God and contemplating Jesus. We have to be where Jesus is seen and heard, among the "friends of God, wounded by the same sickness".

At the time for coming to ground in the "act", various initiatives were proposed, such as creating a network of houses of Marist spirituality containing a community which provided hospitality and accompaniment for significant experiences and, at the same time, composed and disseminated material in the service of the Institute. Creating in each Province a "centre of Marist spirituality", promoting a network of (houses... centres... teams..) of spirituality at the level of the whole Institute. The creation of a team-community of animation at the level of the Province. Encourage Marist spiritual exercises in everyday life. Propose itineraries of Marist spirituality, etc.

At the conclusion of the work, the two General Councillors present at the symposium, Josep Maria Soterias and Eugene Kabanguka, encouraged those present to continue along the way undertaken by this symposium with three challenges: Our spirituality is a spirituality with its own identity, with horizons and roots that invite us to a global vision, and tied to mission. And three courses of action: to welcome spirituality, since it forms part of what we are and do; invest time, money and persons to set up reference places, and to develop it together on the Web.

The closing Eucharist was celebrated in the church of Monasterio de Avellanes, full of history and life, dreams and challenges, Brothers and Laity, the families, children and young people who flock there on weekends in our day.

