



MARIST NEWS

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Marist Brothers - General House - Rome

YEAR FOURVIÈRE

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE GENERAL COUNCILS OF THE MARIST FAMILY

The General Councils of the four Marist Congregations - Sisters, Fathers, Missionary Sisters and Brothers – had their annual meeting in the Brothers' house at Manziana (Rome region), from 14 to 16 January.

These meetings, serve to share the most significant events of the life of each Marist branch in a fraternal atmosphere. This year, it was also an occasion to finalize the preparations for the International Meeting of Marist Youth and the joint celebration of the Pledge of Fourvière (Lyon, July 2016).

The group studied the encyclical of Pope Francis, *Laudato Si'* and reflected as to how they could respond to the urgent call to care for the earth, our common home. In the closing Eucharist, they thanked the General Council of the Marist Missionary Sisters SMSM, whose mandate comes to a close



during their general chapter in the month of February.

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

The General Council's plenary session began on Jan. 18 and will finish on Feb. 26.

After a first round of planning and sharing experiences of recent months, the GC spent the first days working on several issues. They discussed the internal organisation of the General House, the Secretariat of Collaboration for Mission, International (CMI), the Fratelli Project, the formation sessions for the third age, the preparation of the upcoming expanded General Councils and the appointment of staff for different tasks.

On Jan. 21, Brothers Tony Leon and Hipólito Gómez, directors of the Secretariat Brothers Today, took part in the encounter of the team "All Brothers", of the congregations of Brothers.

On Jan. 22, Br Tony Leon is participating in the Vatican's ecumenical meeting for young people with the Pontifical Council for Promoting Christian Unity.

JANUARY - MARCH 2016

CALENDAR OF THE GENERAL COUNCIL AND DIRECTORS OF SECRETARIATS

Jan. 11 – Feb. 26: plenary session of the General Council in Rome.

Jan. 11 – 14: New Models of Animation, Government and Management meeting for Arco Norte in Guadalajara, Mexico: Br Joao Carlos do Prado and Luca Olivari.

Jan. 14 – 16: meeting of the Marist family in Manziana, Italy with the general councils of the Marist Brothers, the Marist Fathers, the Marist Sisters and the Marist Missionary Sisters.

Jan. 21: "All Brothers – Todos Hermanos – Tous Frères – Todos Irmãos" meeting: Br Tony Leon and Br Hipólito Gómez

Jan. 22: Ecumenical Youth Meeting at the Vatican's Pontifical Council for Promoting Christian Unity: Br Tony Leon

Jan 28. – Feb. 2: International Congress on Consecrated Life for in Rome for the closing of the Year of Conse-

crated Life: general administration and other Brothers.
Jan. 30 – Feb. 2: visit to the novitiate of Florianopolis, Brazil: Br Miguel Angel Espinosa Barrera

Feb. 3: Encounter of Educators in L'Hermitage for the New Models project: Br Joao Carlos do Prado

Feb. 3 - 6: International Commission of Brothers Today meeting at the General House: Br Tony Leon and Br Hipólito Gómez

Feb. 4 – 5: New Models of Animation, Government and Management meeting at the General House: Luca Olivari and Brothers Chris Wills, Joao Carlos do Prado, Mario Meuti and Miguel Angel Espinosa Barrera.

Feb. 8 – 12: visit to the Fratelli Project in Sidon and Beirut, Lebanon: Brother Chris Wills, Collaboration for Mission, International Director

Feb. 8 – 12: encounter of the Conference of Superiors on the African Continent in Nairobi, Kenya: Vicar General Brother Joe Mc Kee and general councillor Brother Antonio Ramalho.

Feb. 8 – 13: meeting of the commission for the revision of the Constitutions in the General House: General Councillor Brother Josep Maria Soteras as coordinator.

Feb. 9: Encounter of the Youth and Vocational Ministry Team in Alcalá, Spain: Br Tony Leon and Br Hipólito Pérez.

Feb. 9 – 10: Meeting of the European Commission of Mission in Guardamar, Spain: Br Miguel Angel Espinosa Barrera.

Feb. 15 – 17: Extended project team of the New Models of Animation, Government and Management at the General House: Luca Olivari and Brothers Miguel Angel Espinosa Barrera, Mario Meuti, Chris Wills and Joao Carlos do Prado.

Feb. 15 – 19: First phase of the Africa workshop for the Provinces of PACE and Madagascar in Nairobi, Kenya: Br Libardo Garzón and Br Mario Meuti.

Feb. 15 – 22: encounter with the co-directors of the secretariat of the laity in the General house: Brother Javier Espinosa.

Feb 18 – 19: integration days of the general council and the directors of the secretariats at the General House.

Feb. 18 – April 21: Programme for community animators in Manziiana, Italy, and El Escorial, Spain: Br Tony Leon and Br Hipólito Pérez.

Feb. 22 – 23: Ad Hoc meeting of the International Office of Catholic Education at the General House: Br Miguel Angel Espinosa Barrera and Br Joao Carlos do Prado.

Feb. 24 – March 2: Meeting with the Community Animators at El Escorial, Spain, and Manziiana, Italy: Br Tony Leon and Br Hipólito Gómez

Feb. 22 – 26: Second phase of the Africa workshop for the Provinces of PACE and Madagascar. The PACE Province will hold it in Nairobi, Kenya, and the Madagascar Province will hold it in Madagascar: Br Libardo Garzón and Br Mario Meuti.

Feb. 22 – 26: Second encounter of the Preparatory Commission of the 22nd General Chapter: Brothers Joe McKee, Pau Fornells, Carlos Huidobro.

Feb. 23 – 26: Encounter with the accompaniment team

of the Hermitage community: Brother Javier Espinosa.
Feb. 28 – March 12: visit to the Pacific District in several cities across the District: Br Miguel Angel Espinosa Barrera and Br Joao Carlos do Prado.

March 1 – 5: Extended General Council meeting in Florianopolis, Brazil: Superior general and the General Council, Luca Olivari, the Provincials and Provincial Councils of the Region Brasil-Cono Sur.

March 8 – 11: Extended General Council meeting in Quito, Ecuador: Superior general and the General Council, Luca Olivari, the Provincials and Provincial Councils of the Region Arco Norte.

March 13 – 16: Visit to the Province of Australia: Brothers Miguel Angel Espinosa Barrera, Chris Wills, Joao Carlos do Prado and Josep Maria Soteras.

March 15 – 20: the International Commission of Mission in Sydney: Brothers Josep Maria Soteras, Chris Wills, Joao Carlos do Prado and Miguel Angel Espinosa Barrera.

March 20 – 24: Oceania council meeting in Sydney, Australia: Br Josep Maria Soteras, Br Joao do Prado and Br Miguel Angel Espinosa Barrera

March 22 – 25: visit to the East Asia Province in Singapore: Brothers Josep Maria Soteras, Gabriel Villa-Real and Joao Carlos do Prado travel.

March 28 – April 1: Provincial Chapter of West Central Europe in Freising, Germany: Br Emili Turú, Br Ernesto Sánchez and Br Joao Carlos do Prado.

March 30 – April 4: Encounter of the directors of the Americas in Lima, Peru: Br Miguel Angel Espinosa Barrera.

March 31 – April 3: Encounter of the European Commission of laity in Germany: Br Javier Espinosa.

MARIST LAITY - BULLETIN 11

This issue marks the beginning of the New Year. In 2016, we will keep walking towards the Bicentenary and the 22nd General Chapter. We all feel the challenge of implementing the intuitions that are emerging in relation to this "new beginning", which launches our third century of life as an Institute. The Secretariat team feels deeply connected to all the initiatives in this regard, such as the reflection on the new Constitutions, the new management models, and the preparation of the next General Chapter with the fruits we expect. In this regard, our Three-year Plan includes a full-team meeting of the five Regional Commissions in October this year at the Hermitage. This international space for dialogue aims at agreeing on the proposals and suggestions to the Chapter, which should somehow give shape to this new beginning for the Marist charism in the communion between brothers and laity.

Download PDF:

<http://www.champagnat.org/000.php?p=341>

NEWS IN BRIEF

CONO SUR

A meeting of the youth of the Cono Sur region is taking place in Cochabamba (Bolivia) from Jan. 20 – 24. Br Saturnino Alonso Ortega, Provincial of Santa María de los Andes, is among the participants. Br Isidro is animating the encounter. One of the days was enriched with the presence of many young people from Bolivia.

PHILIPPINES

The Marist family of the Philippines met in the General Santos City on Jan. 16 for the 200th anniversary of the Fourvière promise and to recall the essential Marist intuition during the Year of Mercy.

SOLIDARITY MISSION

During the month of January, the period of school vacation, around 500 students and alumni of the Brasil Centro-Sul province are helping residents of people living in communities of social vulnerability and exclusion. This is happening in four Brazilian cities: Curitiba, Paiçandu, Caçador and Sao Paulo.

FRATELLI PROJECT

The first activity supporting Iraqi refugee children and families has started in Lebanon, in collaboration with the Organisation INSAN and Sad El Baouchriye in Beirut.

MARIST YOUTH MINISTRY

This week, from Wednesday to Thursday, the students of Christopher Columbus High School in Miami, U.S., to part in a youth retreat.

MARIST SAINTS

Br Basilio Rueda and Br François were recalled on Jan. 21. Information on the Marist saints is available at <http://www.champagnat.org/530.php?p=177>

BROTHER PERE FERRÉ REFLECTS ON THE PATHS OF THE PROVINCE

NEW PROVINCIAL OF THE PROVINCE L'HERMITAGE

Brother Pere Ferré has been appointed as new Provincial of L'Hermitage for a three-year term and will take up office during the next Provincial Chapter on Aug. 2.

Superior General Brother Emili Turú made the announcement in a letter to the Brothers of the Province of L'Hermitage dated Dec. 22.

"I wish to thank Brother Maurice Berquet for his continued and generous service in this important service of leadership over the last six years," stated Br Emili, referring to the previous Provincial.

In reference to Br Pere, the Superior underscored that he thanks him in advance "for his openness and availability to serve the Institute acting as a Provincial."

The new Provincial affirmed that there is a "fascinating challenge of life, a gift of the Lord to accompany, like Mary, with confidence and hope."

In a statement released by Br Pere, he reflected on some of the paths of the Province and of the Institute that "are already present and we can further develop."

He pointed to the need for "the presence and the accompaniment of brothers, communities and laity in their vocation and in strengthening their spirituality."



Br Pere stressed the importance of the formation of Marist leaders to animate and coordinate the mission in the coming years and of searching for new ways of living out the communion between brothers and laity.

He reflected also on the implementation of new ways of animation, management and government in different areas of Marist life as well as the sense of belonging to a global, international body, with concrete commitments of fraternal solidarity.

The new provincial finally pointed to the need of an openness and sensitivity to situations of children and young people that require bold responses.

BR PERE FERRÉ'S BIOGRAPHY

Br Pere studied in two Marist schools growing up in Badalona and in Barcelona, Spain. After a few years as animator of pastoral groups, he entered the novitiate in Lerida where he made his first profession in 1988.

He completed his post novitiate in Alcalá de Henares and Barcelona, and began a community of insertion in Santa Coloma de Gramenet alongside two brothers where he combined social and parish collaboration with his work in the Marist school of

MARIST WORLD



Brasil Centro-Sul
Caçador - Marist Mission



Spain: Brothers of les Avellanes with
the images of Our Lady of Fourvière



Hungary: Győri Marista
Laikus Csoport



Philippines: 1st Marist Family Gathering -
General Santos



India: Trichy - Marist Nursery & Primary
School



Marist Vocacional meeting
Brasil Centro-Norte

Badalona.
After his final vows in 1994, he took a formation course for formators from 1996 – 1998 in Valpré, France, before working in vocational minis-

try and forming postulants.
From 2001 – 2009 he was master of novices in the interprovincial novitiate of Seville and later spent a year in the community and school of Le-

rida.
He studied pharmacy, religious science and psychology and is serving as provincial vicar from 2010 to Aug. 2016.

ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION CENTRE IN NORTHLAND, NEW ZEALAND

The Champagnat Marist community of Kaikohe, in Northland, is involved in a number of activities to support young people in a marginalised rural area of New Zealand. The town is about 75Kms from where Bishop Pompallier and the first Brothers sent by Marcellin Champagnat arrived in 1838.

Three days a week the Brothers support the local alternative education centre. This caters for approximately 15 students who have been excluded from local secondary schools. The Brothers work with students in their on-line literacy and numeracy programmes through the Correspondence School.

The Brothers also assist in providing support for Correspondence School students from remote rural areas who are unable to access secondary schooling due to their isolation. The Correspondence School Tutors come to Kaikohe every fortnight. The Brothers have been able to extend the programme so that students are able to access this assistance weekly.

Once a Term, Enviro Skills offers an over-night camp for twenty-five students from remote areas to learn agricultural skills such as chain sawing, possum trapping, skinning and fur plucking, quad bike safety and maintenance, First Aid and fencing. These courses are registered with the National Qualifications Authority and provide an employment pathway for many students.





CHAMPAGNAT MOVEMENT OF THE MARIST FAMILY

FRATERNITY NOSSA SENHORA DA ASSUNÇÃO FORTALEZA, BRASIL CENTRO-NORTE

In our site we are sharing some witnesses of Marist Fraternities which are projected in social centers, parishes, schools... with a strong dimension of solidarity that integrates it with their family and professional obligations. Today we present the Fraternity Fraternity Nossa Senhora da Assunção – Fortaleza (Province Brasil Centro-Norte) .

Solidarity Projection in the spirit of Saint Marcellin

The Fraternity Our Lady of the Assumption was founded on December 8, 1988. At present it is formed by 13 members, 8 women and 5 men. Most of them have worked or maintained some type of identification with the ancient Marist School Cearense. Today not one of them works with the Marists. Nevertheless, we can see that they continue to be firm and much more committed. And therefore, this proves that they are imbued with the spirit of Saint Marcellin and that they remain faithful to his Charism.

From the beginning of this historical journey of 27 years of lived experience of the Christian and Marist dimensions, the members of the Fraternity have felt the need to commit themselves with concrete gestures of solidarity, at the level of the group as well as individually. The majority of them are committed in the Parishes and religious communities of the neighborhood where they reside. It is well to mention that their apostolate is permeated by the spirituality of the Champagnat Movement. Another fact that can be pointed out is that among the members of the Fraternity, there are six Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion. We can also mention other activities carried out by the Fraternity: care of the elderly; presence, support and distribution of food to communities in need; financial help to those in need; material help taking care of children with cancer; help and presence in pastoral ministry with destitute people on the street; decisive participation in the creation of new fraternities. At present, the concrete objective of the Fraternity is the support to two entities in need and every time they have the occasion to do it, they speak about the importance of being a Marist Brother.

VIDEOS

* Programa Pueblo de Dios (RTVE): Instituto Tecnológico K'itché de Guatemala: <http://www.champagnat.org/401.php?a=6&id=2850>

* Forty-eight Brothers gathered in the Marist College of Brisbane, Australia, to address some of the challenges in the region of Oceania: <http://www.champagnat.org/401.php?a=6&id=2851>

* Video detailing the similarities and differences of the four branches of the Marist Family: <http://www.champagnat.org/400.php?a=6&n=3829>

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The **lay life** originates, as does all Christian vocation, from the response to our encounter with God, who loves us infinitely. It is the fruit of our baptism which directs all of us to that unique **Christian mission**: to give witness of the Kingdom of God in this world *(Gathered around the same table, 5)*.

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BROTHER BASILIO RUEDA ON HIS WAY TO SAINTHOOD

DIOCESAN PROCESS ENDS AND HIS CANONIZATION CAUSE IS PASSED TO THE VATICAN

The first phase of a Brother Basilio's cause for canonization finished on Jan. 13 with a celebration held at the Marist University of Guadalajara.

The event, presided by Cardinal Francisco Robles Ortega, meant the Vatican will now continue with the case of Brother Basilio Rueda Guzmán.

For his beatification, one miracle

is required to have taken place through his intercession and a second one to be proclaimed a saint.

The Colegio México de Nuevo Laredo school stated in Facebook "the Marists of Mexico share with joy that the path towards sainthood of Brother Basilio Rueda Guzmán, proudly Mexican, continues firmly on its way.

ON 21 JANUARY WE REMEMBER THE DATE OF HIS DEATH AND CELEBRATE HIS MEMORY

Br Basilio was born in 1924 in Acatlán de Juárez, México, and lost his mother when he was just four years old.

From 1965 to 1967 he was appointed director of the novitiate in Sigüenza and then in el Escorial, Spain, where he revolutionized the courses through modern content. He made them more human centering them in the Gospel and being open to the appeal of the Vatican Council II and the problems of modern life.

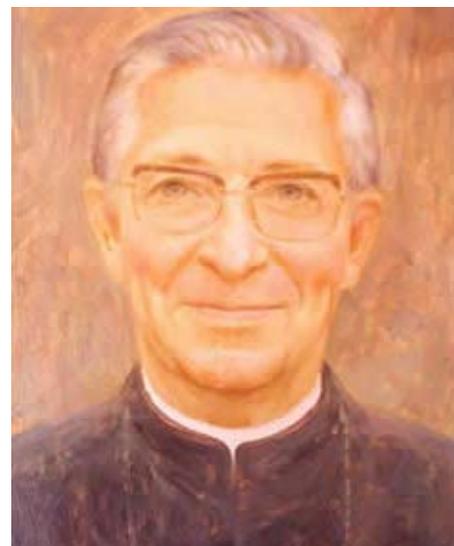
In 1967 he was chosen as Superior General for nine years, a surprise to many since he had never been previously appointed as General Councillor or Provincial.

After 18 years as General Superior, he took a sabbatical year in 1985, of which he dedicated a good amount to prayer and visited the Holy Land. He wrote over 2,500 pages of circulars, spiritually accompanied many Brothers and other people, he gave hundreds of retreats and wrote over 50,000 letters to friends, priests, alumni and Brothers.

In 1986, he returned to Mexico and was appointed as head of novitiates of México Central and, invited by Br Charles Howard, he put great effort into launching the Marist Family.

From 1991 – 1996, he became head of novitiates in both of the Mexican provinces and was very close to the youth.

When he died on Jan. 21, 1996, he was cremated, according to his will, and his ashes rest in the Quinta Soledad, provincial home of México Central.



Brother Basilio Rueda

BROTHER FRANÇOIS

Brother François received from Marcellin a Congregation of 280 brothers and 48 schools; he placed in the hands of Brother Louis Marie a Congregation of 2086 brothers and 379 schools. With these numbers, we must consider the new houses of formation that had to be opened, the formators to be prepared, the young brothers to follow, a dense correspondence and formalities for the foundation of each new school and with what prudence he would have to advance. Under Brother François our Congregation covered all of France and overlapped into Belgium and England with the missions in Oceania continuing.

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