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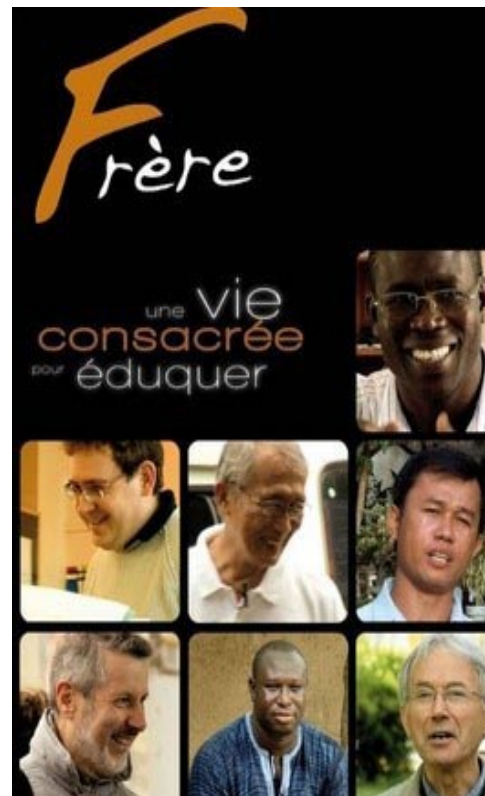
03/02/2011: Working life as a national group

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Brother, a life consecrated to educating

An educational emergency: Teaching Brothers appeal for vocations



You also have the possibility of viewing them, downloading an accompanying document, and the advantage of eventual order of the DVD.

Today, we have the will, and the duty, to recover our original intuitions, in meeting educational needs. We feel a strong call to play our part in this once more."

The appeal is launched clearly and strongly, for young men to join them, in a radical commitment to children and youth, and in the strength provided by life in community.

For "religious life is first of all a life of community, of brothers and sisters", as we are reminded by Father Jean-Pierre Longeat, Abbot of Saint-Martin de Ligugé, and President of the Conference of Religious Men and Women of France (Corref), desiring to "revalue the dimension of commitment and the richness" of the apostolic congregations working especially in the field of education.

Brother, a life consecrated to educating: this is the subject developed in three films recently made by the UFE (Union of Teaching Brothers), films presenting the life of Brothers devoted to education.

These films are currently on YouTube and Daily motion. But they are also accessible via the special page: <http://freres-enseignants.org>

Religious life owes it to itself more than ever to be present in the forward posts of poverty and social tensions, and as well: • education is a pressing need in our societies; • education for the most vulnerable youth is a matter of social and ecclesiastical urgency.

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Director:

Br. AMEstaún

Production:

Mr. Luiz da Rosa

Redaction and Administration:

Piazzale Marcellino Champagnat, 2
C.P. 10250 - 00144 ROMA
Tel.: (39) 06 54 51 71
E-mail: publica@fms.it
web: www.champagnat.org

Edit:

Marist Brother's Institute
General House - Rome

Provincials and district superiors Meeting with the General Council

General House



From 26 January to 3 February 2011, the newly appointed and re-appointed provincials and district superiors met in Rome with the General Council.

They were Brothers Hipólito Pérez (América Central), Manny de Leon (East Asia), Thomas Randrianantenaina (Madagascar), Julian Casey (Melbourne), David McDonald (New Zealand), Joachim Ezetulugo (Nigeria), Shanty Liyanage (South Asia), Joseph Walton (Southern Africa), Jeffrey Crowe (Sydney), and Ken McDonald (Melanesia, D), and Chema Custodi (Paraguay, D).

The meeting was held with the aim of providing support for the new Provincials and District Superiors in their leadership role in the Institute and to offer some information and study topics for performing their function. Fraternal dialogue as a basic attitude was a priority. "What is the Lord saying to us for the life of the Institute and for our action as leaders", was a question the Brothers endeavoured to answer

after an attentive listening. The wealth of experience among the members of the group contributed many resources, favouring a rich interaction.

With this dynamic, the wish of the Brother Superior General, expressed in the letter of convocation was fulfilled: "May our meeting in Rome serve to help us become better acquainted and to help one another in our service". Among the topics on the work agenda were the mission of the Provincial as leader and animator of the spirituality in his Province, team work with the Provincial Council and the analysis of some guidelines of the Institute on the protection of children and youth. These guidelines treat of practical cases that can turn up in the daily life of a Province and the manner of handling them, as well as the criteria that must guide a praxis of integral defence of the rights of children and young people. On these specialized matters, they could count on the help and advice of Brothers Brendan Geary, Provincial

of West Central Europe, and Jim Jolley, Delegate of the Institute in Geneva for the promotion of Child Rights.

The Brothers had the opportunity of making contact with the organization of the General Administration, especially the Econome General, the Secretary General, the Procurator General and the Directors of the Bureaus set up by the General Council for their mandate: "Brothers today", "Mission", "Laity", and "International Missionary Collaboration".

At noon on Saturday 29 January, the Brothers participating joined the Brothers of the General Administration in a tasty Argentine BBQ in the gardens of the house.

The presence of this group of Provincials and District Superiors in the General House provided a lovely ambience of family and communion. It also manifested in a palpable manner the Institute's international dimension, providing an occasion of mutual enrichment and great joy.

Marist Province of Cruz del Sur

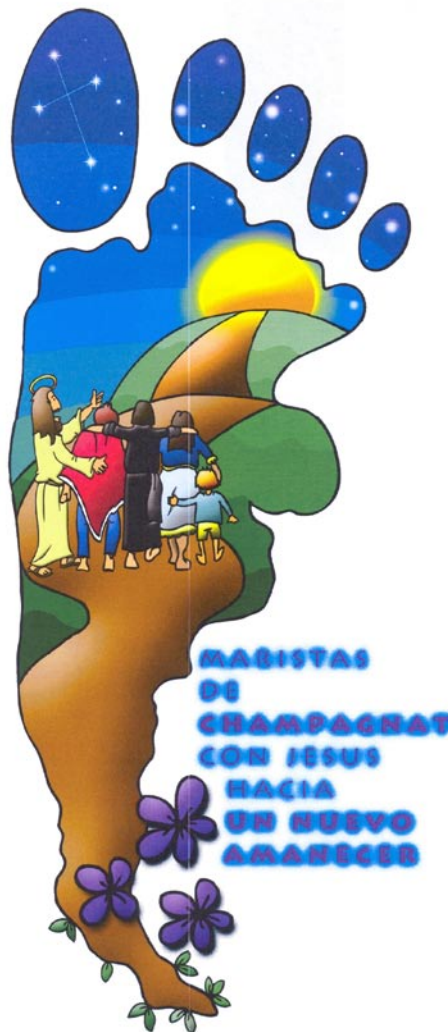
Launching of the "Year of Marist discipleship"

Argentina

By means of a circular letter of Brother Horacio J. M. Bustos, Provincial of the Province of Cruz del Sur, published on 2 February 2011, feast of the Presentation of the Lord, when the Church celebrates the Day of Consecrated Life, the beginning was announced of a year dedicated throughout the Province to a renewal of the following of Jesus as Marists. This period, named the "Year of Marist discipleship", will last until 2 February 2012. It has been prepared for by various sessions of the Provincial Council and provincial meetings and assemblies. It is a response to a priority insistently proclaimed by the last Provincial Chapter.

As fruit of these meetings held in the Province, the following objectives have been outlined and defined for the "Year of Marist discipleship":

1. Become re-enthused with our vocation as disciples of Jesus, Marists of Champagnat, so as to be witnesses for children and young people.
2. To take a deeper view of the current vocation ministry in accord with the guidelines of the XXI General Chapter.
3. To review educational-pastoral experiences and processes so as to qualify them in their dimension of discovery and accompaniment of vocations.
4. Promote the Marist vocation in the Church and in the Province of Cruz del Sur. This event is destined to create "spaces of participation for brothers and laity". These spaces "also involve vocations ministry, as suggested by the XXI General Chapter, in that it is desired to involve a large number of Brothers and lay people".



The launching of the "Year of Marist discipleship" is accompanied by an explanatory leaflet, which will provide details in the various provincial meetings. A logo and a motto, by means of the symbolism, will link "the Marists of Uruguay, Paraguay and Argentina".

These resources are intended to help "to become aware of the Marist road traversed and to set ourselves in motion to live the Gospel more decidedly as Marcellin Champagnat did", stated the Provincial in his circular.

This "Year of Marist discipleship" "touches on very concrete situations and needs which we experience as a Province", he continues, and he indicates three: 1. The need to become enthusiastic again about our Marist vocation, Brothers and laity, before thinking "what can we do with the children and youth". 2. The need to focus our processes of human and spiritual growth on the discipleship of Jesus like Mary and Marcellin. 3. The need to recreate the vocational dimension in our educational and pastoral processes. Brother Provincial went on to emphasize the importance of "working more decisively to generate in our colleges and works a "vocational culture" which promotes concern for a "project of life which transcends the merely human". For this reason, this year is also an invitation to discover a new paradigm of vocations ministry. The XXI General Chapter urged us to discover the scope of a new "Marist vocations ministry" which takes up the new paradigms: the specific vocations of Brothers and laity which are mutually enriching, and co-responsibility in the quest for new Marist vocations. "The Marist vocations ministry needs to be firmly opened to the lay people who live and work with the Brothers", affirms Brother Horacio.

As Marists, we are called to place our commitment in "arousing Marist vocations " for religious and lay life.

The letter concludes with an invitation to all to become involved in the activities of this special year, and encourages them to confidence as pilgrims. "God is making us pass through a night of purification that we are not willing to understand", but let us be sure that it is leading us "towards a new dawn" of Marist life.

Norandina Province

New postulants welcomed

Colombia

The Norandina Province, consisting of our brothers in Colombia, Ecuador and Venezuela, has its formation center, the Marist Postulant House of Our Lady of the Hermitage, in Manizales, Colombia. There, with great joy, we have celebrated the arrival of a new group of postulants. The five young men are Duberney Giraldo, Javier Mora, Juan Pablo Oviedo, Héctor Fabio Tusarma and Anderson Ramírez, coming from the Districts of Quindío and Santander. Duberney, Javier, Juan Pablo and Héctor Fabio have come to us thanks to the vocation work that Brothers Nelson Cardona, Julián Muñoz and Carlos Andrés Obando, assisted by our teachers Jair, Nabor y José Miguel, are doing in the city of Armenia. Anderson, having studied under the direction of Brother Martín Ordúz at our Aspirancy House in the city of Pasto, hails from Bucaramanga. These newcomers



join our three second-year postulants, Juan Pablo Muñoz, Jobany Ordóñez y Juan David Páez. Together they are making up a very congenial group that we hope will bless us with good and holy Marist brothers, constantly deepening their awareness and appreciation

of God's love in their lives and bringing that same love to very many children and young people, just like Marcellin and our first brothers did.

Manizales (Caldas), Colombia, February 2, 2011

Marist provinces of Brazil

New interprovincial Marist novitiate

Passo Fundo. Brasil

Beginning in 2011, the formation of the novices of all of Marist Brazil will take place together, in a single house of formation. As of February, the location of the novitiate will change from Campinas/SP to Passo Fundo/RS, at the Marcellin Champagnat Institute.

The house has room for 30 novices who will carry on their studies in following this important stage of formation

in Marist religious life. The members of the formation team are Brothers Tercílio Sevegnani, Sadi Cella, Rubens Falqueto and Silfredo Luiz Klein.

On February 2 all the Marist provinces had a special intention in their prayers for the novices who, on that date, moved into the new novitiate. This interprovincial experience will add to their qualifications and invigorate the work of formation of the new brothers.

The novitiate is the central stage in formation for religious life. Really, in this period the novice has the opportunity to discern and to reflect deeply on his vocational choice, and is called to reflect on his intentions and talents, that will be at the service of the Marist Institute and its mission in the world.