

## ON THE WAY TO WORLD YOUTH DAY (WYD) IN RIO DE JANEIRO 2013

Go and make disciples of all nations (Mt 28,19)

World Youth Day was initiated by Pope John Paul II in during the 1980's to bring together young people from the whole world and to foster bonds of friendship among peoples of different cultures. The programme includes the several opportunities to take part in Holy Mass, times of prayer, workshops, musical and dancing performances, and an all-night vigil attended by the Holy Father.

The first WYD took place in Rome in 1986. Ten other centres have hosted the event since then, with Rome having a second turn: Buenos Aires in Argentina (1987); Santiago de Compostela in Spain (1989); Czestochowa in Poland(1991); Denver in the USA (1993); Manila in the Philippines (1995); Paris in France (1997); Rome (2000), Toronto in Canada (2002); Cologne in Germany (2005); Sydney in Australia (2008); and Madrid in Spain (2011).



The next WYD takes place in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 23 to 29 July 2013. In the preceding days (16 to 21 July) there will take place the International Meeting of Marist Youth. On the 22 July, in particular, young people from the four Marist branches will have an international gathering. Both of these additional events will also take place in Rio de Janeiro.



### GENERAL HOUSE

The General House this week is nearly empty. The brothers working in the General Administration have gone for a trip to the north of Italy.

Brothers Marcelo de Brito (informatics) and Aloisio Kuhn (translator) went back to their provinces and they will continue to serve the General House from their own places (Argentina and Brazil).

Brothers Giovanni Bigotto (former postulator) and Luis Jorge Flores Aceves (current postulator) have been in Rome. Bro. Luis Jorge will come to stay in Rome within the next months after completing the commitments he has in his Province.

The general councilors are continuing their visits to the provinces of Melbourne, Southern Africa and Canada.

# MARIST YOUTH MINISTRY

## Mexico: National Assembly of the 'New Marist City'

**F**rom 9 to 11 March, the « Instituto Queretano San Javier » hosted the National Assembly of the 'New Marist City' for senior secondary students. In an atmosphere of joy, openness and enthusiasm, close to 300 young people from many school establishments (Instituto Hidalguense, Instituto México de Toluca, Colegio Manuel Concha, Colegio Pedro Martínez Vázquez, Instituto Queretano, Instituto Morelos, Colegio Jacona, Instituto Potosino) and youth from the 'Centro Universitario México' came together to live a week-end under the slogan « ConVocación Marista » (= > With the Marist vocation).

A sports competition took place in the Marcellin Champagnat stadium, promoting values such as personal responsibility, open and sincere communication, setting new goals and participation, important elements for the harmonious development of secondary students.

Group sharing about life challenges and contact with different social situations allowed the youth to encounter a Jesus of solidarity, through the smile of an infant, the face and experience of an old man and the testimony of those who make an apostolate of catechesis.

In the afternoon, the Marist spirit spread through the streets of this beautiful city ; the flags flying and the singing attracted people's attention, inviting them to take part in the activities of the rally with a smile, an embrace, or a gesture of encouragement and to share the hope for a better world.

This year, the society of Querétano was invited to participate in the « wall of Marist expression », with ideas about ecology, children's rights, and peace in Mexico. This was a unique experience in which the adults invited the youth to take part in the struggle to protect the world, respect the dignity of the voiceless and dream of a Mexico soon living in peace.

At the end of the Assembly, mention was made of the teamwork of parents who had lovingly prepared the meals, as well as the efforts of the local co-ordinators completing their period of collaboration.

From 15 to 18 March the National Camp of Friends on March under the device: « Mexico, a land which builds a common project ». It highlighted the work of esteemed Mexicans distinguished for service and love of country: Francisco

I. Madero, Frida Khalo, Lorena Ochoa, Octavio Paz, José Ma. Morelos, Mario Molina, Javier Sicilia, Samuel Ruiz, Lázaro Cárdenas, José Alfredo Jiménez, María Gutiérrez and José Vasconcelos

Through games and rallies, we reflected on the value of the homeland and the importance of recognizing what it has given

us. The participants were able to identify with the history of the country, its culture, traditions, language and values, placing the accent on sensitivity to the country's actual situation.

This camp allowed remaining in direct contact with nature and, at the same time, discovery and reflection on what each needs to do to protect and preserve it.

Several school establishments, including « Instituto Sahuayense, Colegio Jacona, Instituto México de Toluca, Colegio Pedro Martínez Vázquez and Instituto Hidalguense » had the opportunity to live a weekend experience in which brothers and laity, parents, students and former students shared the joy of forming a single family.

A week-end for sharing, getting to know and become engaged vis-à-vis oneself and those around one



# MARIST PRESENCE IN INDIA

## Catechism Exhibition at Marist School, Tamilnadu



Catechism exhibition was held from 17th to 19th March at Marist Higher Secondary School, in P. Udayapatti, Karur. The exhibition was organized by the students in the school and was coordinated by Brothers Jeyaraj and Johnson. It was really a wonderful experience and was fascinating to all the students, the staff as well as parents. Everyone appreciated the initiative and innovative work of the students.

Some special features of this exhibition were the portray and the life history of John Paul II, the life of Champagnat and his Brothers in the world, various things and symbols used in the Catholic church since beginning, etc.,

Altogether, it was a successful exhibition and was compelling experience to people of different groups.



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# FMSI - HUMAN RIGHTS

## Announcing the second round of the UPR

There begins in May the second round of the Universal Periodic Review of the United Nations Human Rights' Council (Geneva, Switzerland). All the 193 Member States participated in the first round, including South Sudan, the most recent nation to join the UN. The Universal Periodic Review is a process that involves a review of the human rights records of all UN Member States every four and a half years, providing a comprehensive map of the human rights situation around the globe. During the second round, States will be reporting on progress in implementing the recommendations made after the first assessment. In other words – according to many – this will be the “moment of truth”.

The second round of the UPR will open an important phase for FMSI’s work. In fact, the UPR is the main tool used by FMSI in Geneva for advocating the Rights of the Child together with its partners. More specifically, FMSI can work

with people in their own country in preparing submissions to the UPR, besides other UN Human Rights monitoring mechanisms such as the Committee on the Rights of the Child.

Several countries where there the Marist Brothers have a presence will be reviewed during 2012 or early 2013.

NGO submissions for the UPR must be sent to the UN Secretariat no later than 6 months before the review. Hence, any Marist Province wishing to work with FMSI to submit a report on their country will need to begin preparing for its submission nine months ahead of the UPR of that country.

Please note that for the 15th UPR Session the draft submission must be handed in to the staff of the FMSI Geneva Office by 1st May 2012.



# PROVINCE OF "CRUZ DEL SUR"

## Perpetual Profession of Br. Jorge Arraztoa

On Saturday 17 March, at the Colegio La Inmaculada, Br Jorge Arraztoa made his perpetual consecration in Marist life. On a very mild afternoon, we gathered, brothers and lay people coming from Rosario, Cipoletti, Jujuy, Luján, Merlo, Tigre, Uruguay, Mar del Plata, La Plata...and many from the city of Buenos Aires itself.

The celebration took place in a very intense, simple and fraternal atmosphere. The most moving moments were Br Jorge's profession for life and the renewal of vows of Brothers Maxi Berone and Carly Urrutia.

The Mass was celebrated by Father Padre Raúl Melgarejo, who very cordially accompanies us in all our Marist gatherings.

Br Horacio, Provincial, congratulated the Brothers making profession and thanked their families and all present.



He recognized in this event a clear sign of hope for the Province. After the greetings of all, we headed for the new assembly hall of the college where we continued the celebration of this great occasion.




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# PROVINCE OF "NORANDINA"

## Meeting of Initial and Ongoing Formation Team

On 17 March, the Initial and Ongoing Formation Team - Brothers John Arrieta, Jesús Alonso and Fco. Javier Pérez - met at « El Cristo », Los Teques, Venezuela. It was an intense day of work and sharing. Thanks, John and Sebas, for your welcome and attention. Apart from the work achieved, we renewed our family spirit. The day's work and reflection we-

re distributed thus:  
 1) Opening prayer 2) Revision and adjustment of the Team Plan 3) Reflection

on formation in the Province based on analysis and revision of the document drawn up by the Commission of Initial and Ongoing Formation for the previous three years, which is author of the Provincial Plan of Formation. 4) Postulancy 5) Post-novitiate 6) New way of being Brother in our contexts 7) Proposals for the meeting of formators of Arco Norte 8) Evaluation of the meeting.

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