

COURSE ON THE MARIST CHARISM AND PRINCIPLES OF EDUCATION

PUCPR offers a new service of Marist formation to the Institute

On 3 February 2014, extramural classes began on the Marist Charism and Principles of Education. After almost two years of intense preparation, it has been possible to begin classes in this new service of Marist formation offered by the PUCPR to the whole Institute. It was an initiative of the Marist International Network of Higher Education which entrusted the creation of this course to the PUCPR. The financial and human resources to help PUCPR provide this service have been the responsibility of the Province of Brasil Centro-Sul, which once again has provided the resources necessary for making it a reality.

The names of those taking part in this new experience of Marist formation in



GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

In its plenary session program, the General Council gave one morning to work with the Commission of New Models of Animation, Administration and Government, and another morning to work with the Secretariat of the Laity. Other matters of these days related to administration and finance in some areas requiring particular follow-up. A whole day was dedicated to an evaluation of the Council as a community and as a work team.

From 13 to 17 February, the Director of the Secretariat of the Laity, Br Javier Espinosa, met in Rome with the two Co-directors, Tony Clarke and Pep Buetas.

On 17 February, Br César Rojas, of the Secretariat of Brothers Today, took part in the meeting of the Vocations Team of Europe at Alcala de Henares, Spain.

Today, 21st, Br Joe Mc Kee, Vicar General, travels to Geneva for a visit to the FMSI community of Prévessin-Moens.

the Institute, offered by PUCPR online, in four languages and shared by brothers and laity, are worth recording. Here are their names and the Provinces to which they belong.

East Asia: Allan de Castro.

East Central Africa: Edouard Yatha Nanga Luka. **Southern Africa:** Felizardo Maceia. **Madagascar:** Jean Albert Thomas Randrianantenaina.

Mediterránea: Juan Miguel Anaya Torres. **L´Hermitage:** Raimundo Novell Donat.

Cruz del Sur: César Concepción Borje Bogado, Daniela Costa Lane, Juan Pablo García. **Norandina:** Francisco Javier Pérez París, Geovanni Velasco Devia, Julián Olmo Miguel. **Santa María de los Andes:** Claudio Enrique Castillo Faúndez, Gladys Marcela Hormazábal Cruz, Víctor Guillermo Vidal Núñez, Raúl Amaya Rivera. **América Central:** Ana Isabel Saborío Jenkins, Mynor Estuardo González Polanco, Ricardo Alfredo Mendoza Martínez.

Rio Grande do Sul: Aline De Cunha, Narciso Camatti, Gustavo Balbinot, Sérgio Barbosa Rodrigues, Sernízia de Araújo Correia. **Brasil Centro Sul:** Anacleto Peruzzo, Andreia Cristina Serrato, Dercio Angelo Berti, Jefferson Marques Bertoldi, Vanessa Roberta Massambani Ruthes, Tiago

Reus Barbosa Fedel, Mariel Manne. **Brasil Centro Norte:** José Augusto Júnior.

Seven women and 25 men, 10 of whom Marist brothers, have enrolled in the course. The languages chosen are distributed as follows: SP 15, PT 14, FR 3. The diversity of the Institute is represented by 15 different nationalities: Argentinian (1), Brazilian (13), Chilian (4), Colombian (1), Congolese (1), Costa Rican (1), Spanish (3), Filipino (1), Guatemalan (1), Malagasy (1), Mozambican (1), Paraguayan (1), Salvadorian (1), Uruguayan (1), Venezuelan (1).

The course has two tutors: Brother Ivo Strobino, who will cater for students of the Portuguese and French languages, and Brother Joaquín López Barriuso, who provide this service for the Spanish-speaking ones. Some of the brothers and laity taking part in the course will also have the opportunity in time to act as tutors in subsequent editions of the course.

This service of PUCPR to the Institute is seen as part of the preparations for the celebration of the bicentenary of the foundation of the Institute, to be held in 2017.

Curitiba, February 2014.
AMEstaún



SEEING FAR AND NEAR

Internationality in the Geneva community

The time I spent with the community in Geneva reminded me of one of the challenges of our world and of our Institute, namely the challenge of integration, unity or communion. I feel that the community is responding to that wider view of the Marist mission, a long view, that also allows one to appreciate the details. The novelty of the universal work for the rights of children is integrated with daily life, lived with the same density and commitment. It is the progressive view that allows one to see both near and far.

The extensive view of the community is what the 21st General Chapter pointed out when it exhorted all Marists to "become experts in and defenders of the rights of children and young people in a brave and prophetic way in public forums. We feel driven to challenge the religious, cultural, economic, and social policies that oppress chil-



dren and youth”.

Attention to details is what demonstrates the spirit of the community, where brotherhood is built from the provincial, cultural and linguistic diversity of the Brothers: Evaristus Kasambwe from Southern Africa, Manel Mendoza from the Hermitage, as community leader and office organizer, Vicente Falchetto from Brasil Centro-Norte and Jean-Claude Christe, from the Hermitage. A brotherhood that presently includes Joseph McDonald, Marist old boy from Sydney and a university student and volunteer.

The seeing near and far of the community of Moëns transmits integration and harmony. It becomes a challenge to unity in diversity. It is a message of communion for the pluralism of our world. What is expressed if not the experience of work of the Marists at the side of Franciscans International, of Edmund Rice International,

with whom they share offices and projects in Geneva? What other thing shows the move without trauma from Geneva, Switzerland to Moëns, France? In the community countries come together (Brazil, Malawi, Switzerland, Spain, Australia), as well as languages (French, Portuguese, Spanish, English) and generations (from 21 to 65). The community experience is made up equally of Brothers and laity.

Exercising harmony is being able to share presence in the meetings of the United Nations, with suit and tie and official identification, with the daily tasks of cooking, house cleaning, caring for and maintaining the property, where the suit becomes an apron and work clothes. And exercising integration is the ceremonial presence in the great halls of the UN with the rural location of the house, where one enjoys the beautiful view of the snow-clad mountains, as well as the wild animals, the beautiful fields and the deep silence of the countryside.

The community's experience of internationality is proximity to the culinary diversity of the cooks who take turns at the stove, to the variety of idiomatic expressions while playing Scrabble, to learning typical expressions in each of the various languages, and even to how to use a fork or peel an orange. These are all new learning experiences from other cultures, which is certainly enriching and complementary. The community of Moëns makes possible Marist simplicity in the midst of a work context related to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the development of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, as well as the analysis of the Universal Periodic Review of the UN. Its world view is also a view attentive to the details of community life with a Marist flavor.

Br. Javier Espinosa
Moëns, 2 February 2014



PROVINCE OF NORANDINA

Policy for the Protection of Children and Young People

The Province of Norandina has just published the document Policy for the Protection of Children and Young People, adjusted to the norms of Colombia, Ecuador and Venezuela, the countries in which the Province has its ministries. Following is the message of Br. José Libardo Garzón, Provincial.

I am happy to send you our Policy for the Protection of Children and Young People and the Code of Ethics of the Marist Province of Norandina, comprising Ecuador, Colombia and Venezuela. These documents gather together the calls of society, the Church and our Institute. Even though they are not entirely complete, we believe it important to initiate the process of socialization and sensitization in face of these two important reference points for our institutional life and mission.

Family spirit and being present in a significant way to the children and young people are characteristic traits of Saint Marcellin Champagnat's approach to teaching. For us Marists, based on these insights of our Founder, the mission

consists in helping children and youth become, above all, good Christians and good citizens (...)

The Policy for the Protection of Children and Young People and the Code of Ethics reflect the values and principles of the Marist community. We are aware that "what is given to the children, the children will give to society", as Karl Menninger, father of North American psychiatry, wisely expressed. We commit ourselves, therefore, to promote safe environments, in which the children entrusted to our care might grow in feeling welcomed, respected and valued.

The development of the Policy for the Protection of Children and Young People, as well as the Code of Ethics, was carried out following the standards proposed by the Marist Congregation.



COLLABORATION FOR MISSION, INTERNATIONAL

An International Volunteer Service of the German Marists

Some time ago Brother Chris Wills was commissioned by the General Council of the Marist Brothers in Rome to build a global network for a Marist volunteer service. In the province of West Central Europe, the brothers embraced this idea in Germany and have participated since August 2012, in sending former pupils of Marist schools.

For voluntary service abroad, in Germany, there exists a program sponsored by the government. The province has already received authorization as a supporting association. As part of this certification (International Youth Voluntary Service - IJFD), Cmi-Germany plans to offer former students of the four Marist schools in Germany the opportunity to spend a voluntary service year abroad in different Marist projects.

To realize this in a professional way with formation and preparation of the young people for their responsible roles, Brother Michael Schmalzl from Mindelheim, Germany is now supported by Mrs Renate Hacker and Mrs Brigitte Riedmaier. Mrs. Hacker has been connected through her family with the Marist school for twenty years. Mrs. Riedmaier has had many years of experience in international student exchanges. Both women are glad to be involved in the structure of the Cmi project.

At the end of 2013 Miss Laura Sattelmair was sponsored by friends, relatives and the Marists to go for three months to Johannesburg, South Africa. At the local Sacred Heart Marist College she

has begun her volunteer service as an assistant in a project called three2six. In the afternoon, between 3pm and 6pm, Marists teachers educate the children who are refugees from other African countries living in Johannesburg. Laura, together with other volun-



teers cares for the academic education of these children and also participates in the organization of extra-curricular leisure facilities. This program creates a bridge for these children and young people to enter the South African education system.

After a church service Laura, who graduated from high school at Maristenkolleg, Mindelheim in 2013, was commissioned by Brother Michael with a personal blessing and many good wishes.

Currently Jasmine Nimar the former pupil of the Marists is working in a project for children and young people in Santa Cruz, Bolivia. She is there for twelve months. Hannah Mair works in a nursery school of the Marists together with the German Brother Hans Seubert in Kenya on the island Mfangano in Lake Victoria. You can find the personal impressions (in German) from Laura and Jasmin in their blogs: www.lassi-bolivien.blogspot.com and www.laurafrika.wordpress.com

At the end of December Anna Hastreiter returned from a four-month international placement in the Phillipines. She worked with street children resident at the Marcellin Foundation (General Santos City). Previously, in 2012, Michael Wilhelm completed a placement in Esopus, USA

We thank the four host communities and the respective Cmi contact persons (Ricardo Miño, Bolivia; Agnes Reyes und Bro. Crispin, Philippines; Bro. Teo Grageda, and Bro. Hans Seubert, Kenya; Colin Northmore, South Africa and Bro. Own, USA who look after our young volunteers during their time abroad.

Already this summer other interested young people have registered for voluntary service at Marists projects around the world. They share the dream of Marcellin to help young people to find their way into a better future. Contact: cmi@maristen.org

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