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Updates

04/02/2011: Marist East Asia second Provincial Chapter

03/02/2011: Australia - Working life as a national group

02/02/2011: Mexico - Meeting of boards of directors and those in charge of campus ministry

01/02/2011: New book received: *Sementes de eternidade* (Firmino Biazus, FMS)

01/02/2011: Chile - Marist Volunteers Move Forward on Macramé Circus School

31/01/2011: Deceased Brother: Jerome (Joseph) Gilligan - West Central Europe

28/01/2011: Photo gallery: Meeting of the General Council with the new Provincials

27/01/2011: Death of Samuel Ruiz, Bishop of the Indians, affiliated to the Institute

28/01/2011: Birthday of Brother Emili

26/01/2011: Marist News N. 139

26/01/2011: Deceased Brothers: Richard Johannes Straßner (West Central Europe); Delfim Elias - Brasil Centro-Sul

26/01/2011: Provincial meeting of the Province of « Méditerranée »

24/01/2011: Deceased Brother: Emmanuel Gros (Prov. L'Hermitage)

Province of East Asia Second Provincial Chapter



We bring you great news of the success of the Second Provincial Chapter of the East Asia Province held on December 6-8, 2010 at the St. Paul Center for Renewal in Alfonso, Cavite, Philippines.

The Chapter was composed of 29 delegates and three invited brother observers. In addition, three lay volunteers served in the secretariat, one lay person was invited to share on behalf of the lay mission partners, one brother helped out in the translation, one brother took care in coordinating the liturgies and one brother attended to logistics. The Chapter was honored by the presence of Bro. Joseph McKee, Vicar General and Bro. Michael de Waas, Link Councilor for Asia and Oceania

The Chapter opened on the morning of December 6 with a Eucharistic celebration where the installation of the Provincial, Bro.

Manuel de Leon was held after the gospel reading. In a message to the Chapter, Bro. Joseph McKee, representing Bro. Emili Turu and the General Council, thanked Bro. Manny for accepting his second mandate. He challenged Bro. Manny to help the Brothers to "a new consecrated life with a strong Gospel identity, that will promote a new way of being Brothers" in today's world. Furthermore, Bro. Joseph, encouraged the Chapter delegates to be committed to the process of reflection, to attentive listening, and to fraternal dialogue, in a spirit of prayer and discernment, in order to create a space for the Spirit of God to work and take root. Pointing to the fundamental call of the 21st General Chapter, he also posed important questions for the Brothers to reflect on: What is the new land that each of us is being called to and what new land is the province called to at this time? Bro. Joseph empowered the Chapter in saying, "the answer is in your hands!" He enjoined

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the brothers to begin to create a vision and to make it a concrete reality.

Speaking in response, Bro. Manny expressed gratitude for the grace and blessings of the last three years. He also acknowledged the work done by the Provincial Council, and the contributions of lay people in the different aspects of the brothers' life and ministry. Echoing the mandate of the 21st General Chapter to "go in haste to a new land", He stressed that the "new land" is a call to conversion, to a deeper encounter with Jesus at the Crib, the Cross and the Altar. Furthermore, he revisited the vision which the First Provincial Chapter provided and indicated the elements that are still relevant today. In closing, Bro. Manny admitted that there is still much to do and the expectations are great. He expressed a hope for a prayerful, meaningful and fruitful 2nd Provincial Chapter.

The delegates reflected and shared on the issues and concerns for the next three years. As a result of the discussion and consensus, the following are

identified as the Priorities for the Province: 1. strengthening of our religious consecration and identity through improved community living; 2. ensuring the vitality of the Province by strengthening vocation ministry and formation and promote spiritual renewal; 3. partnership with lay Marists and Volunteers; and 4. new missions.

The Province Norms were deliberated on and approved. The Book of Customs was reviewed and significant recommendations were made for the action of the Provincial Council. The Rules and Procedures for the 3rd Provincial Chapter were established and a section was added on the Composition of the Steering Committee.

After a prayerful discernment, the Chapter delegates elected the members of the Provincial Council, as follows: Bro. Robert Teoh, Bro. Jacobo Song, Bro. Paterno Corpus, Bro. John Chin, Bro. John Oh and Bro. John Y. Tan.

The 2nd Provincial Chapter brought together Brothers who are, to a certain

degree, more familiar with each other. The sense of family was deeply felt and communication was carried on with ease. Indeed, the Province has moved forward in unity and vitality.

The delegates thanked Bro. Joseph McKee who facilitated the proceedings of the Chapter and Bro. Michael de Waas, whose presence was encouraging. They helped the delegates appreciate each other as brothers and carry out the work of the Chapter in fraternal collaboration.

Truly, the Second Provincial Chapter was a moment of grace for all of the participants.

In behalf of the Chapter, I thank you for accompanying us through your prayers.

8 December 2010

Br. Manuel De Leon, Provincial, and the delegates of the Second Provincial Chapter



Brothers who die at an advanced age

Italy- Br. Mario Iori (1912-2011)

On 5th January, during evening prayer, the candle burned for the last time before the Blessed Sacrament exposed. A high, luminous, living flame with the gift of transmitting joy. But the wick was almost completely consumed and there remained only a flat candle base with a cross in the centre. To throw out what was left of this candle was painful, for it had accompanied our Masses, our chants, our Vespers. We were experiencing the death of a companion, a silent friend.

It was a large candle, of a light blue and as if flared at the base. It stood tall and proud on a little white plate, in a corner of the altar. It was lit at every Mass. It gave a beautiful flame, quiet, golden, sometimes trembling to tell its story. Faithful companion of the community and of the Lord, it gave us light for months, spending itself daily, mute but joyful, mute but luminous. Every day it gave a little more of itself, its flame growing but itself diminishing. Yesterday evening, during the time of adoration, its

flame shone for the last time. Then it died, this too generous friend, so like so many Brothers who, after having given whole lives, end up by reaching the end of their wick.

These lines are written with reference to news of the death of Brother Mario Iori, but they are applicable to all those Brothers who die at an advanced age after spending their last years in the houses for elderly Brothers.



Working life as a national group

Australia - Mission and Life Formation team

El On 25 January 2011, the National Mission and Life Formation team met at the Province Ministries Office in Sydney, to continue building relationships between team members from across Australia and to work on the formation programs which will service member schools of Marist Schools Australia, and the other major ministries of the Province. The team was joined by the Marist Schools Australia National Director, Br Michael Green, and the three Regional Directors, Br Robert O'Connor, Paul Herrick and Peter McNamara. Some team members have responsibilities across both Provinces for other areas of Marist mission and life, so establishing protocols for communication, especially between team members and MSA was high on the meeting agenda. We do not take for granted the good relationships that currently exist with our Marist schools across the country. We are very aware of the need for good communication to enhance these relationships as we learn to work together as a national team to serve their formation needs.

We were also joined by Cate Sydes, Chief Executive Officer of Marist Youth Care, and Br Alexis Turton who gave an overview of the history and organisation



The people in the photograph are from left to right: Tony Clarke (National Director, Mission & Life Formation Team) Br John McMahon, Br Michael Flanagan, Br Michael Flanagan, Carole Wark, Br Robert O'Connor, Br Mark Paul, Br Peter Walsh, Paul Herrick, Br Michael Akers, Br Alexis Turton, Cate Sydes Chief Executive Officer, Marist Youth Care), Peter McNamara, Br Michael Green (National Director, Marist Schools Australia)

of MYC, a profile of the young people in their care and of the staff working to help them see life differently. Current formation programs and opportunities for the future were also discussed. It was an excellent opportunity for our Melbourne team members to learn more about the organisation and the amazing work that is done at MYC. Providing Marist formation for staff at MYC has special challenges and the

MLF team will explore ways to support Cate and Br Alexis in this work.

The National Mission and Life Formation team is looking forward to the challenges and rewards of working together nationally in 2011 but especially to supporting Marist ministries making Jesus Christ known and loved among the young across Australia.



Province of México Occidental

Meeting of boards of directors

DeFor years now meetings have been held with the boards of directors in the Marist Province of México Occidental. This time the board members were accompanied by those in charge of campus ministry,

the specific item under consideration being campus ministry in our schools. The meeting took place January 20, 21 and 22 at Marist University, Loma Bonita in Guadalajara, Jalisco.

The main purpose of the meeting was to have the boards and those responsible for campus ministry study and deepen their understanding of the recommendations and priorities in the report from the Diagnostic Evaluation



focused on the report's recommendations and efforts to look at an array of priorities for pastoral programs. Attendees took full advantage of the time for comments and questions. "Where do we go from here?" was a question on the minds of quite a few participants, prompting calls for action and underling the importance of their taking responsibility to go back to their school communities and distribute these results with a view to improving activities already underway.

The Provincial team for ministry reported on the work being done in different areas: coordination of pastoral care, youth ministry, vocation work and solidarity. Throughout the gathering time was provided for both personal work and reflection and dialogue among boards and those responsible for campus ministry in our schools. A significant moment at this meeting came with a presentation on the work of the Joint Commission of Brothers and Laity, reporting on its plans for the Province concerning the topic of joint formation for brothers and lay people.

Brother Eduardo Navarro, Provincial, attended the entire event. He emphasized the importance of "Making our schools centers of learning, life and evangelization" and expressed his gratitude for the commitment and dedication of everyone in attendance. NM

of ministry in the Province. Likewise, to converse about Provincial animation in the pastoral processes that are attended to and the activities carried out in our Marist educational communities.

educational communities.

3. Having opportunities to reflect and work in accordance with the duties and responsibilities of those attending the meeting.

To accomplish these goals, the following objectives were proposed:

1. Receiving and reflecting together on the recommendations for campus ministry in the Province, based on the report from the Diagnostic Evaluation of Campus Ministry.
2. Becoming familiar with the work of the Campus Ministry Team at the Center for Marist Animation (Spanish acronym, CAM), work that is in tune with the report of the Diagnostic Evaluation of Campus Ministry and its principal implications for our

During the gathering the evaluating team explained the process it used for putting together the Diagnostic Evaluation of Campus Ministry, referring to the contents of the different sections of their report that resulted from the responses of those who filled out the survey in the schools themselves: parents, students, teachers and, naturally, local boards and campus ministers. You can take a look at this report at the following address: maristas.org.mx

Later in the meeting attention was

Macramé Circus School

Santiago, Chile

On Monday, January 3, 2011 "The Macramé Circus School" began. This activity is a place marked with a social-recreational character or tone. The initiators of this project, in addition to promoting the understanding of the Convention on the Rights of Children, desire to offer access to recreational areas which provide ample participation of children and teenagers of the community of La Pintana.



The Circus School is a project which came about through a community of Marist volunteers with the support of the Marist Foundation of International Solidarity (FMSI), based on Rome. This initiative seeks to guarantee the existence of spaces for participation and recreation as a part of the fundamental rights that children and teenagers out to have access to.

