

INTER-AMERICAN PROVINCIALS CONFERENCE

Inter-American Commission Mission

The Inter-American Commission and the Sub-commissions of Mission (CIM), depending on the Inter-American Provincials Conference (CIAP), held their regular meeting from 7 to 11 July in Poughkeepsie, New York. The members of the CIM are: Br Valdícera Civa Fachi (co-ordinator), Mme Mercia Procopio (Brasil), Br Luis Carlos Gutierrez (Guatemala), Mme Maria del Socorro Alvarez (Mexico), Br John Klein (USA), M. Ernesto Reyes (Chile), Br Juan Ignacio Fuentes (Argentine), Br Miguel Angel Espinosa Barrera (Secretariat of Mission) and Br Chris Wills (Collaboration for Mission International-CMI).



GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

Br Emili Turu, SG, is in Peru from 20 to 26 July, to be present at the Provincial Chapter of the Province of Santa Maria de los Andes and the installation of the new Provincial, Br Saturnino Alonso Ortega.

Brs Josep Maria Soteras and Eugene Kabanguka of the General Council are at the Assembly of the Province of the United States in New Jersey from 20 to 24 July.

Br Michael de Waas, CG, is visiting the Marist mission in Samoa, District of the Pacific, from 21 to 27 July.

General Councillors Ernesto Sanchez, Antonio Ramalho, and Victor Preciado are taking part in the African Regional Meeting on New Models in Nairobi, Kenya, from 22 to 26 July, together with Brs Carlos do Prado, of the Secretariat of Mission, Mario Meuti, of FMSI, and Gabriel Villa-Réal.

Br Chris Wills, of the Secretariat of Collaboration for Mission International, is attending an Education Conference in Valencia, Spain, from 20 to 23 July.

Br Javier Ocaranza, economo of the General House, has returned to his Province of Mexico Occidental after six years of service, and Br Josep Roura, co-ordinator of translations in the General Administration, returns to his Province of the Hermitage after an extended term on 22 July.

Frs Moisés Caro Angeles and Gilberto Salazar have returned to their respective dioceses in Mexico and Colombia to continue their ministries. The latter has been replaced as chaplain and member of the community of the General House by his countryman and fellow diocesan priest, Fr Jhon Edison.

The mission of the CIM is to promote reflection on the Marist mission in the Americas and the linking up of processes and projects in view of its vitality, in a relationship of co-responsibility with the Animation Teams and the Administrative Units, in harmony with the calls of the General Chapter and in response to the signs of the times.

The first two days of the meeting were devoted to learning about the situa-

tion of Marist life and mission in the Province of the United States. Br Seán Sammon, delegated by the Provincial, Br Ben Consigli, gave an analysis of the situation of the United States and the Province.

The remaining days were devoted to specific themes of the Commission, notably the accompaniment and follow-up of the Strategic Plan, and practical references. The results of the work

of the Inter-American sub-commissions of evangelisation, solidarity, education and management were presented as well as prospects for action with regards to reflection on and animation of the life and mission of the Provinces.

Thanks to the Province of the United States, and in particular to Brs Michael Flanigan and Seán Sammon, for their availability and welcome.



MARIST ASSOCIATION OF LAITY

Canada: Work of collaboration to assure the vitality of the charism of Champagnat

On 21 June, the members of the provincial council of the Province of Canada received the members of the board of administration of the Marist Association of Laity. The objective of this meeting was to work out together the new structure assuring the future of the Marist life in the province.

We started from the following image: the Brothers have their kitchen, the laity have their kitchen, we must now create a new community kitchen for Brothers and Laity. One community kitchen which sees to assuring the vitality of the charism and contributing to the Marist mission everywhere in the province. The idea is to set up an authority which will provide the main guidelines of the province for all questions concerning both Brothers and Marist Laity.

This authority is for the moment called the «TABLE OF THE MISSION» or "TABLE OF COMMUNION". The «table» will take care to see to the «Marist» authenticity of

"Marist" works, projects and experiences. It will watch over the development of the Marist leadership everywhere in the province. This will be done through the work of the commission of pastoral animation which will develop processes of formation for Marist leaders.

It is, therefore, a whole work of collaboration which is being set in place to assure the vitality of the charism of Champagnat.

The «table» is composed of 3 brothers and 3 lay persons. The following persons have been mandated to form part of the «table of mission»: Br Gérard Bachand, Br Jacques Bélisle, Br

Félix Roldan, M. Michel Beaulac, Mme Louise Fortier and Mme Linda Corbeil. At the first meetings of the «table», the work will consist of establishing the vision of the province for the next three years regarding the Marist mission, and this based on the proposals suggested during the Provincial Chapter which was held from 30 May to 1 June 2014.



INTERPROVINCIAL NOVITIATE LA VALLA OF MEDELLÍN

Workshop on the rights of the child

On 2 July, in the Interprovincial Novitiate La Valla of Medellín, we held a workshop on the rights of the child and the protection of children from mistreatment. It was also an opportunity to present the Child Protection Policy of the Province of Norandina.

on the brothers of the Sto. Domingo community and about 15 volunteers from the foundation.

This time was an opportunity for furthering our knowledge and commitment in this subject, as well as integrating the Marist works of Medellín.

33 persons took part in the workshop. From the novitiate, there were the formators, novices, animators of the youth movements and members of the fraternities; from the Community Centres of La torre and Manantiales, we were able to count

On the 1st of July, the Secretariat of Solidarity also animated a workshop on the critical analysis of reality with the brothers of the novitiate.

Many thanks to all for their welcome, availability and commitment



in these matters.... Other possible worlds are in our hands.



MARIST VOCATIONS ANIMATION IN CRUZ DEL SUR

Strengthening of the Lay Marist Vocation

On 7 July, representatives of the Marist Province of Cruz del Sur gathered to make a start on two new projects of the Marist Vocations Animation team: Youth vocation Groups and Strengthening of the Lay Marist Vocation. They came to the city of Buenos Aires from Jujuy, San Francisco, Merlo, Tigre, Luján, Morón, Pergamino, Frayle Pintado and Montevideo for a fraternal, productive and hopeful day's meeting. Fraternal because of the abundance of embraces, smiles of recognition, cups of maté, counsel, shared dreams. Productive because the second part of the meeting, in the afternoon, consisted of beginning to take the first steps: we did not wish to leave anything to later, but to begin there and then to draw up proposals and plan the projects for each work or institution.



And hopeful, because we saw with our own eyes that we had a lot of material for being able to go ahead with this: works

and activities that had already been going for many years, shared values and criteria which are continually becoming stronger under Marcellin's gaze, and people with heart, with longings, with passion and with a Marist spirit who are capable of building everything proposed on rock.



NOVITIATE OF KUMASI, GHANA

Six Brothers made their First Religious Profession

Six Brothers made their First Religious Profession in Sacred Heart Parish, Trede in Obuasi Diocese Ghana. In attendance were Archbishop Gabriel Anokye the Archbishop of Kumasi Archdiocese, Archbishop Peter Sarpong, Emeritus Archbishop of Kumasi. Also in attendance were the Provincial Superior of Nigeria, Br. Joachim Ezetulugo, and the Superior of West African District, Br. Francis Lukong. Others were Priests, Religious and the faithful.



In his Homily, Bishop Gabriel Anokye thanked the six Brothers for offering their lives to the service of the Lord. He further urged them to keep the faith as was the case with the three young men in the burning furnace.

MARIST CONNECTION

Vocations Meeting in the Province of Brasil Centro-Sul

From 30/06 to 03/07, we gathered at Itapejara del Oeste, with 21 youth of 2nd and 3rd year secondary to accompany adolescents and young men showing an interest in knowing about the brother's vocation, consecrated life and the Marist Institute. It involved helping them in their undertaking of vocational discernment and identifying the criteria and priorities for their options... since they came from various milieux – Cascavel, Dourados, Ponta Grossa, São Paulo et Itapejara d'Oeste – the meeting was very animated and striking in many ways: formation, interests, participation, solidarity activities, orientation and discernment on the project and choice of vocation. There were also moments of sharing, spirituality, leisure and making friends.

The participants took note, in their souvenir books, of significant moments experienced during the meetings, as well as the stages of their personal history. During the meeting, they worked on three specific themes: Mary, Jesus and the Church. The reflection on Mary gave them the opportunity to visit women, mothers and spouses, who work and take care of their children, women who struggle, like Mary and the strong women of the Bible. The theme "Jesus" appealed to images of Christ which we have constructed



or which have been imposed on us. The youth compared the diversity of faces of Jesus presented to us. For the Church, it became evident that it is a community of faith, of family and sharing with others: it is where we share our gifts and find a modern face which the Church urgently needs: "New wine in new skins".

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