

ONE MONTH AGO...

Marist International Colloquium on Initial Formation

At the opening liturgy of the Marist International Colloquium on Initial Formation, each of the participants brought a small vessel of water from their respective country, added to a regional bowl and ceremoniously poured the water into the Gier at L'Hermitage.

This is a symbol of the richness of the Marist world, which had gathered at our Mother House.

In a confluence of our experience and wisdom, we reflected, shared and imagined the future of Marist Initial Formation.

Ten days later, at the closing liturgy, each participant received a small bottle of Gier water to pour, share and distribute in their own part of the Institute.



Our Marist story, which originated in Lavalla and L'Hermitage, continues to flow after almost two hundred years.

Today...

We share with you this 'flow' with the text of the Our Beliefs, Perspectives and Recommendations of the Colloquium on Marist Initial Formation.

In addition, there is also a Visual Narrative of the experience and the spirit of this gathering, which are communicated more affectively without words.

May the confluence of this October gathering together with Our Good Mother and Jesus, be the influences for our New Beginning.



GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

- On November 10, Brother Emili attended the General Assembly of the EspYearla Conference of Religious in Madrid. He gave a lecture with the theme "Authority in the service of communion and mission."
- On 9 and 10 November, Brothers Joe McKee, Vicar General and Michael De Waas, General Councillor, visited communities of India.
- On Nov. 11 and 12 there was a meeting at the general hose on the project 'New Models of Animation, Government and Management.' Participants included the heads of the Secretariat of Mission, FMSI and the Secretariat of Collaboration Mission, International.

CRUZ DEL SUR PROVINCE HOLDS FIFTH CHAPTER

New provincial takes up office

The fifth chapter of the Cruz del Sur province was held at the Villa San José de Luján from Nov. 1 – 2, during which the Province’s management changed and the new provincial, Brother Alberto Aparicio, took up office during a Mass.

“It was a moving celebration in which Brother Horacio Bustos (the former provincial) shared some words of farewell and thanks,” stated the news site of the Province.

The chapter also designated its new provincial council, formed by Brothers Arturo Buet, Rubén Velázquez (Paraguay), José Kuhm, Demetrio Espinosa, Agustín Martínez, as well as the new provincial and the vice provincial, Brother Raúl Schönfeld.

Before the fifth provincial chapter, Marists gathered for an assembly from Oct. 30 – 31 in Luján to prepare supplies for the chapter members.

rectors and coordinators of educational works, references of areas of provincial animation, and other members of management teams and some youths from different areas of the province participated.



According to the site of the Province, there was “a great presence of Brothers and laity.” All of the chapter members, general di-

rectors and coordinators of educational works, references of areas of provincial animation, and other members of management teams and some youths from different areas of the province participated.

Brothers Eugène Kaban-guka and Víctor Preciado of the general council also took part. “It was two days of intense work in which all voices who spoke were listened to and, based on different assessments of the triennium, inputs were given for the provincial chapter to work on,” stated the Province in a publication dated Nov. 2.

Other informations in www.maristas-cruzdelsur.org.



MEETING OF THE EXTENDED SECRETARIAT OF LAITY IN SYDNEY

Creating spaces of dialogue on lay vocation

From Oct. 17 – 24 of 2015, the extended secretariat of laity gathered in Sydney, Australia, for its annual meeting.

The agenda was characterized by the study of topics provided by the Marist meeting with the local reality and coexistence of the group. The Secre-

tariat was especially focused on the general chapter of 2017, as part of our commitment to set the agenda topics of the Secretariat.

This included in particular vocational itineraries for lay people, the linking and belonging processes, the lay association, initial and permanent training

processes for lay and brothers jointly and the revision of the life Project of the Champagnat Movement of the Marist Family (MChFM).

Midway, in October 2016, the meeting of the Continental Committees will take place. It is hoped that in this encounter it be

possible to pick topics to guide the General Chapter.

The Secretariat organized the meeting for this purpose and has already sent its preparation for the Regions.

It is hoped to reach 2016 with a matured reflection.

The document "Basic elements for the design of a Global Framework of the Marist vocational discernment for laity" will be the basis for several of these issues.

But certainly, what was most struck all was the Marist life experienced during the meeting.

The province of Australia organised several visits and meetings, mainly with the intention of creating spaces for dialogue on the lay vocation, training processes, and the association. The group visited three schools contacting teachers and students.

It met with the brothers and lay people in the provincial residence and in the administrative centre; it



participated in the Footseps 2 programme, of the formation of the laity in Mittagong; aside from other spaces of living and sharing.

In that province of the Institute, it was verified that the Marist mission is carried out with the brothers and laity, in charismatic communion.

For the group, the annual meeting is

an opportunity to meet around the table, talk about family and work and pray together.

In the beautiful scenery of Sydney, this was all the more attractive.

The group thanks Brother Tony Clarke and his team for the encounter.

The group is formed by the director of the secretariat, Brother Javier Espinosa, by two codirectors, Brothers Pep Buetas of L'Hermitage and Tony Clarke of Australia, aside from representatives of

the regions: Inés Reyes of East Asia, Patricia Ríos of México Occidental, João Luis Gonçalves of Brasil Centro-Sul and Raúl Amaya of Santa María de los Andes.

Brother Sylvain Ramandimbarisoa of Madagascar was not able to take part.



EUROPE ORGANIZES ITSELF TO CREATE A MARIST NETWORK OF SCHOOLS

European Mission Team

The European Mission Team, a commission within the European Marist Conference (CEM), met in Athens from Oct. 26 – 27 to discuss the possibility of establishing a network of Marist schools in Europe.

"The idea of creating a network of Marist educational works in Europe was welcomed very well by the members of the meeting," said Brother João Carlos do Prado, director of the Mission Secretariat.

"It is important in order to guarantee the future of the

Marist mission in Europe," he told the general house press office on Oct. 29.

Eight countries within the area have Marist schools – Portugal, Spain, France, Ireland, Italy, Hungary, Greece and Lebanon.

The encounter took place within the meeting of the European Conference of Provincials, held from Oct. 25 – 29 also in Athens.

All of the provincials from Europe, including the newly appointed ones, and another representative from each Province participated.

The next steps will be to establish the type of network, how it will be organised and implemented, as well as its contents, by the next meeting of the CEM, which will take place from May 22 – 26 in Lisbon, Portugal.

The Mission Team will meet again in Spain on Dec. 18 in Alcalá de Henares and on Feb. 9 – 10 in Guardamar del Segura.

The situation of migrants and refugees

During the meeting, the Provinces discussed the initiatives they have taken to support migrants and refugees.

In the Compostela province, short-term stay will be available for migrants through Caritas and the Red Cross, as well as education for children.

Lardero, in the Ibérica province, is offering accommodation and the Mediterránea province affirmed it is offering homes through the Church.

L'Hermitage province recalled sending a letter to Brothers and communities in October with guidelines and criteria

for receiving migrants and refugees. The province explained it had experience from previous years, but that the numbers have increased due to the situation of Iraq and Syria.

The general house in Italy affirmed it is considering the types of help it will offer for temporary migrants and those who are requesting residency. It is also revising the spaces it will offer and reflecting on the implications this will have for the community.



FINAL VOWS IN NTEJE

Three Brothers made their Final Profession

Three Brothers made their Final Profession at Marist Comprehensive College, Nteje, on Saturday, 7th Nov, 2015, in Nigeria.

They were Eucharistus Osuagwu, Linus Ihuoma, and Emmanuel Tyokor.

The ceremony was presided by Bishop Dennis Isiuzoh, the Auxiliary Bishop of Onitsha Archdiocese.

The Provincial Superior of the Province of Nigeria, Br. Joachim Okoye-Ezetulugo received the Vows on behalf of the Superior General.

The Occasion was attended by Priests, Religious, the families of the Brothers and other lay faithful.



On the same day, Br. Rufus Eze celebrated his Golden Jubilee, while Br. Evans Okpalanachedo celebrated his Silver Jubilee.



13 FRATERNITIES OF THE ChMMF COMMEMORATE FOURVIÈRE YEAR

Superior general sends a video message to the ChMMF focusing on two aspects

Thirteen Marist fraternities of the provinces of México Central and México Occidental met from Oct. 30 – Nov. 1 in the town of San Juan de los Lagos in Mexico to prepare their 'Fourvière Year.'

The gathering, the twenty-first interprovincial meeting of the Champagnat Movement of the Marist Family (ChMMF), included a visit to the shrine of Our Lady of San Juan de los Lagos.

It also included two video messages, one from the Marist lay Ana Sarrate who asked them to be more visible in their communities and to show others how much they love each other.

The second video, from general superior Brother Emili Turú,



is an appeal for the fraternities to be a "Marian face of the Church" and to be "communities that are alive."



KEEP THE FLAME BURNING

ASSEMBLY OF THE MChFM CENTRAL-NORTH BRAZIL

From October 31 to November 2, the IV General Assembly of the Champagnat Movement of the Marist Family of the Province of North Central Brazil was celebrated in Belo Horizonte.

With the theme "Keep the flame burning", in this event the representatives of 17 Fraternities of the Province met to evaluate the work of the three past years 2013-2015 and to elect the new team of coordination for the next three years 2016-2018: José Geraldo de Siqueira, Márcia Sousa and Maria Luiza Ferreira. Starting from the analy-

sis and the reflection of the progress made and the challenges they had to face, the Fraternities in the past three years, proposed action in view of the next three years in order to strengthen the role of the Fraternities and of the new team of coordination which will begin its work on December 8th this year.

The Assembly also offered time and place for the reflection and the reform of the Internal Regulations of the Champagnat Movement and to choose three priorities that will guide the work of the

new team and the journey of the Fraternities. On this occasion Brother Adalberto Amaral, Provincial Councilor, made a presentation of the process of revitalization of the Champagnat Movement. The Supervisor of the Provincial Organizations, Brother James Pinheiro, offered an enlargement of the evangelizing and missionary work of the Province of North Central Brazil. The Coordinator of the animation of the laity, Eder D'Artagnan presented an overall view of the reality of the Marist laity in the Province and in the Institute.

