

MIXED AND INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY

New community at Notre Dame de l' Hermitage

On 2 January 1817, Marcellin received his first two little brothers in the Bonner house at La Valla. This was the departure point for this evangelical inspiration which today is spread throughout the world. Nothing other than to make Jesus Christ known and loved.

On 2 January 2013, the new community began at Notre Dame de l' Hermitage. As luck would have it, the renovations at the house of La Valla mean that the table of la Valla now is to be found within the walls of l' Hermitage. Thus it was a very moving moment to make our engagement around this table. A mixed and international community which can help each pilgrim and visitor to live Marcellin's charism from close up. There was also on the bench of the table an apron, the apron of service, of sharing, of fraternal communion. Brothers and sisters in the simplicity of Nazareth to speak together a Gospel word, the members of this community Good



News. Brother Xavier Barcelo, superior; lay members : Martha Eugénia from Mexico; Colette and Annie from France; brothers: Lodovino from Brasil; Benito from Catalonia, Diogène from Rwanda, Allan from the Philippines and Jean Pierre from France.

Br Pere Fere, vicar of the Province of l' Hermitage, missioned us in the name of the Province and the General Council. We were also surrounded by the communities of La Valla, le Rosey, Saint Etienne and Fonsala: a fraternal presence of encouragement.

A fair wind to this community, the wind of the Spirit !



PROVINCE OF «IBÉRICA» - IV CHAPTER

The IV Provincial Chapter began its work to find out at what stage the life of the Province is. It was an opportunity for listening to and

sharing about the questions on the subject of the future and life of the Province, based on who we are and what we are living. Each one, brother or lay person, acknowledging his

respective vocation.

The Provincial Council and the Council of Educational Works explained



their vision and shared with us the life and tasks successfully carried out in the course of the last three years. The methodology was sharing in groups, which encouraged the listening and participation of everyone. There were also moments for personal and group reflection about evangelisation and the projection of Marist Christian reference communities.

We are seeking to respond to what God is asking of us, per-

sonally and as a Province. During the Chapter, which had the benefit of the presence of the Superior General, Br Emili Turú, Br Ambrosio entered his second term as Provincial.

The controlling lines for the three years 2013-2015 are as follows:

- * To reinforce processes of personal and community conversion by the cultivation of interiority, which leads to the rejection of individualism, openness to our surroundings and an incarnate spirituality.
- * To promote and accompany the Marist life of the brothers and lay people, and establish new models of association and belonging for the laity.
- * To see that the charismatic dimension, the activities of evangelisation and the service of the poorest are consolidated in our works.

The new Provincial Council is composed of Brothers: Ambrosio Alonso Díez (Provincial), Moisés Alonso Pérez, Alfonso Fernández García, Samuel Holguín Díez, José Abel Muñoz Gutiérrez, Iñigo García Blanco, Carlos García Zamora and Alejandro Mena Goldáraz.



DIALOGUES AND ENCOUNTERS

Marist laity: Proposal of a Marist itinerary

This is a collection of nine files, aimed at those who wish to go deeper into being Marist and to share with others the gift of the charism received from Champagnat. An itinerary of eight sessions is proposed for studying the document "Gathered around the same table. The vocation of Champagnat's Marist Laity". For each session there is a work file, a motivating Power-Point and other complementary material. This aid has been put together by the Province of "Ibérica" and generously placed at the disposal of the Marist world. It has been translated into the four languages. The new page setting has been arranged by Ángel García, of Porto Rico, who also did the composition of the previous collection of the Secretariat's files.

It concerns an excellent aid to formation for persons who wish to discern and grow in their Marist vocation. The journey can be shared by broth-



ers and lay people. Precisely in these new times when there are no defined and known tracks, we must come together to form ourselves, mature our

choices, and open together a way to the future.

Even though the journey may be an individual one, the files invite travelling with others. The Province of "Ibérica" has promoted the creation of 28 groups to make this itinerary over a year. The process is completed with a provincial Forum on the identity and vocation of the lay Marist. A sincere THANK YOU to "Ibérica" for this support to the new brothers-laity relationship process.

The English version will be soon available. To download the documents follow this link:

www.champagnat.org/fms



VOYAGERS TO THE MARIST HEART!

The «Marist Forum 2012» of the province of Canada



The 2012 edition of the now traditional "Marist Forum", organized by the Marist Movement of Québec (MMQ), was held from 16 to 18 November at Cap-de-la-Madeleine. This visionary assembly is intended to be the annual meeting of the whole Marist world of the province of Canada. This year, the theme "Voyagers to the Marist heart" was the point of departure of fine exchanges, and it also paved the way for following up an important discussion on a new unifying structure for the Marist laity of the province.

Impressive !

For many, it was the first participation in such an event. One was struck by the unity of the group : difficult to distinguish the brothers from the laity in the room, so well were all integrated in a single fraternity. Around the same table took on its full meaning...

What was then noticeable was the good humour and family spirit typical of the Marists, This joyful malady which it seemed everyone had caught, fueled by the «skipper» Robert and his «ship's boy» Véronique, our two lay persons responsible for the animation. Between outbursts of laughter, the testimonies of faith and trust in Mary brought us to a communion of intimacy impressive for a group verging sometimes on 100

persons!

Voyagers...

The Marist world is a more and more international space, and our current Provincial Council shows an audacious vision: it wants Canada to take a new place in Marist international exchanges. Do you find that strange for a province which has had no new brother for more than 40 years? Yet it is this situation which is causing us to develop expertise for evangelisation in a secularised society, by laity and for laity. So our brothers and laity are travelling more than ever, and the theme of the Forum has allowed many to share the riches of their experiences. For example, the striking testimony of the young pilgrims from the schools who went to the Hermitage last summer...

But what is a Marist voyage? Some similar questions were sown, and the external voyage led us to become aware of the interior voyage.

...To the Marist heart

The second part of the theme was wisely chosen : the expression «Marist heart» is, in fact, one of the spearheads of the Marist world today, which is seeking to make Marcellin's

charism open to all. And here, that is bearing fruit!

A little history... During the general assembly of 2011, the AC of the Marist Movement of Québec (MMQ) received the mandate to «launch the process for forming an autonomous lay Marist association and to study the spiritual, human and financial implications». The sub-committee responsible for this mandate reached a consensus for the corporation of the Marist Association of Iberville (AMI) to serve as the base for the creation of this association. That would be the factor of unity for all the Marist laity of the province. Starting with the corporation of the AMI, there would then be the creation of a great corporation of persons desiring to work at the Marist mission.

The process was then launched towards legal accreditation of the future Marist association and its adaptation to cover and represent properly all the laity. That involves a widening of membership to laity, brothers, priests, while making a place for the corporate members. This new association will bear the name of «Marist Lay Association», a proposal accepted unanimously.

During the general assembly, it was

proposed that a committee work to assure the transition towards the new association. In the meantime, the current members of the AC of the MMQ have agreed to prolong their mandate to the formation of the new association, which should take place during the general assembly of the AMI in April 2013.

Things are moving!

So you see that things are moving for all who have the Marist heart in the province of Canada! We all left this Forum, more united and more decided than ever to continue the voyage towards our new lands, despite the difficulties and uncertain-

ties, since our Good Mother is with us and draws our attention to the One she always has in her heart...

Louise Fortier, president, Marist Movement of Québec.



"ADD UP LIVES, MULTIPLY HORIZONS"

IIV Chapter of the Province of Compostela



The IV Chapter of the Province of Compostela was held in Valladolid from 2 to 5 January. The gathering began with the celebration of the diamond jubilees of Justiniano González, Francisco Castellanos, Nicasio García, Arturo Rodríguez, Emiliano Pablo and Jesús Sánchez and the golden jubiles of the Brothers Alberto García, José Calleja y Santiago Fernández.

read out the letter of Br Superior General which accompanied the decree of Br Oscar's appointment.

There were 26 Brothers at the Chapter and 13 lay people invited. Br Provincial thanked them for their presence in journeying together and living together in the Chapter.

Priorities were chosen for the new three year period and the means for helping implement them. The priorities are articulated around this three themes: Community, Spirituality and Solidarity.

The new Provincial Council was also elected, consisting of Brs: Nicolás García Martínez, Eduardo Montenegro Prieto, Máximo Blanco Morán, Óscar Martín Vicario (Provincial), Teodorino Aller Marné, Tomás Briongos Rica and António Leal das Neves.

Br Óscar Martín Vicario has been appointed provincial for a second term. Br Antonio Ramalho, of the General Council, present during all the Chapter, during the opening of the meeting gave his message and

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