

## NEW MODELS OF GOVERNANCE, MANAGEMENT AND ANIMATION

### First Stage Completed

From February 16 to 20, there was a follow-up meeting regarding the New Models of Governance, Management and Animation Project with the participation of the Project Team, the International Commission, the Secretariats, the General Council, and ATKearney consulting.

The meeting had several goals: discussing the first draft of the Project's proposals for the future, and its implementation plan; reflecting about the strategic topics of the project; and seeking feedback from the General Council and the Secretariats regarding the proposals and the phase of interaction with the Administrative Units.



## GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

Last Monday and Tuesday the General Council facilitated two days of integration between the secretariats and other sectors of the General Administration. In addition to the general councillors, the directors and assistant directors of the secretariats, those in charge for the training programs, various members of the FMSI and other members of the General Administration, attended the event. The council also met members of FMSI and the Secretariat of Laity separately. The plenary session concluded today with the 2015 budget approval, and various agreements and decisions, resulting from the reflections made during the previous weeks. The Secretariat of Laity (Br. Javier Espinosa, Pep Buetas and Tony Clarke) met between the 20th and 24th of February, to discuss different themes of the Secretariat, mainly the organization of the meeting of lay animators that will be held in May at the General House.

All members of the FMSI (Geneva, Rome and Cono Sur) met in Rome between 23rd and 25th of February. On the 25th of February, there was the annual meeting of the Board of Administration of FMSI-ONLUS.

Brothers Tony Leon and Hipólito Pérez, from the Secretariat Brothers Today, met between 23rd and 26th of February, with the people in charge of the training programs of Manziana and El Escorial to plan the next scheduled meetings.

An entire year of work is crystallizing and condensing into this first draft, which the members of the different teams have studied. Small table discussion facilitated the work and elicited suggestions regarding people (the role of the brothers and the laity), the Marist Regions, and the international

character of the Institute and its members.

After completing the first phase, we now undertake the second part of the Project, in which the Administrative Units will play a key role, since they will be able to enrich the work done

so far. The input from the AUs, and a report summarizing information and contributions of various kinds, will be discussed at the international meeting to be held, God willing, in July this year in Rome.



# MASTER'S DEGREE IN SCHOOL LEADERSHIP AND MANAGEMENT

Mexico: Marist University of Guadalajara, Jalisco

This initiative of the Direction Staff Formation Commission of Western Mexico aims to provide better training to the direction staff in our Marist works, in response to the recent calls from the Institute formulated by the General Chapter. The program stems from the meetings of Florianopolis (2011) and Guadalajara (2013), and from the book "The Director's Management at the Service of the Mission". It intends to train the Marist direction staff to implement, as part of their educational mission, a formation process in the areas of pedagogy, spirituality, and Marist education principles. The program aims to enable Marist



managers – who must be the first promoters of Saint Marcellin Champagnat's legacy among children and young people – to lead school management processes that can make Jesus known and loved, in the style of Mary. They would do so by ensuring the quality of our ed-

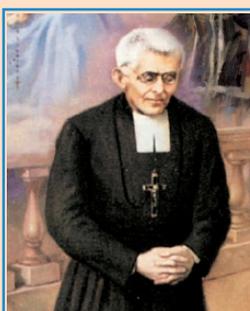
ucation/evangelization process and its sustainability, taking into account the present-day world scenarios and our integration into the Local Church, so that our schools can become prophetic spaces offering an integral formation, true human advancement, and human rights promotion, especially of children and young people.

Registration is open until March 2, and August 10, 2015. Classes begin on March 16, and August 23, 2015.

You can contact us and request information at [promocion\\_posgrado@umg.edu.mx](mailto:promocion_posgrado@umg.edu.mx). More info in <http://www.champagnat.org/400.php?a=6&n=3522>



## 1<sup>st</sup> March: Memory of Br. Alfano



Among our models of Marist holiness the most modest and the least known is certainly Bro. Alfano. He doesn't have the prestige of Father Champagnat, the Founder, nor that of Bro. François, first Superior General. He doesn't have the dimension of Bro. Basilio, Superior General: a man who lived in our world, after the historic pause of Vatican II and who crisscrossed and fertilized the Marist world. Nor does Alfano have the glory of martyrdom. His life was spent in houses of formation beginning in 1903: Master of Novices at 34 years of age in 1907, he will remain so for 15 years, then Director of Scholastics for 16 years. Modest situation which should be favorable to a religious whose ideal was effacement in a religious family where humility is one of its characteristics (<http://www.champagnat.org/400.php?a=6&n=3154>).

# DARE TO DREAM!

## International Marist Youth Meeting, 2016

**D**are to dream is the motto that will gather us at the 2016 International Marist Youth Meeting (IMYM) in Lyon, France, on the occasion of the 200th foundation anniversary of the Marist Brothers Institute and the promise of Fourvière, in connection with WYD 2016 in Cracow, Poland.

and intercultural family spirit, which will help them define their life project

as young Marists who live with Mary's attitudes in their heart.

From July 17 to 23, 400 young representatives from the four branches of the Marist Family will meet in Marcellin Champagnat's homeland to live an experience of brotherhood/sisterhood with an international, intercongregational,



We will launch the IMYM in April 2015 with the publication of the participation guidelines for each of the four Marist branches. There will also be a webpage of the meeting. The formation proposal that will help prepare this experience at the local level will be available for download in October 2015. The participation of as many youth groups as possible in this preliminary process is very important.



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# MARIST PRESENCE IN MOZAMBIQUE

## Province of Southern Africa

**O**n January 2, anniversary of the Institute, the dream of a new foundation in Mozambique has become true with the opening of a community in Bilene.

The Marists Brothers arrived in Mozambique in 1948. Today there are 13 Brothers in the country, five of which are native. There are seven Mozambicans in formation within the Province of Southern Africa: four novices in Matola, and three Brothers at MIC in Nairobi. Presently there are four communities in the country: Matola, Bilene, Manhiça and Nivava.

The provincial novitiate is in **Matola** (photo), under the direction of two brothers from Zambia, one from Portugal, and one from Spain. There are currently 24 novices: 14 in the first year, and 10 in the second.

The community of **Manhiça** directs a school with roughly 14 hundred students from a poor rural area. The brothers of this community are also dedicated to the pastoral work in



the parish. In **Bilene**, the brothers are recovering a school established by the Institute in 1970 and expropriated in 1975, which now the government is handing back to them. There are two brothers in **Nivava**, who are directing an elementary school located in a very large property, within a very poor and isolated area.



# ONLINE LENTEN RETREAT

## United States: Young Adult Program

Once again, the Marist Young Adult Program of the Province of the United States is offering an online Lenten retreat for our Marist community during the preparation to the celebration of the Easter.

Each Sunday during Lent, a short video with the retreat material is posted on YouTube. The video consists of a gospel reading, a reflection prepared

by a member of the Marist family, reflection questions and a suggested action. The reflection for the first week is offered by Br. James Hodge, a novice at the Marist Brothers Novitiate in Esopus, NY. Future reflections will be offered by Catherine Weening, a student at Pace University and a graduate of Marist High School in Bayonne, NJ; Michelle Khawam, a campus minister at Marist College; and novice brothers

Sam Amos and Jack O'Sullivan. The retreat requires a commitment of less than thirty minutes a week.

You are invited to use the material for your own reflection and to share the link with colleagues, students, family and friends. You can view the video by visiting this YouTube Canal: [https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC2fN1ur\\_G0L22BozhnZSfhQ](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC2fN1ur_G0L22BozhnZSfhQ)



## FMSI Cono Sur - UN looks to Chile through the eyes of their children

Countries that have ratified the Convention on the Rights of the Child must submit a report every 5 years, explaining the progress they have made for its application. Chile ratified the Convention 25 years ago and the last report was produced in 2012. To challenge the view of the state organizations, civil society can present their own "shadow reports". With these elements, the Committee on the Rights of the Child (a group of 18 experts from around the world) evaluates the status of "State Party" and poses recommendations.

After hearing the presentation by Chile, on behalf of FMSI Cono Sur, we coordinated with other organizations and drafted a report highlighting aspects, such as structural and legislative reforms childhood, inequality and discrimination, education, health, violence. During the first week of Feb-

ruary, there was a session in Geneva where civil society reports were presented. We were present, along with three other Chilean coalitions.

On Monday 2 February, an informal meeting was held at the offices of FMSI with Sara Oviedo, one of the two Latin Americans currently serving on the Committee. The four teenagers, who came in the delegation of Chile, had the opportunity to share what it means to represent the voices of many children and young people of their country.

On Tuesday 3 February, all Committee members received the teenagers at the headquarters of the High Commissioner for Human Rights. Then, we had two hours for the official session in which representatives of the coalitions released the findings and recommendations of our reports. On

Wednesday 4 February, the Permanent Mission of Chile received the entire national delegation. Marta Maurás, Ambassador to the International Organizations in Geneva, offered this space for the topics we discussed at the meeting with the Committee, their reactions and the next steps we could take. He also involved Hai Kyung Jun, UNICEF Representative in Chile, who accompanied him at the meeting with the Committee.

On Thursday 5 February, we met with Child Right Connect and delegations from several of these countries, sharing the process that we followed and best practices that we can replicate. It is shocking how such diverse and distant countries may have similar situations.

Br Álvaro Sepúlveda, FMSI Cono Sur

