

"NEW MARISTS IN MISSION"

The city of Nairobi will host the II International Marist Mission Assembly

Preparations for the II International Marist Mission Assembly are well under way. In June, the Preparatory Commission held its first meeting and developed the proposal relating to the project, theme, place and date of the Assembly.

In September, during its plenary session, the General Council approved the holding of the IIIMMA, from 17 to 27 September 2014, in Nairobi, Kenya. It will be held in the House of Spirituality of the Sisters of Dimesse. It will be an extraordinary opportunity for fostering communion, integration and exchange between the Marist world and this region of the Institute. Marist Africa will share the vitality and dynamism with which



Preparatory Commission

GENERAL HOUSE

Brothers Josep Maria Soterias and Eugène Kabanguka are in the Province of Brasil Centro Norte taking part in the Provincial Assembly from 2 to 7 December.

The General Council meets in ordinary session on 3 December.

The Directors of the Secretariats of Mission, Brothers today and the Laity, Brs Joao do Prado, César Rojas and Javier Espinosa, are meeting in Rome from 3 to 7 of the month with the members of the Preparatory Commission for the International Marist Mission Assembly.

From 5 to 7 December, Brs Joe Mc Kee, Antonio Ramalho, John Klein and Ernesto Sanchez will be taking part in the International Leadership course in Rome.

Br Michael de Waas of the General Council will be in Australia from 8 to 12 December for the Provincial Chapter.

it lives Marist life and with the whole Institute.

The Assembly's theme will be : « New Marists in mission ». Reflection will revolve around three main axes : a) Spirituality ; b) Brother-Laity : vocation and relationship ; c) Evangelisation. The theme echos the calls of the XXI-General Chapter and responds to the new sensibilities of the Institute and the Church today.

At the end of March 2013, the Preparatory Commission will send out material for the preparation of the Assembly which, as in 2007, will propose a process to live and celebrate :

- Local phase : April to December 2013.
- Provincial phase : January to July 2014.
- Regional phase : after the holding of the Assembly in September 2014.

The Preparatory Commission will meet again in Rome from 3 to 7 December 2012, to continue preparing all the material and information to be sent to the Administrative Units in March 2013. It will need to be able to count on a Preparatory Commission in each Administrative Unit to watch over the different phases of the process of preparation.

We are already willing to accept sugges-

tions relative to the logo, the chants, prayers and materials which will help in living the preparatory process for the Assembly. Suggestions can be sent to Br João Carlos do Prado (jcprado@fms.it), co-ordinator of the Commission.

It is in April 2013 that the Marist Institute will commence this process of preparation for the Assembly in parallel with other events and celebrations of the Institute and the Church. We are invited then from now on to dispose our hearts and spirits to receive this novelty which the Lord has in store for us. With Mary and Marcellin, « New Marist in mission » !

Preparatory Commission



BR. CRISANTO AND SIXTY-SEVEN COMPANIONS MARTYRS

2013 - Beatification of martyrs in Tarragona

The Plenary Assembly of the Spanish Episcopate has decided that the ceremony of beatification of a good number of martyrs of the 20th century, planned for 27 October 2013, will be celebrated in Tarragona, Catalonia, in the north-east of Spain.

The chosen diocese is rich with a great history of Christian faith and martyrdom, for the first witnesses of the faith to shed their blood for Christ were the bishop of Tarragona, Fructueux, and his two deacons, Augure and Euloge. Moreover, among the martyrs who will be beatified on this occasion, 147 are from Tarragona, including the auxiliary bishop of the diocese, Manuel Borràs, and 66 diocesan priests.

We will soon have more details of the ceremony, the organization of which falls to the Office for the Causes of Saints of the Spanish Episcopal Conference, with the help of the diocese

where the event will be held.



The Pastoral Plan of the Spanish Episcopal Conference (CEE) envisages as one of the main activities planned for the Year of Faith, the beatification of 20th century martyrs in Spain. The Plan makes mention of the words of Pope Benedict XVI when, instituting the Year of Faith, he indicated precisely that « through the faith, martyrs will give their lives, to witness to the truth of the Gospel which has transformed them and made them capable of achieving the greatest gift of love with the pardon of their persecutors. »

The cause of Br Crisanto, which brings together three of our causes, concerns 66 Brothers and two lay Marists martyred.

The causes introduced in Spain number 33, and the number of persons to be beatified is estimated to be more than 500.



PROVINCE OF AUSTRALIA

New Marist Province: 8 December 2012

December 8th 2012, feast of the Immaculate Conception, has been chosen for the announcement of the « birth » of the new Province of Australia, emerging from the fusion of the two Provinces of Melbourne and Sydney. The fact, important in itself, well deserves recalling some historic data as a souvenir for the Marists.

Origin of the Province of Australia: 05/07/1903

The first Marist foundation in Australia was at St. Patrick's in Sydney in 1872. In 1903 the Holy See definitively approved the Constitutions of the Institute of the Marist Brothers. At the same date it was decided to erect 11 new Marist Provinces – one of them Australia – and to appoint their respective Provincials. The first Provincial of Australia was Br Stanislaus Healy. The new province comprised Australia, New Zealand, Fiji and Samoa.

Division of the Province of Australia: 01/01/1948

After New Zealand and the Pacific Islands became a province of their own in 1917, continuing development in Australia led to the Province being divided into two. This decision was taken by the Superior General and his Council on 7 October 1947 but did not come into effect until the following year. The two Provinces took respectively the names of :

- Northern Australia (1947), N.S.W (1950), and Sydney (1951)
- Victoria (1947) and Melbourne (1951)

Steps in the restructuring of the new Province of Australia

The process took many years of reflection and study. In 2005 the process of reconfiguring the Provinces and Districts of Oceania was launched.

In December 2010, the delegates of the Oceania Region met at St Joseph's College, Hunters Hill, Australia, to take part in the common Provincial Chapters of

Sydney, Melbourne, New Zealand and the District of Melanesia. Br Emili Turú, Superior General, and Brothers John Klein and Michael De Waas, General Councillors, were present at this meeting for the process of restructuring the Region.

On 14 October 2011, a group of thirty Marists from all over Australia met at Marist College Pagewood to discuss the progress accomplished towards setting up the new Province of Australia. The group consisted of : the two Provincial Councils, Br John Klein representing the General Council, the presidents of each of the national committees and groups working on the programme of the new Province, and the leaders of the principal sectors of ministry of the existing Provinces. On this occasion, a proposed organizational chart of Australia was drawn up and discussed and accepted. After this day, the two Provincial Councils went to Mittagong for a planning meeting conducted by Br John Klein.

In January 2012, 180 Marist Brothers from all over Australia gathered at St Joseph's College, Hunters Hill, to discuss their future, while the process to form a single Province in December the same year followed its course. At present there are 170 Brothers in the Province of Sydney and 80 in the Melbourne one. Following the formation of the new Province, the Brothers intend to share the administration between Sydney, Melbourne and Brisbane.

The Provincial of Sydney, Br Jeff Crowe, has said that to become a single Province was "the natural step" for entering into the XXI century.

"There are many aspects of our life as Brothers in Australia that are common," he said. "In some ways it has been a natural progression being Brothers together in the one country. "Of course, there are the practical things of ministries, especially schools and education systems, where the national character is becoming so significant. So that's a step forward."

On 8 June the two Councils of Sydney and Melbourne met to analyse the Brothers' proposals for the name of the new Province. They have decided to call it the « Province of Australia », the name proposed by the Superior General and his Council.

On 14 June, Br Emili Turú and his Council appointed Br Jeffrey Crowe Provincial of the new Province of Australia for a period of three years.

A provisional Mission Council composed of Brothers and laity was set up in 2011. In August 2012, a Mission Assembly was held in Mittagong, Australia, in which a representative group of 25 Brothers and 45 lay Marists took part, with Br John Klein GC in attendance. The objective of the Assembly was to identify the principal priorities for mission in the new Province.

The restructuring agreements will culminate in the proclamation of the new Province on 8 December, feast of the Immaculate Conception. It will be a return to the original name of « Province of Australia ». The new Province was erected juridically by a decree of the Superior General.

ANIMATION AND GOVERNMENT OF THE MARIST WORKS

International commission of new models of animation, administration and government

The International Commission of New Models of Animation, Administration and Government met in the General House in Rome, from 12 to 15 November. Those taking part were : M. Marco Cândido, of « Rio Grande do Sul » ; Br Víctor Preciado, Councillor and Econome General; Br Michael Green, from the Province of Sydney; Br Gabriel Villa-Real Tapias, from the Province of l'Hermitage ; Br John Klein, Councillor Général ; Br João Carlos do Prado, of the Secretariat of Mission, and Mrs Maureen Cleary, of Governance & Management PTY LTD, Australia, as « critical friend ».



The objectives of the meeting were to define the aim of the Commission project

and the participation of the Administrative Units.

and to analyse the business proposals of the 'Counselling' consultants, as well as the work agenda for the next few years, in order to guarantee

Reflecting on the subject of the animation and government of the Marist works constitutes an important challenge for the Institute. The 21st General Chapter invites us to set out for a « new land », something which also means evaluating our structures of animation, administration and government, at all levels.

The Commission's next meeting will be held in February with the General Council. On that occasion the work proposal will be presented. It is planned to commence the project during the first semester of 2013.



INTERPROVINCIAL NOVITIATE

First religious profession at Passo Fundo, Brazil

On 25 November 2012, the Institute of the Marist Brothers rejoiced in the religious profession of nine young men from the Provinces of « Brasil Centro-Norte » and « Brasil Centro-Sul »: Adilson Follmann, from Iporã d'Oeste (Santa Catarina) ; Daniel Carvalho de Jesus, from Taguatinga (Federal District) ; Demilton Barbosa dos Santos, from Surubim (Pernambuco) ; Dener Rodrigues de

Souza, from Silvânia (Goiás) ; Edicarlos Pereira Coelho, from Vitória da Conquista (Bahia) ; Fábio Soares do Nascimento, from Ceará-Mirim (Rio Grande do Norte) ; Gustavo Pinto Gomes Ferreira, from Barreira do Campo/Santana do Araguaia (Pará) ; Lucas José Ramos Lopes, from Santa Rita do Passa Quatro (São Paulo), and Ronivom Luiz da Silva, from Bonfinópolis de Minas (Minas Gerais).

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