



# MARIST NEWS

400

Marist Brothers - General House - Rome

## NUMBER 400

### MARIST NEWS IS RENEWED

The general house press office created Marist News (NM) on 20 May 2008, Marcellin Champagnat's birth anniversary, to replace both "Latest News," aimed at Brothers, and "Marist Bulletin," aimed at lay people. NM is sent via email to around 5,000 subscribers in the Institute's four languages.

It is also printed and distributed to people without internet access in many places where there is Marist presence.

Marist News is a window through which the different shades of Marist life passes through our professional reporting. It aims to help spread the charism and create unity.

Having reached the 400th edition, we are taking the opportunity to offer a more elegant and sober version with renewed graphics.

The newsletter will now have six pages and give ample space to images and sections with news in brief.



## GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

Brother Emili Turú participated in the provincial chapter of México Central from Nov. 15 – 18.

The encounter of accompaniment of the community of Notre Dame de l'Hermitage, which Brother Javier Espinosa attended, ended on Nov. 19.

Brothers João Carlos do Prado and Miguel Ángel Espinosa took part in the general assembly of the Catholic International Education Office from Nov. 17 – 18.

They will also participate, alongside 30 Marists from around the world, in the Catholic Education World Congress in Rome until Nov. 21.

The first meeting of the Preparatory Commission for the next general chapter, to be held in 2017 in Colombia, will begin on Sunday at the general house.

## UNIVERSAL CHILDREN'S DAY NOVEMBER 20

The Universal Children's Day takes place on November 20. The United Nations General Assembly in 1954 recommended its celebration.

It aimed at encouraging all countries to establish an official day to: promote mutual exchange and understanding among children; launch an initiative to support and promote the well-being of children around the world; celebrate the Children's Day annually.

November 20 is also the anniversary of the day in which the UN's General Assembly adopted the Declaration of the Rights of the Child in 1959.

The Convention on the Rights of the Child was also approved that same day in 1989, and since then 196 States have ratified it.



## II

**We are all conscious that, thanks to Marcellin Champagnat, we have received a special gift in the spirit of family which binds us together in a certain warmth and simplicity; a spirit that has a great power of attraction for many people.**

Br. Charles Howard,  
Circular, 1991

## II

### GROWING OPENNESS TO THE LAITY OCEANIA MARIST ANIMATOR'S COURSE

In early 1993, Br Charles Howard affirmed the Institute's need for 'growing openness to the laity.' He said that lay people will bring new facets of the Marist charism 'as they go about living it more fully.'

An experience of Marists living the charism together took place in Brisbane, Australia, from Nov. 1 – 5.

21 Marists from Oceania, including representatives from New Zealand, Fiji, Kiribati, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Papua New Guinea, Bougainville and Australia, chosen for their roles as leaders and animators of faith in their community, gathered and lived together for four days to share wisdom and insights on how to grow Marist life into the future.

The Oceania Marist Animator's Course gave participants an opportunity to deepen their knowledge and understanding of the Marist charism, the current theology of the discipleship, and the role and responsibility Marists have in the Church.

We were challenged in our perceptions of what it means to be Marist apostles, mystics and prophets for

our time. We journeyed further into the true meaning of vocation and ways to grow within it. Time was also spent analysing frameworks of formation and effective vocational processes for growing Marist life.

In the peaceful and beautiful surroundings of the Santa Teresa Spirituality Centre we lived together, danced and sang together, prayed together and opened our hearts to our own and each others' realities across the region of Oceania.

#### ONLINE NEWS

- Secretariat of Mission- Marists Chile
- Interprovincial Novitiate, La Valla, Medellin
- Secretariat of Mission of the Marist Sector of Peru
- News in brief - Province of Canada
- Informational page - Prov. Méditerranéenne

<http://goo.gl/037o67>

NEWS IN BRIEF

**30 MARISTS ARE PARTICIPATING IN A CONGRESS PROMOTED BY THE VATICAN**

Around 30 Marists from around the world, including brothers and laity, gathered at the general house for a fraternal encounter on Nov. 18 before the start of a congress on education, promoted by the Holy See and the Catholic International Education Office (OIEC). The congress "Educating Today and Tomorrow. A passion that is renewed" is taking place in Rome from Nov. 18 – 21.

**CHAPTER IN THE PROVINCE OF MÉXICO CENTRAL**

The chapter took place from Nov. 15 - 18 with the participation of Br Emili Turú. Br José Sánchez Bravo took office as Provincial. The new members of the Provincial Council are: Daniel Herrera, Juan Carlos Robles Gil, Javier Salcedo, Justino Gómez, Luiz Felipe González and Rodrigo Espinoza.

**FMSI: NOVEMBER 20**

In view of the Universal Children's Day, celebrated on November 20th, FMSI launches an initiative to call attention on the rights of Infancy and to stimulate the debate on this theme. The material published in the last 10 days is available at <http://goo.gl/xnWtoJ>

**BR. EMILI TURÚ IN CONFERENCE**

The Superior General gave a talk at the General Assembly of the Spanish Conference of Religious on Nov. 10. The title of the conference was "The Authority at the service of communion and mission." The text can be downloaded at <http://goo.gl/816YVj>

**TANZANIA: MEETING OF THE SUPERIORS OF THE COMMUNITIES OF EAST-CENTRAL AFRICA**



Brother Antonio Ramalho and Ernesto Sánchez, General Councilors had an encounter of exchange and formation with the Superiors of the communities of Central-East Africa (PACE), as part of the process of visitations and accompaniment of the Province. The encounter took place from the 6 to 9 November in Mwanza, Tanzania, in a house for encounters close to our Postulancy and School of the city.

The objectives of the meeting were:

- The opportunity to listen and share on the present reality of the Province, in view of the next Provincial Chapter.
- To share and deepen on the three central themes of the preparation of the New Centenary of the Marist Institute: Mission (Montagne), fraternity (Fourvière) and interiority (La Valla).
- To support the Brothers Superior in their function as animators of community.
- To share the experiences and concerns of the young Brothers (continuation of the 3 days of a similar meeting which was held in Nairobi, during the month of July).

19 Brothers participated in the encounter, including the Brothers Provincial Councilors and the two General Councilors. The participants greatly appreciated the methodology used, because it was dynamic, participative, and experiential and of great help to

interiority. Someone said: "The methodology has helped me in introspection but also to take the means which will help me and will help the Province to progress".

The fact of being able to be together and to deal with the provincial reality in an open and fraternal way was also stressed in the evaluation by several of the participants: "The value of coming together, sense of belonging..." "I learnt a lot from my fellow brothers". The nearness of the Marist house also allowed the group to be in contact and live with the school, with the Brothers of the community and with the Postulants.

AVAILABLE VIDEOS

- **Lebanon:** Committed to the rights of displaced children <http://goo.gl/sBA2ty>
- **Fratelli Project:** visit to a building in Sidon <http://goo.gl/y5aiXZ>
- **Br Emili Turú:** committed to the Rights of Children <http://goo.gl/UWkMJm>
- **Brothers Today:** International Colloquium on initial formation <https://youtu.be/7hX9vp1hhFc>

## MARIST WORLD



Sekoly Champagnat Anatihazo  
Antananarivo, Madagascar



Assembly of the Catholic International  
Education Office in Rome



Camp in the future Education Centre  
Education in Mar del Plata, Argentina



Marist Primary School  
in Trichy, India



Solomon Islands: St Joseph's Catholic  
Secondary School



Brothers Today team of the  
Mediterránea Province in Malaga, Spain

## CHARISMATIC FAMILIES IN DIALOGUE

### ENCOUNTER OF 70 RELIGIOUS CONGREGATIONS

Within the year of Consecrated Life, the Association of Members of General Curias (AMCG) convoked an Encounter, in Rome for the 7 and 8 of November, of the charismatic families which have developed from the foundational charisma of Religious Congregations. The invitation awakened great interest in many of these families. The encounter brought together 155 participants (one third laity, men and women) of 70 Religious Congregations, representing 52 charismatic families, among these ours, Marists of Champagnat. Gianluca Mauriello and Rosa Ciccarelli (mixed community of Giugliano), Pep Buetas (Secretariat of the Laity of the Institute) and Br. Pau Fornells (Secretary of the Superior General) represented our family.

This has been the first time that a meeting of these characteristics is promoted by the General Curias, thus



Rosa Ciccarelli and Gianluca Mauriello (Giugliano), Pep Buetas (Barcelona) and Br Pau Fornells (General House).

responding to the call of Pope Francis to religious congregations to contemplate the present moment of consecrated life also in relation to the laity, as a broad expression of the charisma that the Spirit has aroused in the Church.

The encounter has allowed to satisfy the expectations of mutual knowledge, of a collective becoming aware before one of the signs of the strongest ecclesial moments, and to establish contacts and share experiences.

For us, Marist Family of Champagnat the challenges are important, from our own identification of the concept and the significance of the expression charismatic family up to the implications of the new relationship between brothers and laity based on communion.

To participate in these encounters helps us to continue on our own journey and to appreciate it with greater hope if possible.

We are on the road of the future without return, with the dream to continue offering to the world the gift that the Spirit aroused in Marcelin Champagnat.



Participants of the permanent formation course in Rome

## PERMANENT FORMATION COURSE

### ENGLISH THIRD AGE PILGRIMAGE TO FRANCE

From Nov 2 - 13, 16 Marist Brothers that form part of the English Third Age Programme at the general house in Rome, as well as the team of two Brothers and their Marianist chaplain, travelled to France to visit our Marist "foundation places."

For a number of our pilgrims, it was their second time visiting Notre Dame de l'Hermitage but the restorations made at the Hermitage as well as at the other Marist places were something very new and impressive for them. In addition to the Hermitage, we also visited Marlies, Le Rosey, La Valla, Les Maisonnettes, Fourvière, Le Puy, St. Genis Laval as well as the sites of the Montagne experience and the Memorare in the Snow. We enjoyed the hospitality of the communities at Hermitage, La Valla and Le Rosey and were made to feel very much at home.

A special part of the pilgrimage experience – and one quite appropriate for our "Fourvière year," was the chance

to visit the foundation places of the other branches of our Marist Family and share Eucharist, prayer and a fine meal with each of them.

We traveled to La Neylière to visit the Marist Fathers and the South Pacific mission museum which they have recently opened and saw a very well done media presentation of the foundation of the Fathers.

We celebrated the Eucharist in the chapel there near the tomb of Father Colin. On the morning of our visit to Fourvière, we made a stop at the Marist Missionary Sisters at St. Foy le Lyon. There we saw an excellent presentation on the difficulties and successes of the foundation of our SMSM Sisters. Once again we were privileged to share Eucharist with the Sisters and then we enjoyed a great meal and wonderful company.

Our final visit was to Belley and the Marist Sisters. Sister Teri O'Brien was

## RIO GRANDE DO SUL



### Brother Geandir Wermann makes his perpetual profession

Brother Geandir Wermann, of the Rio Grande do Sul Province made his perpetual profession on Nov. 1.

The celebration, which meant his definite entrance into the Marist Institute, took place in Santo Cristo, Brazil. Bishop Dom Liro Vendelino Meurer presided the ceremony and the provincial superior, Brother Inácio Nestor Etges, received Br Geandir's votes on behalf of the superior general.

Br Geandir chose Psalm 23, 'the Lord is my shepherd,' as his theme.

The 31-year-old has been on a Marist way of life for the past 14 years. He entered the juniorate at Santo Ângelo in 2001 and in 2004 he entered the novitiate of Passo Fundo. He made his first profession in 2006 and worked for some time in Angola and in the field of vocational promotion.

He currently works at the Marist Social Centre (Cesmar) of Porto Alegre, a social unit which looks after 1,200 children and young people.

a great host to us giving an informative presentation on Jeanne Marie Chavoïn and the foundation of the Sisters. While in Belley, we also visited the site where the first Marist Fathers, Father Champagnat among them, made their first vows as Marists.

We returned to Rome very appreciative of our beginnings and also of our relationship with our other Marist branches.

Thank you to the community at the Hermitage for their many kindnesses to us during our stay and especially to our guide, Brother Allan De Castro.



Third age brothers celebrate in La Valla, where the Institute was founded in 1817.

## ECONOMIC AFFAIRS: ICEA HOLDS ENCOUNTER IN JOHANNESBURG

The International Council of Economic Affairs finished its encounter in Johannesburg from Nov. 3 – 6 with positive outcomes, including a foresight into next year’s budget for the general house.

“There is a general compromise to insert data with transparency into the Domus programme,” said Brother Libardo Garzón, the Institute’s economé general.

“Domus” is the software for the economic management of the Institute.

“One can tell that progress is being gradually made in the quality of information that is being inserted,” he told the general house press office on Nov. 10. The Council, known as ICEA, gathered information from 10 provinces out of 29 provinces and districts to analyse the Institute’s economic situation. “The meeting had three purposes,” said Br Libardo, who is the coordinator of ICEA. “First, to give continuity to the elaboration of the ICEA’s work plan.”

“Secondly, to analyse the financial situation of the congregation, based on the data the provincial administrators inserted,” he added. “And finally, to foresee the budget of the general house for the year 2016.”

The meeting included Br Libardo, director of FMSI’s Rome bureau Brother Mario Meuti, the provincial administrator of the Ibérica province in Spain, Brother Alfonso Fernández, and Brasil Centro-Sul’s provincial administrator, Brother Jorge Gaio.



From left to right: Br Jorge Gaio, Br Libardo Garzón, Bernard Kenna, Adrienne Egbers, Br Alfonso Fernández, Br Mario Meuti and Everson Ismael.

Australia’s provincial administrator, Bernard Kenna, member of the commission of economic affairs in the Southern Africa province Adrienne Egbers and the financial analyser of Brasil Centro-Sul province, Everson Ismael de Oliveira,

also attended. The financial administrator of the Pontifical University Rio Grande do Sul, Paolo Roberto Franco, was not able to participate. The next meeting of ICEA will be in the general house in Rome in May.

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Our site: <http://www.champagnat.org>

YouTube channel:

<https://www.youtube.com/user/champagnatorg>

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