

IT WAS A DAY TO REMEMBER!

Peshawar: A terrorist attack at the doorstep of our Brothers' home

We had just returned from Mass in our church. The time was about 11:45 (22 September). I was just taking my soutane off when I heard two loud blasts together, very close to the house. I thought it was in our church. I rushed out and the people were rushing out of the compound. Within minutes boys brought the news that it was inside the neighbouring. All Saints Church, Church of Pakistan, which is just about five minutes walk.

The news that tickled in during the next fifteen minutes, was that two suicide bombers had got passed the Security police, spraying bullets all over and frightening the people who were coming out of the church after the service. Some tried to stop the two men and in the scuffle, the two blew themselves off.

I was going towards the road when a teacher brought the news that one of our ex-teachers, Khalid, whose wife is a teacher in the school, had died on the spot. Bro. Zubair and I visited the family.

Later we went with Fr. Johny Williams, our parish Priest, to the hos-

pital (Lady Reading Hospital), which was receiving and treating the wounded. The hospital was in a mess. Being Sunday, the doctors were at home and had to be called in. There weren't enough doctors. Fortunately, Nurses had come in large numbers and were taking care of the wounded, whose conditions were miserable. Many of those wounded people will never be able to walk. Among them were some of our students, from St. John's and from St. Mary's. It was pathetic to see some of the little children.

were some of our best students. A former pupil of the school, who is sponsoring six of our students, his son and daughter also died on the spot.

Fr. Johny, Bro. Zubair and I spent about four hours visiting every ward and every wounded person, and prayed over them.

It is estimated nearly 90 persons have died, including children and women. Over hundred are wounded, and some of them critically.

They brought the coffins of the dead bodies to our grounds (St. John's) in the evening and had an inter-congregational mass funeral service and the bodies were then removed by families to be buried.

MAY THE SOULS OF THESE INNOCENT PEOPLE REST IN THE PEACE OF CHRIST.

MAY THE BLOOD OF THESE MARTYRS NOT BE SHED IN VAIN! MAY IT ENLIVEN A LONG LASTING PEACE IN PAKISTAN.

Br. Remigius Fernando



Some families, who had gone to church together had lost all their members. Among them were families of two of our children. One family lost the father, mother, and two children, and left two little children orphans. These two children who died

UNIONS OF SUPERIORS GENERAL

Project Solidarity with South Sudan

South Sudan, the newest country in the world, is working towards creating sustainable structures which will address the needs of health, education and food security. The project Solidarity with South Sudan was initiated by the two Unions of Superiors General (USG & UISG) after the peace accords of 2005.

At present there are 33 brothers, sisters and priests from 26 congregations who have volunteered for service with contracts of three or more years. They are supported by an international consortium of more than 200 congregations and attract funding from a large variety of funding agencies. The project is established on five sites providing training and accompaniment in the areas of education, health and agriculture. It is a new way of collaboration for congregations and for the church (www.solidarityssudan.org)

Our brother Christian Mbam from Nigeria has been in the country since February 2013. In the early part of the year he was joined by two Marist teachers from Australia who volunteered for two months to offer intensive training to local teachers who are already in the field.

Br Christian is the Dean of Students at the Solidarity Teacher Training Centre located in Malakal in the north of the country. He lives in a community of seven - five sisters and two brothers - all from different congregations. The ministry of the centre is teacher training both at the pre-service and in-service level.



The classroom and living facilities have been purpose built by the project and are of very good quality.

We are challenged to consider joining the pioneers in this project. Br Christian would be especially keen to encourage involvement from Marists in Africa in the spirit of Br Emili's letter to all Champagnat Marist, To the Ends of the Earth.



125 year of Marist presence in Fiji

The Brothers of Fiji celebrate their retreat and were joined on by a number of Lay Champagnat Marists. The first Brother arrived in Fiji in 1888 to open their first school. 2013 marks the 125th anniversary of the school at Suva Street.

The Brothers have four other institutions in Suva: Marist Brothers High School (established 1937), Saint Marcellin primary school (1963) - celebrated 50 years in 2013, Champagnat Institute (2000) and Marcellin Angels Kindergarten (2009).



PROGRAMME FOR FORMATORS 2014

Brother formators for a new world

At every instant, in our world and around us, something new is happening, or at least something is moving although it may not always be noticed... When the oportune time comes, something changes and reality is enriched with shoots of new life. It is a joy that this is so for it has been a constant right through history.

It will soon be a little over two years since reflection began in the Institute, encouraged by the General Council and the Secretariat Brothers Today, on new programmes of ongoing formation and proposals for experiences to revitalise the life of the brothers and the Institute. Thus was born the course for Community Animators held in 4 sessions (2 at Manziana and 2 at the Escorial) in 2012. Two new signs appeared in these formation courses: the internationality expressed in a very clear way in the experience of the Hermitage – lived by both groups at the same time – and the unified work of the two teams in the animation of the courses and the programmes of formation.

The two teams of formators from Manziana and the Escorial met together during the last week of August in Rome to prepare the PROGRAMME FOR FORMATORS to be held in 2014, from January to November. The two teams have been partly or entirely renewed ; Brothers Barry Burns and Antoine Kazindu have completed their time of service at Manziana, and Brothers Dennis Cooper, Sylvain Yao and Alfredo Herrera are taking up the baton. Br Joacé Pinheiro has been replaced by his brother Joarês in animating the Escorial course with Br Angel Medina.

Brothers Ernesto Sánchez, Eugène Kabambuka and Josep Maria Soterias of the General Council accompanied the reflection. The meeting was conducted by Br César A. Rojas, who is responsible for this type of programme and course at the level of the Institute.

During the week, we had time to: look at the Programme for Formators, become acquainted with the brothers who will take part, make our own the objectives and hopes we want to live and animate, and think up the best ways for bringing to birth something new in the Institute, in particular in the area of formation, with a global approach at all the stages involved.

This is a sign which speaks of hope. While in the Institute we are less numerous as the years pass, the houses of formation diminish in number and in young men (at least



in certain parts of the Institute), and the ministry of vocations is stimulating and inviting us to create new paths... 27 brothers of different languages and cultures from various Provinces of the Institute are preparing to become FORMATORS FOR A NEW WORLD, which means having faith in the youth of today, having faith in religious life and in the vocation to Marist life.



Latest deceased Brothers

- 25/09/2013:** Raymond Harold - Prov. New Zealand
- 24/09/2013:** Federico Plumed Feced - Prov. L'Hermitage
- 20/09/2013:** Coman Sykes - Prov. Australia
- 19/09/2013:** João Machado da Silva - Prov. Compostela
- 15/09/2013:** Baltasar Criado Criado - Prov. Compostela
- 11/09/2013:** Maximino Echávarri Aramendía - Prov. América Central
- 06/09/2013:** Tomás García Rabanal - Prov. Santa María de los Andes
- 03/09/2013:** Juan Manuel Tomás Sánchez - Prov. Mediterránea
- 30/08/2013:** Joseph Duvivier - Prov. Europe Centre-Ouest / West Central Europe
- 24/08/2013:** Manuel Villareal Castelazo - Prov. México Central

Marists witnesses to the faith 66 Brothers and 2 Lay people martyrs in Spain

Beatification - Tarragona, Spain - 13 October 2013

<http://www.champagnat.org>

DREAMS, CONCERNS AND LIFE PATHS IN AMAZONIA

Forum of the District of Amazonia

The Marist District of Amazonia held its Assembly in Porto Velho, from 8 to 10 August 2013. The theme was: "We Marist Brothers wish to affirm our 'dreams', concerns and life paths in Amazonia".

Br Nilvo Favretto came from Tabatinga, Brothers Danilo Correia and João Gutemberg from Roraima. Lábrea sent its superior and jubilarian, Br Normando Baima de Miranda, and the director of the "Santo Agostino" school, Miralda Gomes de Oliveira. From Cruzeiro do Sul came Br Zeferino Zandonadi – 60 years of religious life –, and teacher Sernízia de Araújo Correia. Br Carlos Scottà arrived from Rio Gregório and Tarauacá. Brothers Sadi Cella, Delvino Decezzero, João Paulo, Luiz Gerhardt, Jorge Lapa, Sebastião Ferrarini and the director of the "Maria de Nazaré" school, Ida Cristina Oliveira da Silva Lucena, were already on the spot, and from "CESMAR" came Cristiane Auxiliadora Lima Nascimento. Brothers Inacio Nestor Etges, Provincial, Deivis Fischer, Odilmar Fachi and Jader Henz came from Rio Grande do Sul, and Br Claudiano Tiecher

from Brasília. Br Robert Teoh, future Provincial of the Province of "East Asia", who was visiting the District, was also one of our number.



During the meeting, the results of the enquiry "Modalities of Marist consecrated life in Brasil" were presented. There was also a sharing

of the experiences, challenges and projects in the three schools of the District: "Maria de Nazaré", Porto Velho, "São José", Cruzeiro do Sul, and "Santo Agostinho", Lábrea, and at "CESMAR", Porto Velho. The communities had worked beforehand on some documents, including the considerations of the General Councillors following their visit to the District (2013). All had sent a list of 'dreams', concerns and life paths based on the reading of these documents. The ten points most frequently mentioned were, in order of citation: mission, communities, vocations, inter-institutional relations, formation, financial autonomy, environment, profile of the brother, type of District and inculturation. A good time of exchange ensued.

The participants in the Forum returned to their places of origin, committed to the God of Life and encouraged by Champagnat and our good Mother, in order to repeat their 'dreams', concerns and life paths in Amazonia.

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