

JANUARY - MARCH 2013

Calendar of the General Council
and the Directors of the Secretariats

January 2-5: Compostela – Provincial Chapter, Valladolid - Antonio Ramalho

January 7-8: Administration Council Bedford Fund, in Mérida, Mexico - Víctor Preciado

January 10-12: Southern Africa, Assembly Mozambique - Antonio Ramalho.

January 16-17: Mission Team of Europe - Mario Meuti

January 17-21: Meeting of the 4 General Marist Councils, L'Hermitage

January 27 - Jun 14: Manziana - Midlife Renewal Session - Barry Burns

January 28-31: Subcommittee "Brothers Today" for America, El Salvador - César Rojas

January 28 - March 1: Plenary Section of the General Council, Rome

January 31 - Jun 20: El Escorial, Program SENDEROS - Ángel Medina

February 9: MIUC (Centro Univ. Intern. Marista), - Directive Team, Nairobi - Joe Mc Kee

February 11: CSAC (Conference of Superiors of Africa) , Nairobi - Joe Mc Kee

February 13-15: Meeting with the Secretariats, General Council

February 18: Vocational European Team, Alcalá de Henares - César Rojas

February 18-22: International commission of new models of animation, administration and government - John Klein, Víctor Preciado, João



Carlos do Prado

March 7-9: International Leadership - Joe Mc Kee, John Klein, Antonio Ramalho, Ernesto Sánchez

March 9: "Brothers Today" European Team - César Rojas

March 11-15: Curse Archivum – CME - Pedro Sánchez, Josep Maria Soteras

March 11-16: Province l'Hermitage: Visit to Hungary - Antonio Ramalho, Ernesto Sánchez

March 11-15: International Commission of the Champagnat Movement, America - Ana Sarrate

March 17-19: Curse of Administrators – Curitiba - Josep Maria Soteras

March 24-27: Enlarged General Council - Oceania



Latest deceased Brothers

28/12/2012: Lucien Labelle - Canada

28/12/2012: Gumersindo Atanes Grande - Compostela

27/12/2012: Estácio Macêdo de Oliveira - Brasil Centro-Norte

26/12/2012: Jorge Nuño Preciado -

México Occidental

25/12/2012: Eligio Muzi - Cruz del Sur

22/12/2012: Peter (Albanus) Salta - Australia

THREE MARIST COMMUNITIES IN INDIA

Visit of Br. John Klein and Br. Shanthi Liyanage

From November 27 until December 3 Brother John Klein, Link Councilor for the Province of South Asia, and Brother Shanthi Liyanage, Provincial, visited our Indian brothers in the state of Tamil Nadu. It was an opportunity to spend time with each of the three Indian Marist communities in order both to better understand the realities of the brothers and to encourage them in their tremendous efforts on behalf of young people, particularly those most in need. This is especially evident in the Marist Primary School and the Marist Secondary School in P. Udayapatti and in St. Marcellin High School in Mangamanuthu. In addition, one of the highlights of the visit was the opportunity to participate in Operation Rainbow's Christmas celebration for the young people infected with AIDS. Operation Rainbow is a multi-faceted program conducted by the brothers (Marcellin Trust) that assists these young people and their families who are often ostracized and discriminated against because of their health situation. Brothers John and

Shanthi were privileged to participate in celebrating the Eucharist with the Mangamanuthu community during which Brother Jude renewed his vows.

the following as positive aspects of Marist life in India: the brothers are youthful and energetic; our apostolates are strong and effective; our family spirit is strong; our community life is simple; the brothers are receiving good formation and receiving a higher level of academic education. When looking to the future the brothers stressed several initiatives that would enhance Marist life. These included beginning a new mission in new areas of India; expanding vocation efforts and training more brothers in formation and leadership skills; and initiating a new Finance Commission that would include a strong emphasis on development and planning for the future.



On Sunday, December 2nd all of our Indian brothers currently living and working in India gathered for the celebration of the Eucharist and for a meeting designed to look at the current Marist reality in India and to consider what concrete steps might be taken to enhance Marist life in the future. During the meeting the brothers highlighted

Our Indian brothers are clearly committed to the charism and vision of Marcellin with faith and hope in the future. With the presence of so many young and vibrant young brothers and emerging leadership the future of Marist life in India holds significant promise.

Rome - Taizé European Youth Meeting

Some 40,000 young Europeans arrived in Rome to take part in the Taizé European Meeting (28/12/2011 – 2/01/2013). They have been welcomed in our city, our districts, our churches, our communities. During these days, each had the opportunity of opening to others and coming to know other lands, languages and cultures... A chance to discover and live communion, in the paths of peace, trust and hope ; an occasion equally for prayer, singing, being silent, accepting... Our General House is hosting 200 young people, mainly from East and Central Europe: Ukraine, Belorussia, Poland, Hungary, but also from France, Germany and... Italy !

PROVINCE OF CENTRAL EAST AFRICA

Rwanda: Formation Seminar for Directors

A seminar of formation for the Directors of the schools of the Central East Africa Province was held at the Marist school of Save, in Rwanda, from 10 to 12 December. 17 directors – Brothers and lay – from Kenya, the Democratic Republic of the Congo (RDC) and Rwanda took part. Br Valentin Djawu, Provincial, was also present.

Br Straton Malisaba co-ordinated the meeting. The participants were able to profit from the special support of M. Ricardo Tescarolo, professor of the Pontifical Catholic University of Paraná (PUCPR), Curitiba - Brazil, and Br João Carlos do Prado, director of the Secretariat of Mission.

The Seminar had as its main aims to study the basic elements of the Marist



educational mission and to form Marist leaders for the new times. Among the topics treated : the challenges of the contemporary world, the Marist educational mission in the context of the 21st General Chapter, Marist leadership

and Marist Youth Ministry (MYM).

The event was a very fine experience of communion and of sharing the rich experiences of the Marist educational mission in the Province.



"WITH ANOTHER LOOK"

IV Provincial Chapter of « Mediterránea »



The IV Provincial Chapter of « Mediterránea » was held from 27 to 30 December in Guadamar, Spain. During it, Br Antonio Giménez de Bagüés entered on his functions as Provincial appointed by the General Council for a second term. In his address, Br Provincial recalled that « the call of the Lord Jesus, through the charism of Marcellin Champagnat, is the 'mortar' which has kept us and will keep us united. »

Br Ernesto Sánchez took part in the meeting representing the General Council.

The Chapter elected a new Provincial Council, formed by Brothers: Juan Miguel Anaya, Juan Carlos Fuertes (Vice-provincial), Damiano Forlani, Aureliano García, Manuel Jorques and Ventura Pérez

During the Chapter, which included 8 invited lay persons, different reports were presented by the work teams : Council of Marist Educational Works, Brothers today Team, Economic Affairs, Secretariat of the

Laity, District of West Africa and the city of Aleppo.

The Chapter has chosen four priorities which it wants the Provincial Council to implement :

1.- Complete the process of community restructuring in order to foster communities which encourage a new way of being brother, being ready if necessary to modify the existing provincial structure.

2.- Reinforce Marist vocations ministry of brothers and laity.

3.- Encourage and implement a new relationship between brothers and laity.

4.- Reinforce the social works present in the Province and promote at least one work for brothers and laity in marginalised areas and in link with the local Church (non formal education and catechesis, principally).



LEBANON: RETURN TO RMEILEH

Marists of Champville and de Jbail

On 16 December, a group of brothers, teachers, Fraternity members and Animators of the Champagnat scout groups of Champville and de Jbail « returned to Rmeileh » to rearrange some rooms so that in the next few months the « Notre Dame de Fátima » school can be used as a meeting centre for youth and apostolic groups, but also for meetings with teachers and students.

We arrived on place quite early on a fine sunny day, and after a brief prayer, in which Br André recalled for us some events in the history of the Marist Brothers in Rmeileh, we formed groups to clean up the area of the former chapel, part of the garden and several rooms on the second floor of the Brothers' former house.

As for the history of Rmeileh (which can be written in various

ways: Rmeileh, Rmeylé...), the Marist Brothers commenced their work in Saïda, at the Collège Saint Louis, and in 1961 they moved to Rmeileh, which is several kilometres before



Saïda coming from Beyrouth. It is

a big school which had a boarding hostel up to 1983, and which took in 2,000 students, 50% Moslem and 50% Christian. The establishment functioned up to 18 March 1985 ; then the students were dispersed because of the civil war in Lebanon.

Several times there has been question of reopening Rmeileh. We have received letters and visits from important persons of the region and former students (Christian and Moslems), asking for the return of the Marist Brothers. So it is inspired by these requests that come from outside and considering the insistence of the Church of the Middle East which is asking for the presence of religious educators, that the Lebanon-Syria Animation Team has taken the initiative of beginning arrangements to use these places as a centre for meetings, gatherings, camps and formation.

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