

INTERNATIONAL GATHERING OF MARIST YOUTH - RIO 2013

Enrollments for "IMYM 2013 | CHANGE", the Missionary Week (prior to WYD) and the World Youth Day

We are in process of living a special period, as much for the Church – preparation for the coming of Jesus among us – as for the Institute – preparation for the International Marist Youth Meeting (| CHANGE). And you, Brother, young person, or lay Marist, you are invited to prepare your heart, like Mary who is expecting the coming of her son Jesus.

The enrollment process for the "IMYM 2013 | CHANGE", the Missionary Week (prior to WYD) and the World Youth Day (WYD) RIO 2013 is already under way. It is important to follow the guidelines given in the letter sent to the Provincials.

1st Step – Choice of delegate

The Province/District must choose a delegate who will be responsible for the co-ordination of information and the centralisation of enrollments.



2nd Step – Registration of the delegate

The chosen delegate must register on the site http://2013change.org/?page_id=237

3rd Step – Access to the enrollment zone

The delegate will receive by mail a login and a password for enrolling the participants of the Province/District on the Meeting.

4th Step – Choice of participants

Each Province/District must choose its participants for the IMYM 2013 – CHANGE and the WYD, in conformity with the following modalities :

SOLIDARITY TOWARDS THE MARISTS OF ALEPO

In your family or community, have you made the gesture of solidarity towards the Marists of Aleppo suggested by the Superior General in his [Christmas message](#)?

If you have, would you send a photo associated with your initiative to Idarosa@fms.it? The photos will be published on our site, alongside Br Emili's message: www.champagnat.org/400.php?a=6&n=2618.

- MODALITY 1 : IGMM 2013 | CHANGE + WYD
- MODALITY 2 : WYD*
- MODALITY 3 : IGMY 2013 | CHANGE

*The participants enrolled according to MODALITY 2 will have the possibility of being accepted for the Missionary Week. The delegations interested in the Missionary Week, after enrollment and the choice of city, will be put in contact with the host Provinces.

5th Step – Enrollment of participants

The delegate must enroll the participants from his Province/District according to the available modalities and, in the case where there are participants for MODALITY 2 interested in the Missionary Week, he must include the corresponding choice in the enrollment form.

6th Step – Payment

Payment should be made by bank transfer (all countries except Brasil).

7th Step – Confirmation of enrollment

After the payment is made, the delegate will receive confirmation of the enrollments by mail.

Enrollments for the "IMYM 2013 | CHANGE" and the WYD for the pilgrims staying at the "Colegio Marista San José" – Tijuca, have been extended to 28/02/2013. This will allow the Provinces more time for getting organized. We remind you that the costs for the "IMYM 2013 | CHANGE" and accommodation for the WYD at the "Colegio Marista San José" remain unchanged. As indicated on the WYD site, enrollments made after 31 January will be increased by 5%. The enrollment of Marist pilgrims should be made

through the site www.2013change.org

Remember that the enrollment of Marist pilgrims for the WYD is made by the Organizing Commission of "IMYM | CHANGE".

As soon as enrollments have been made, the Marist pilgrims who are getting ready to take part in the Missionary Week (from 16 to 21/07/2013) should contact the respective Provinces in Brasil. The cities hosting the Marist pilgrims are: Belo Horizonte (MG), Curitiba (PR) and Porto Alegre (RS).

Let us go forward with Mary and Champagnat. As Marists, let us have a change of heart for the coming of the Prince of Peace.

Organizing Commission of "IMYM 2013 | CHANGE"



THE MARIST BLUES – ALEPPO

"Thanks for your solidarity"

Since our letter of 26 October, there has been hardly any change in the military situation on the ground. Despite street fighting, bombardments, car bombs, snipers, assassinations and abductions, neither of the two parties in conflict has gained the upper hand in Aleppo.

On the other hand, the humanitarian situation is catastrophic. Everything is wanting : bread, water, electricity, petrol, gas and fuel, to name only the essentials. These products exist in other Syrian towns at the normal price. But supplying Aleppo is impossible, all the roads leading into or out of the city being in the hands of the rebels who prevent these products coming in. And when they can be procured, it is at prices beyond what most people can afford : bread ten times the price, petrol five times, fuel (for heating) 12 times, gas (for cooking) 9 times the price. The people of Aleppo are cold (it is winter), hungry and desperate. Moreover, electricity is rationed, when it is not completely cut off,

as it was a few days ago when the principal electric power center was bombed, leaving the city in total darkness for 48 hours. The people had no water (no electricity = no water supply). The cold was glacial, they could not count on the electric stove for lack of fuel to feed the stove or the central heating.

Communication is very difficult : portable phones, internet, international communications are interrupted most of the time. To leave Aleppo is an impossible task : by road, there is the risk of being abducted or killed, or by plane, there is the danger of drawing fire on the road to the airport which has killed more than one. The number of displaced keeps on growing : a summary check on the sick who consult me in the clinic shows me that 80% no longer live at home and have moved in with relatives or friends who live in the still "safe" zones. Life has become so dear that even the middle class are not succeeding in surviving. So what can be said

for the poor and the displaced for whom we have the responsibility !

With the "Marist Blues", we continue our work with the displaced. The morning is given over to the distribution of food and health supplies and to the "medical point" where we have between 30 and 50 patients a day. In the afternoon, the adults of our group with the 2 Brother Georges visit the families, and the youth with Brother Bahjat look after the children. Our project "I want to learn" aims at giving the displaced children the basics of writing and arithmetic. The displaced suffer a lot from the cold, the classrooms where they live not being heated. They must be content with the thick pullovers and blankets we have provided for them. But we have installed in each school an electric water heater to let them take a warm bath (when electricity and water are available !)

Our project "the Mountain basket" is in its 5th month. As we have told you, it aims at providing a basket (full enough to feed a family) of supplies once a month to the Christian families without resources in the Djabal Al Saydé quarter to give them the vital minimum for survival. On Sunday 2 December, the distribution of the 4th monthly basket to 291 families took place. The 5th is planned for Christmas Eve and will include for the first time a kilo of meat. This will be the feast, on Christmas day, for these families who have not tasted meat for 5 months now.

All the Aleppins, including our displaced, poor and volunteers, are suffering from weariness and despair before this situation which has lasted for 5 months in Aleppo and 21 months in Syria. They see no end to the tunnel. They have had enough of the noise of bombs and guns, of poverty, privation, hunger, cold, destruction, displacement and death which threatens at every instant. They suffer from seeing their city and their country in the process of being destroyed ; they have



lost all hope for the future.

What consoles us is the solidarity network that has been created around us. First of all, the relatives and Syrians of the diaspora who do not miss an opportunity to show their attachment and their love for the Syrians in place and their country of origin. And then,

certainly, all of you: friends, acquaintances, or friends of friends who have supported us and continue to do so in various ways.

To all of you, in the name of our teams of the "the Ear of God", the "Marist Blues" and the "Mountain basket", I wish to say Thank you for your solidarity, your friendship and your love. We wish you a Christmas of Joy and Peace. May our Lord, God of love and peace, bring our nightmare to an end and revive in us this Hope that, after the darkness, light will break out so that, once again, we can live in peace and security.

For 2013, we wish you the best.

Aleppo, 12 December 2012.
Nabil Antaki, for the "Marist Blues"



Mozambique

Six new Marist Brothers in Matola



Saying yes like Mary the six new Marist made their profession on the feast of the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception. The mass was celebrated by Father Fredrick, a Consolata Missionaries Novice Master, with seven other Religious Concelebrants in the Saint Archangel Gabriel Parish. Brother Joe Walton, the Provincial of Southern Africa, received their vows on behalf of the Superior General, Emili Turu. The newly professed Brothers are: Armando from Mozambique, Ignatius from Malawi, Peter from Zambia, Quintas from Angola, Victor from Zambia and Mark from Malawi. After the mass, the invited guests were received at our Novitiate house at Matola.



UNITED IN A SINGLE HEART

Provincial Assembly and Chapter of the Province of "Brasil Centro-Norte"

The Assembly and Chapter of the Province of "Brasil Centro-Norte" were held at Mendes, from 2 to 12 December. The Assembly, open to Brothers and laity, finished on 7 December. It was an interactive time for analysing the course of the previous three years in order to bring suggestions to the next provincial government.

The Provincial Chapter, held after the Assembly, established the priorities for the 2012-2015 term. They are :

1. To revitalise Marist religious life so that it encourages a new way of being Brother, reinforces human relationships and fosters spaces of growth, in order to make us a prophetic sign of brotherhood among ourselves and in the mission.

2. To reinforce the mission of evangelization by intensifying relations between the various sectors : educational, social, pastoral, administrative, the accent being placed on the defence of the rights of poor children, adolescents and young people.

3. To consolidate governance in teamwork and economic and financial equilibrium, in view of institutional vitality.

4. To enlarge the culture of vo-

cations as well as the processes and experiences of joint formation of Brothers and Marist Laity, in the living out of our charism.

This provincial plan will be implemented under the leadership of Br Wellington Medeiros, reappointed Provincial for a second term, and the new Council elected by the capit-

ulants : Brs José Wagner R. da Cruz, Alexandre Lucena Lobo, Ataide José de Lima and José de Assis E. de Brito.

From the General Council, Br Josep M. Soteras was present at the Assembly and Br Eugène Kabanguka at both Assembly and

Chapter, while Br Antonio Ramalho, a member of the Province and one of the jubilarians feted on 9/12, was also among the participants.

Five lay persons were invited to take part in the Chapter. In the letter they wrote, they emphasize : "We perceive the openness to and acceptance of the laity on the part of the Brothers. Around the same table, we feel encouraged and committed to the mission of our Province, expressed in the four priorities defined for the next three years. Truly, we have taken part with you in this historic moment.



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