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## Evangelizers in the midst of youth

### Document for Marist Youth Ministry

At the beginning of the second semester of this year, the Administrative Units (AUs) received the document "Evangelizers in the midst of youth". This is a reference document for Marist Youth Ministry (MYM) throughout the Institute. We are sending you now a suggestion for study and application of the document, prepared by the International MYM Commission, which met in Rome from 1 to 5 August.

The suggestions for strategies, aids and the development process can be found by using the MYM link on the web page of the Institute. We wish all these resources to contribute to the MYM becoming a living and prophetic reality in the whole Institute.

We recommend that in each Province and District a MYM Committee be set up, formed of Brothers, lay persons and youth, with the object of implementing the process we are presenting. This Committee will cause the process to be more effective. I would be grateful if you sent me by mail the name of the co-ordinator of this Committee and his/her electronic address so as to guarantee the communication necessary during this period.

The objective of the document is to strengthen the MYM throughout the Institute. For the AUs which have some experience of youth ministry, we hope it will be a support for its strengthening and renewal.



The AUs lacking such experience will find in the document elements and guidelines that will help them develop vital and innovative proposals for the evangelization of young people.

The document is also intended to be a call to all Brothers and Lay Marists to be open to youth with joy and passion. The 21st General Chapter invites us to consider evangelization as the nucleus of our mission. The MYM can be an excellent project of evangelization for our time. At the same time, it is a privileged space for youth leadership in each of the places where the Marist mission is carried out and in the Institute.

Br. João Carlos do Prado  
Secretariat of Mission - Director

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# Marist Solidarity in Spain

## SED - The Solidarity Club of the Marist Family is born

Recently in Spain an unprecedented 'adventure' in over 1700 classrooms in 47 Marist educational centers was begun. The "We Are From SED" Campaign brings three 'delegates' to the colleges to live various adventures in the world of the students, and with the cooperation of their families, in order to train them in development.

Madrid, October 2011 - Many people make up the great Marist family. In Spain they number in the thousands, and it is a very diversified group: people of varying ages, genders, origins and social condition, but all with one thing in common—the link to a Marist educational center.

Many of the families not only know and respect the values that are imparted inside and outside the classroom, but also collaborate and actively participate in the activities and initiatives which start there.

The best examples for understanding this are the dozens of solidarity campaigns that are carried out each year, the thousands of volunteers who lend a hand and the thousands of euros that are raised for solidarity, with a view to the education and development of the neediest people.

The backbone of the great majority of these activities is the NGO SED. This non-governmental organization for development, whose initials speak precisely of Solidarity, Education and Development, is not only a link of union for all these families. It can also

be a link of interaction, knowledge, contact and exchange for the families engaged in action for solidarity and the Marist families.

This is a reality. Nevertheless, it cannot always be seen, concretized or experienced. Until today. Because what is born today, the SED Club, is not just any club, it is a space for Marist solidarity in Spain. The word 'club', among many other meanings, suggests



of the peoples of the South.

A new cartoon series to support education in solidarity and justice to the smallest children, presents the message that a world more just, in solidarity and lasting is possible with the assistance and cooperation of everyone.

The three new friends of Champagnat—Edu, Sol and Rollo—make possible, with the help of the friends of the SED Club, Champagnat's dream of taking education and development to the most neglected children and for it to become a reality for many of them.

Belonging to SED Club also allows a member to receive information about activities and other news of SED. Every three months, through the SED magazine Solidarios, every two months thanks to an Information Sheet and, whenever there is important news or in-

formation. Belonging to something. In this case, belonging to a huge group of people motivated by solidarity.

It is on these foundations that the campaign which has been started recently in 47 Marist schools in Spanish territory rests. We speak of the "We Are From SED – Family in Solidarity" Campaign, which will make the SED Club known.

'We Are From SED – Family in solidarity' is proposed to the centers to educate in solidarity, to awaken consciences, to promote a sensitive and responsible volunteer service, to transform through action and to believe in the capabilities

information, through special messages.

This also allows one to be informed about the awareness campaigns that develop, to have the opportunity to participate in activities that may be organized, and to possess an accreditation card.

This permits the involvement of all the family, parents and children united around the topics and activities of solidarity promoted by the SED Club. To educate in the value of solidarity within the family environment.

The members of the Junior SED Club, for their part, will be able to freely

download the episodes of the cartoon series that is soon to make its debut. In addition, among other activities and services, the students will work on various educational documents on awareness that will be interrelated with the characters.

than 1700 classes, the three new 'friends', some very special characters that are going to be the link between the more than 45,000 young Spanish students and the thousands of boys and girls who also have a right to a worthy education in other parts of the planet.

During October and November, the educators involved, numbering more than 2500, who are familiar with and have made the Campaign theirs, are going to invite into the more

The adventure begins. Are you going to be left out? For more information enter [www.scd-ongd.org](http://www.scd-ongd.org)



# Mission in Drummondville

## Canada - Resource destined for the Spanish speakers

The Marist Brothers have had their provincial house in Drummondville for almost a dozen years, following the complete restructuring of the Provinces of Québec and Iberville. Now the provincial administration is going to leave Drummondville and the Brothers will move to Iberville. But they generously proposed to the parishes of the region to keep their Drummondville house open if they could come up with a project. The parishes have suggested some involvement with the Spanish speaking community, which numbers more than a thousand people. Faithful to their word, the Marists have invited 3 Brothers from their international community to move to Drummondville with the aim of providing a presence for these new arrivals who have taken up residence there.

The Brothers will work with youth, families, the elderly, according to the needs. The Committee for Latino family ministry (COPAFAL) will, therefore, be well accompanied in its mission. Brother Félix Roldán, of Spanish

origin but having almost always worked in Latin America, joins the team with Brothers Hugo Rivera of Mexico and Denis Croteau. In the course of their careers, the Brothers have been animators or directors of schools, colleges, universities. Each has a very rich experience. They will help with the integration of the new arrivals, on the social level as much as through more pastoral contacts.

COPAFAL is composed of persons with various roots: Québec, Colombia, Mexico... Father Luc Lafond is a member and he presides as well at the Eucharistic celebration in Spanish every last Sunday of the month at 4 pm in the chapel of the Church of St-Frédéric. The Committee also counts on the support of the diocese



of Nicolet in the person of Catherine Lindenberger, who succeeds Guy Lebel.

Since their arrival, the Brothers have been becoming familiar with the resources of the milieu and with the new inhabitants of the city.

The Marist residence is situated in the former St-Jean-Baptiste presbytery at 100 11th Avenue

Contact: Yves Grondin - Pastoral worker



Often enough we speak of the young merely in abstract terms, and when doing so we do not facilitate a genuine close encounter. Because young people do not just pose a question for us, they provide an answer concerning the authenticity of our lives. They help us arrive at a diagnosis of today's world; they are a kind of thermometer in society. So, while keeping in mind that youth is a social and cultural concept, it is essential for us to look closely at the main characteristics of its present-day context. (*Evangelizers in the midst of Youth*, 3).

# MAPAC Graduation 2011

## Marist Asian Pacific Center

Seven Marist Brothers and 5 Religious Sisters from different congregations were awarded Certificates in Religious Studies during the graduation ceremony held at the Marist Asia Pacific Center on October 7, 2011. The affair started with Eucharist celebration at 9:00 a.m. with Fr. Palepale Marisi, SSSC, as the celebrant. Fr. Palepale is a former Marist student in Samoa and presently assigned in a parish in Fairview, Quezon City. The five Sisters are from the congregations of Handmaids of the Sacred Heart of Jesus (3 Vietnamese), Little Workers of the Sacred Heart (1 Indonesian) and Sacred Heart of



Jesus and Mary (1 Indian).

On top of the graduating class is Br. Raphael Fakaia of Solomon Islands in the High Honors category. Bros. Roy, Cocoy and Nelson are all in the Honors category. Other honor graduates in this category are two Brothers

from India and Sri Lanka and the two Vietnamese Sisters.

Br. Joseph McKee, vicar general, distributed the medals of the awardees. Br. Peter Rodney, MAPAC rector, delivered the graduation message while Br. Raphael gave the address of thanks.

Among the board members present on this occasion were Br. Ken McDonald, chairman of the board and district leader of Melanesia, Br. Shanthi Lenayage, provincial of the South Asia Province and Br. Manuel de Leon, provincial of the East Asia Province.



# Evangelization for the Americas

## Action Priorities for the Sub-commission of Evangelization up to 2017

The Sub-commission of Evangelization met in October in Brasilia to plan activities aimed at reinforcing the mission of making Jesus known and loved by the children and youth of the Americas. The group, formed by Br Luiz André Pereira, of the Province of « Brasil Centro-Norte », Claudia Gonzalez, of « Cono Sur », and Ulises Centeno, of the Province « México Central », reflected on their action priorities up to 2017.

The participants defined five centres

of work for the Sub-commission, which recently ceased as part of the MYM (Marist Youth Ministry) to pass to Evangelization and broaden its activities. Among other matters, there are the new places of evangelization in a context of vulnerability, coming closer to children and young people, Marist youth ministry, a reflection on experiences of God among children and youth, and making use of social networks. « Our challenges consist in adapting our plans to the different situations, in receiving and accompany-

ing personal experiences, and in re-dynamizing the processes », emphasized Claudia, co-ordinator of ministry for Chile.

Since 2004, the Sub-commission has been drawing up educational and evangelizing proposals to respond to the needs and expectations of young peoples. « Our action is the fruit of a path which strengthens our projects », recalls Ulises, involved in the project from the beginning.

