

HE GAVE US THE NAME OF MARY

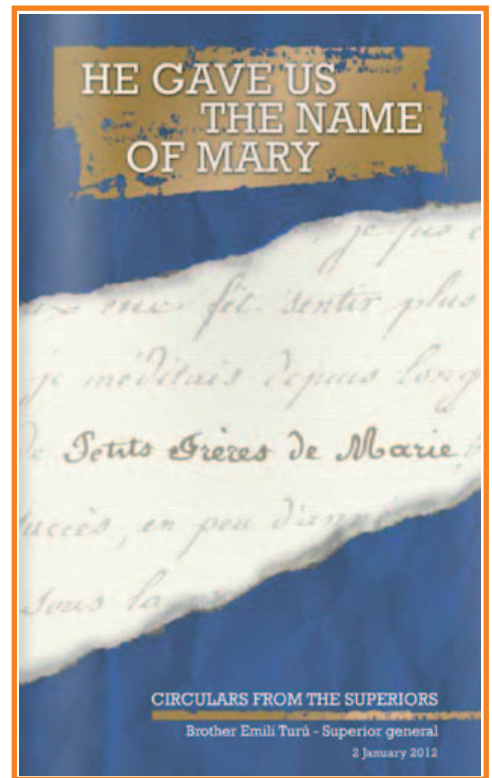
Circular of Br Emili Turú, Superior General

On the 2nd of January, anniversary of the foundation of the Institute, Br Emili Turu signed his first circular, entitled: "He gave us the name of Mary." It has already been sent to all the Brothers. It is possible, as well, to read and download it on our site. To present it, we make use of the Superior General's own words:



"This circular, which is the 412th of those written since our beginnings, is situated in a tradition going back to Saint Marcelin Champagnat, whose first circular was composed in 1828. Since then, in the style proper to each person and each period, we find them, in thousands of pages, with news about family, information, instructions, recommendations, reflections on our life and mission... In each case, they are the expression of a wish to build a family united around the essentials.

It seems interesting to me to note that the word circular, apart from the meaning we give it here, also refers to what pertains or relates to the circle. As we know, the round tables were a powerful symbol of listening and dialogue during our last General Chapter, which, little by little, has been extended throughout the whole Institute.



I hope that the following pages serve to continue building family and to maintain an open and constructive dialogue, as the co-responsible people we are for the mission that has been entrusted to us." (Br. Emili Turú, Superior General).

GENERAL HOUSE

Several persons have come to a meeting at the General House to work on systematising the Archives of the Institute. Three experts from Brasil – Eulália, Marcos and Flávio - and two from Spain - Montse (Barcelone) and Robert (Les Avellanes) -, join Brothers Josep Maria Soterias, Councillor General, Pedro Sanchez, Secretary General, Juan Moral, Archivist General, and Emmanuela from Statistics and Dorotea and Lucia, Archives, for two weeks, from 12 to 25 March.

The three experts from Brasil work at the Pontifical Catholic University of Parana (PUCPR) and are here to introduce PER-GAMUM, a powerful computer tool for the management of archives and libraries developed by the university and offered to the service of the Institute. The two from Spain work on the current system ARCHIVUM.

AD GENTES, CAMBODIA

Ad gentes Brother directs Catholic Church Student Center in Phnom Penh

The Catholic Church Student Center (CCSC) is the response of the Catholic Church to the needs of poor but gifted students -boys and girls- who could not continue their university education without support. Those students came from the programs that the parishes across the three dioceses of Cambodia have established in order to help impoverished Cambodian young people continue their high school education.

The project started in 1999 under the direction of Fr. John Ashley Evans SJ. The old rooms of Saint Joseph parish (Phsar Touch) were used as bedrooms, dining room and study hall. A new building was constructed in September 2002, thanks to the donation granted by Missio, Aachen.

Missio has committed to funding the running cost of the project since September 2008.

The CCSC project not only aims to provide accommodation and pay the university fees for its students but it also provides for many programs which help them to grow and develop as human persons, as committed citizens, and as faithful Catholics if such is their decision. Some of these programs are: the bimonthly political debate; workshops on relevant issues; Christian Life Community groupsharing; sport tournaments; special sessions during the liturgical seasons; Taizé prayer; weekly Eucharistic celebration and daily moment of night prayer; English classes; and volunteering on social or pastoral services during the weekends.

To this date, eleven groups of students have benefited from this project completing successfully their university courses. Most of them play an important role in the animation of the local



Australian volunteer in Cambodia

Church; provide their professional services to NGOs, private and public institutions within the country and abroad; and are making a positive contribution to society. The CCSC is considered by the Cambodian Catholic Church as a significant project since it is the platform for Christian formation of young lay Catholics.

Nowadays the project supports 64 students (24 male and 40 female - 17 of them have accommodation in a rented house called St. Clare Center).

Bro. Diego Zawadzky, was appointed by Mgrs. Olivier Schmitthaeusler, the Vicar Apostolic of Phnom Penh, as the Coordinator of the CCSC project for the next three years starting from September 2011. As coordinator, Bro. Diego has the following responsibilities: (1) to monitor and encourage the spiritual, moral, intellectual, cultural and physical formation of all students of the

CCSC project - including those who have moved outside the Centers- by setting a suitable formation program; (2) to maintain a Christian community spirit in dealing with others and in solving all internal problems; (3) to chair the weekly meetings of Executive Committee consisting of the Directors and assistant Directors of both Centers; (4) to monitor the financial and administrative matters to ensure transparency in transactions and (5) to prepare annual written reports to the funding agencies and for the Bishops' Council.

This responsibility is for Diego an extraordinary opportunity to be involved in the missionary life of the local Church

and to be in direct contact with a wide range of Cambodian young people, which will allow him to know them better and to serve them effectively. It is also an opportunity to establish strategic contacts with Church leaders and, of course, an invaluable space to improve his Khmer language skills. All this surely will later render benefits for the Marist presence in Cambodia and especially on the vocations ministry field.

Diego is confident on the spiritual and material support from the global Marist family and in a special way from all those who are part of the Ad Gentes Sector.

Would you like to become an Ad Gentes missionary? Contact your Provincial and inform the Ad Gentes coordination in Rome in the email: teofilominga@gmail.com



NEW PROVINCIALS

Province of "Brasil Centro-Sul" and Province of United States

The Province of "Brasil Centro-Sul" has a new Provincial since December 2011. Br Joaquim Sperandio took office during the Chapter held in Curitiba. Br Ben Consigli has just been confirmed by his confreres for a new term as Provincial of the United States, which will begin on the occasion of the Chapter to be held in June.

Br. Joaquim Sperandio, Brasil Centro-Sul



Br Joaquim Sperandio was born on 7 March 1949 in the State of Santa Catarina in the city of Rio do Sul, SC.

He became a Marist junior in 1961. His

formation as junior/postulant, novice and scholastic, took place respectively in the houses of: São Bento do Sul, SC; Passo Fundo, RS, and Santa Maria, RS. He made first profession in 1968 and perpetual profession in 1973.

In addition to a degree in Physical Education obtained in Joinville, SC, he has a degree in Methodology of Teaching from the Pontifical Salesian University in Rome.

Br Joaquim has always been distinguished for happiness and joviality, which have certainly helped him as a formator and co-ordinator of vocations ministry. He inherits from his family the religious spirit, tenacity in work and a healthy optimism. As a lover of sports,

he did studies in this area. To further these interests, the Province gave him the opportunity to study in Rome, a wise decision confirmed by his subsequent responsibilities.

Up to 1976 he taught in various Marist colleges in the then Province of Santa Catarina. From 1976 to 2008 he carried out the work of formator in various houses and levels. At various times he was the vocations co-ordinator of the Province. For 12 years he acted as provincial councillor. In 2009 he was elected vice-provincial and took charge of co-ordinating the Province's Consecrated Life and Laity Sector. On 3 December 2011, he assumed the charge of Provincial Superior, replacing Br Davide Pedri for a first term.

Br. Ben Consigli, United States

Born on November 25, 1962, in Elmhurst, New York, USA, Ben graduated from Archbishop Molloy High School, a Marist Brothers' secondary school, in Queens, New York. He holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in History and Humanities from Queens College of the City University of New York, a Master of Arts degree in History from Rutgers University in New Jersey, and a Professional Diploma in Educational Administration from Saint John's University in New York. During his twenty five years as a Marist Brother, Ben has served as

a secondary school teacher and administrator in various Marist schools in New York, New Jersey and Texas.

Ben has served as a Provincial Councillor for the former Esopus Province from 1998-2001, and for the American Province from 2003 to 2009. He has also served as a member of the Province Finance Team from 2001-2009. With the restructuring of the two American Provinces in 2003, Ben was elected as an Assistant Provincial whose areas of responsibility focused on the Prov-



ince's school ministries and school board formation. In 2005, Ben was appointed as Director of Marist Education, a position he held until he was elected as the second Provincial of the Province of the United States. A 2009 delegate to the XXI General Chapter, Ben began his first mandate as Provincial in 2009.

During these past three years, Ben and his Council focused on responding to the Calls of the 21st General Chapter, in particular to the areas of

- a. Attracting new Marists (both lay and consecrated members);
- b. Calling the Province to a new "ministry of presence" among poor children and young people; and
- c. Renewing community life.

To meet these calls, the Province has increased its evangelization efforts in the areas of adult formation for its

lay colleagues and Brothers through the Sharing Our Call programs and the Marist Leadership Institute, and a concerted outreach to its Marist youth and young adults. The Province's on-line young adult communities have taken root, and its Marist Young Adult blog has engaged many young people who wish to live their lives as Marists.

The Provincial Council also began a strategic planning process for the property in Esopus, New York. This "Plan for Esopus" hopes to make this valuable province resource a place where "a Marist approach to ministry, formation, and service work together to evangelize young people and adults". The property houses the Novitiate, a youth-centered Retreat House, a summer camp for special needs children, and the Province's youth and adult evangelization and formation programs.

The Province has also appointed two Vocation Directors to work with two different age cohorts---secondary school/university age students as well as post university young adults. The aim of this effort is to respond to Marcellin's call: "We need Brothers!" The Province website is also aimed at "attracting new Marists."

In its efforts to renew community life, the Province has created "intentional/hospitality" communities in New York, Florida, and Texas with the hope of "widening the tent" of Marist community. To help enrich community life, the Province's on-going formation team has created workshops to support local community leadership.

Ben begins his second mandate at the beginning of the Province's fourth Provincial Chapter which is to be held from 21-24 June 2012.



BE PART OF BIGGER PICTURE

Australia - Marist Solidarity Campaign 2012

The annual Marist Solidarity campaign is a program organized by MAPS the International development agency of the Marist Brothers in Australia. It is an Australia wide educational, campaign usually conducted during Lent in more than 50 Australian Marist associated schools. This year the theme is "Be Part of BIGGER Picture".



others who have less capacity to transform their reality and to work with them to create their own liberation. It is a noble task; a lofty ideal. However, in the ordinariness of life across the countries your school communities are linked to through MAPS, many young people still struggle for their dignity, access to education and their rights.

The notion of a BIGGER picture relies on staff and students joining the dots to the smaller pictures of individuals and communities in the developing world.

Solidarity in the Marist tradition, means we choose to stand with

Check out our 2012 Campaign Resources - www.maristsolidarity.net.au

- Campaign Home Page
- Project Snapshots
- Poster, Artwork & Graphics
- Multimedia
- Photo Gallery
- Additional Resources



MARIST NEWS
N.º 201 - Year IV - 15 March 2012

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