

## JULY – SEPTEMBER 2014

### Calendar of the General Council and the Directors of the Secretariats

**07 – 11 July:** Inter-American Mission Commission – New York, USA – Chris Wills, Miguel Angel Espinosa

**08 July:** End of Plenary Session of the General Council

**09 – 13 July:** Retreat for brothers and laity, Argentina - Javier Espinosa

**10 – 19 July:** Retreat in Province of Brasil Centro-Sul – Florianópolis, Brasil – Eugène Kabanguka and Josep Maria Soteras

**14 – 20 July:** District of Melanesia – Assembly and Chapter - Papua New Guinea – Joe Mc Kee and Michael De Waas

**15 – 21 July:** Preparation for II IMMA – Nairobi, Kenya - Mario Meuti and João Carlos do Prado

**15 – 21 July:** "Brothers formators for a new world" course – Manziana, Italy – Chris Wills

**20 – 23 July:** Conference on Education – Valencia, Spain – Chris Wills

**20 – 24 July:** Province Assembly United States – New Jersey, USA

**21 – 27 July:** Visit to the Marist mission in Samoa (District of the Pacific) – Michael De Waas

**20 – 26 July:** Provincial Chapter of Santa María de los Andes – Chosica, Peru – Emili Turú

**21 – 26 July:** American Commission of the Laity – Brasilia, Brasil - Javier Espinosa

**22 – 26 July:** African Regional Meeting on New Models – Nai-

robi, Kenya: Ernesto, Antonio Ramalho, Víctor Preciado, João Carlos, Mario Meuti and Gabriel Villa-Réal

**26 July:** MIC Board – Nairobi, Kenya – Joe McKee

**28-29 July:** MIC Budget & Conference of Provincials of Africa – Joe McKee and Antonio Ramalho

**28 July – 04 August:** Visit to the Marist mission in Kiribati (District of the Pacific) – Michael De Waas

**27 July – 3 August:** Visit to El Salvador - Emili Turú

**01 – 03 August:** Provincial Assembly of Central East Africa (PACE) – Save, Ruanda – Antonio Ramalho

**4 – 9 August:** Visit to Honduras – Emili Turú

04 – 20 August: visit to the Province of Australia - Michael De Waas

**10 – 18 August:** Celebration of 125 years of Marist presence in Colombia – Emili Turú, César Rojas

**16 – 23 August:** Tabatinga Project – Chris Wills

**21 – 23 August:** Oceania Meeting on New Models – Mittagong, Australia – Michael de Waas, João Carlos do Prado, Alberto Rojas, Michael Green and Peter McNamara

**24 – 24 August:** Collaboration for Mission International meeting – Bogotá, Colombia – Chris Wills

**25-27 August:** "Brothers formators for a new world" course – Manziana, Italy - Javier Espinosa

## GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

The General Council began the week by meeting the representatives of AT Kearney and the team responsible for implementing the new models of Animation, Government and Administration, for an initial evaluation and the planning of the next steps.

The Plenary Session continues from 24 to 27 June with the integration of the General Council and the Secretariats, including the FMSI Geneva group and the Brothers co-ordinating the Renewal Centres of Manziana and the Escorial. It is an opportunity for exercising in a direct and visible way the collective effort for the animation of the Institute and share energy, inspiration and vision for the next three years.

On 24 June, a group of 28 lay Marists from Colombia, accompanied by Br Javier Echeverry, visited the General House, met Brother Emili, and took part in a Eucharist with the Council and the Secretariats.

**01 September:** Beginning of French-language Third Age Course (to 31 October) – Rome, La Salle  
**01 – 03 September:** "Brothers formators for a new world" course – Manziana, Italy – Michael de Waas  
**11 – 15 September:** Meeting of Preparatory Commission and Work Teams of the II IMMA – Nairobi, Kenya - Cesar Rojas, Javier Espinosa, Tony León, Miguél Ángel, Chris Wills, Mario Meuti and João Carlos  
**12 – 13 September:** Seminar for novices in Tudella, Sri Lanka – Michael De Waas  
**13 – 14 September:** Assembly of the Brothers of Germany – Furth, Germany – Joe Mc Kee.

**16 September:** Beginning of Spanish- and Portuguese-language Third Age Course (to 16 November) – Rome, General House  
**16 – 27 September:** II International Marist Mission Assembly – Nairobi, Kenya – General Council and directors of secretariats.  
**29 September – 03 October:** District of Asia Council meeting – Bangkok, Thailand – Joe Mc Kee.  
**30 September - 10 October:** Workshop on Formation Guide – Escorial: César Rojas and Antonio Ramalho – Manziana: Tony León and Ernesto Sánchez



# ASIA LAITY COMMISSION

A United Region with effective processes of collaboration

A united Asia Region with effective processes of collaboration and networking is central to the thrust of the Marist Asia Conference (MAC). To achieve this objective, the Conference established the Asia Laity Commission which task is to reflect and propose action plans to further the development of the life and mission of the Marist laity in the Region.

On June 10-11, 2014, the 2nd meeting of the Asia Laity Commission was convened in Marikina City, Philippines. Br. Peter Rodney, Secretary of MAC, shared the background and thrust of the Conference and expressed his message of support to the initiatives of the Laity Commission. Sr. Sonia Punzalan, R.C. provided input on Asian Spirituality. The presence of both was appreciated by the members of the Laity Commission as they provided the context of the meeting's agenda. The Commission also appreciated the hospitality and support of the Brothers' community in Marikina for providing the members of the Commission an experience of a Marist home.

Action plans were delineated with focus on the task of the Commission in the next 2 years, until 2016. Among



others, the following were given emphasis:

1. Organization of joint formation experiences in the Continental, Provincial/Sector levels;
2. Design simple programs of formation, considering the different paths in the development of the commitment of the lay Marists, and mindful of religious diversities;
3. Propose for the creation of structures that will respond to the local needs of supporting Marist life of

- the Laity and Brothers;
4. Strengthen a network of communication among the brothers and laity in the Region.

The two-day meeting was enriched by experiences of communion in prayer, assurance of support, sharing of resources, nurturing of the brothers-lay relationship, and sharing of a common vision: Empowered Marist laity for a greater vitality of the Marist charism in Asia.



# CHAMPAGNAT ITINERARY

## Catechetics Program - Province Cruz del Sur

We wish to share with the Champagnat Marists of the world, especially the Spanish speakers, a catechetics program about Marcellin Champagnat and the Marist charism developed by the Province of Cruz del Sur for children and young people between the ages of 5 and 18.

This is the realization of a project which emerged in 2011, the year the province of Cruz del Sur designated the year of Marist discipleship. It was designed by a group of catechists and pastoral animators, lay women and men and brothers. The work required two years of study and work and one year of trial and corrections. This year, the material offered is more complete, co-ordinated and in sequence.

What it involves is a program of 65 sessions intended to make known the life of Saint Marcellin, the first Brothers and some characteristic features of the Marist charism to the youngsters in our schools and works. Five sessions a year, from preschool at 5, through primary education up to the last year of secondary which with us ends at 18, just before entrance to university. As it is a course to be followed through, the sessions are ordered by topic and adapted pedagogically to each age group. The thought is to hold them principally during the Champagnat month which we begin each year on 20 May and conclude at the end of June.

The complete content of the program has been made available to everyone through the project web site: [www.itinerariochampagnat.org](http://www.itinerariochampagnat.org) to assure the dynamic this type of program requires today and the flexibility of the material, which is under continual development due to the contributions of the catechists and pastoral animators who are implementing it. You can find there an introductory diagram showing the sequence and logic connecting the itinerary, the material with all the sessions clearly described, and the links to all the materials necessary for their development: originals for photocopying, images, digital presentations, videos, music, everything.

It is the desire of all taking part in the implementation of this program that it be of use to many catechists and pastoral agents in making Jesus Christ known and loved through the life and work of Saint Marcellin, our first Brothers and some features of the charism to which we are especially sensitive today. It would be very gratifying to find you visiting the site, but even more so to see you enriching it with your comments and contributions, with new material and new ideas. All are invited to take part!

Champagnat Itinerary Team, Province of Cruz del Sur  
[www.itinerariochampagnat.org](http://www.itinerariochampagnat.org)



# THE MARISTS COMMEMORATE 60 YEARS OF MISSION IN ANGOLA

Present in the country since 1954, today the Marist Brothers conduct three schools where they teach 3,000 students: The Marist school of "Christ the King", in the capital Luanda ; the Marist teacher training school of "Saint Joseph", in Kuito-Bié, and the primary school "Saint Marcellin Champagnat", at N'Dalatando.

These establishments are free and enjoy the support of the Angolan government which pays the teachers and employees, while the Marist Brothers administer them. The schools of Luanda and Kuito belong to the Brothers, while the one in N'Dalatando belongs to the local diocese. The schooling follows the educational principles of Marist pedagogy and is inspired by the

charism of the congregation. At Kuito, in addition to the training college, there is a juniorate or junior seminary where 34 boys are preparing for religious life.

Angola forms part of the Province of Southern Africa, and also has some Brazilian Brothers.



## Cuban children in the heart of Champagnat

When Marcellin's generosity embraced all the dioceses of the world, I don't know if he knew or had heard of Cuba. But on this occasion, it was the other way round. Some Cuban children celebrated Marcellin Champagnat, they entered into his heart.

They gathered in the morning to do it very festively with group games, sports and songs. They enjoyed it as children: with laughter, skipping, recreation, quarrels.....with smiles. There were about 80 of them, coming from our quarter and the parishes we work in.



# PROVINCE OF WEST-CENTRAL EUROPE

## Marist Education Conference

The Province of West-Central Europe held its Marist Education Conference from 6 – 9th June at the Marist Centre in Guardamar in Spain. The theme of the Conference was "Awakening a New Dawn," echoing the message of the XXI General Chapter, the General Conference and the circular of Brother Emili, whose final chapter is entitled, "Mary, Dawn of new times."

There were 70 participants from the five countries of the Province: Ireland, Scotland, The Netherlands, Belgium and Germany. Sixteen Brothers from the Province participated. There were 50 lay people from Marist and former Marist schools, and from Marist projects in Scotland and The Netherlands.

The purpose of the Conference was to create a network with practical ideas to facilitate Marist leadership into the future. Planning for the Conference began in 2011. The work involved in preparing for the Conference, along with reflection by the fraternities in Belgium, became the Province phase of the preparation for the II International Mission Assembly.

Over the past 30 years the Broth-

ers have withdrawn from schools in The Netherlands, Scotland, England and Belgium. In Germany the schools have been handed over to local dioceses. We are still responsible for the secondary schools in Ireland. During the same period a range of Marist

re-connect with the Marist spirit and tradition. The Conference provided an opportunity for networking, formation, visioning and – in true Marist style – practical suggestions to take all of this forward.



Brother Ronnie McEwan and Mr Paul Cummings from Kinharvie Institute in Glasgow facilitated the Conference. Everyone commented on the professionalism of the programme and noted the Marial spirit in which the Conference unfolded. Brother Michael Green and Mr Tony Clarke from Australia and Brother Richard Van Houten from the United States were involved as presenters. Brother Ernesto

Sanchez, C.G., one of the link Councilors for the Province, participated and led a workshop on Marist Leadership. Brother João Carlos do Prado, the secretary of the Mission Secretariat, also participated and led a workshop on Marist Mission. Bernice Reintjens, a lay Marist in The Netherlands and one of the members of the group that produced "Water from the Rock," led a workshop, along with Liesbeth van Gool from The Netherlands who works as an adviser to the Dutch bishops in the area of schools and education.

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