



FRANCE: PREPARATIONS CONTINUE FOR THE INTERNATIONAL GATHERING OF MARIST YOUTH IN LYON



A **varied programme** has been prepared and we hope it is **very appealing**

Fr Alejandro Muñoz (SM)



As preparations continue in the L'Hermitage Province for the International Gathering of Marist Youth in Lyon, France, one of the members of the organising committee said he hopes the youth will feel attracted to the programme.

"A varied programme has been prepared and we hope it is very appealing," said Marist Father Alejandro Muñoz, a member of the committee.

"We will dedicate a day to listen to the reality of the youth that participate, and another day to hear about our own founders and pioneers," he told the general house press office on Feb. 17.

"A day will be dedicated to talk about the Marists of today, another to talk

about today's world, another to reflect on our personal call and a final day to celebrate the Fourvière Promise." Forty volunteers will animate the event, which will gather 400 youths from the four Marist branches – the Marist

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

- From March 1 – 5 the Extended Provincial Council is meeting in Florianopolis, Brazil, with the participation of the General Council and the governments of the six administrative units of Brazil and Cono Sur, which is now officially one of the Institute's regions.
- After the Extended Council, the animators of the AUs will meet on March 6 and 7 with Br João

Carlos do Prado, Luca Olivari and Br Víctor Preciado to discuss the New Models Project.

- From Feb. 25 – 26, Brothers Tony Leon and Hipólito Pérez accompanied the Brothers who are meeting in Manziana and from Feb. 29 – March 1, the Brothers meeting in El Escorial. The encounter of community animators, which will finish in April, is taking place in both houses.



Brothers, Fathers, Sisters and Missionary Sisters. Two hundred and fifty of them are from the branch of the Marist Brothers.

After meeting from July 17 – 23 in Lyon, some of the youth will travel the following week to Krakow, Poland, for the World Youth Day, which will include Pope Francis.

Religious of the four branches, the four general superiors and their councils will also participate. The encounter will include a dialogue between the superiors general and the youth.

“The theme of the meeting is ‘Dare to Dream’ and that is what the invitation will be about,” said Fr Alejandro. “To dare to dream, like that group of young people did 200 years ago.”

“Fourvière is a promise that has given us a lot of life and has certainly given a lot of service to the world,” he added.

The encounter will focus on the celebration of the promise at Fourvière 200 years ago by a few young seminarians, and the preparation of the bicentennial of the founding of the Marist Brothers.

According to Fr Alejandro, the programme will include “moments in which we are together, moments in small communities throughout the encounter, moments in which the youth of the four Marist branches will visit historical places such as L’Hermitage, La Neylière, Belle and Sainte-Foy.”

“And, of course, they will visit the marvellous and historical city of Lyon,” he stated.

The gathering will take place in the Marist School of Sainte Marie Lyon – La Solitude, located on the hill of Fourvière and the youth will stay at the Lycée Aux Lazaristes high school.

The organising committee is formed by Fr Ad Blommerde (SM), Br Ramón Rúbies (FMS), Br André Déculty (FMS), Sr Marie José de Prévile (SMSM), Br Gabriel Vila-Real (FMS), Fr Teri O’Brien (SM), Sr Aubierge Amousou (SMSM), Bridget Chaignon, Sr Anne McCabe (SM), Sr Apolina Ikauno (SMSM), Br Miguel Ángel Espinosa Barrera (FMS), Fr Alejandro Muñoz (SM).

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MARIST UNION OF BRAZIL: THE ORDINARY ASSEMBLY ELECTS NEW POSTS



The Marist Union of Brasil, known as UMBRASIL, celebrated its twelfth ordinary general assembly on Feb. 18 – 19. During the event, the new members of the organisation’s management team took up office and approved the projects for 2016. Brother Joaquim Esperandio, the new president of the Council, spoke about the Marist spirit that prevails in Brazil and appealed for it to increase among Marists.

“We are living in an environment of unity and openness of heart,” stated Br Joaquim. “It would be really good that that would increasingly intensify among us.”

“We need to walk together, integrated and thinking about what is best for the Marist Brazil,” he added.

UMBRASIL was founded in 2005 and is formed by three Brazilian provinces. During the assembly, the following brothers took up these positions: Brothers Joaquim Sperandio, Brasil Centro-Sur province (council president); Deivis Fischer, Brasil Sur-Amazonia province (director - president); Vanderlei Siqueira, Brasil Centro-Sur province (director - secretary); Humberto Gondim, Brasil Centro-Norte province (director - treasurer).

The following brothers form the administration’s Council: Brothers Jorge Gaio (Brasil Centro-Sur), Lauro Hochscheidt (Brasil Sur-Amazonia) and Renato Augusto da Silva (Brasil Centro-Norte).

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||
Br Joaquim Esperandio

NEWS IN BRIEF

SOLIDARITY IN SAMOA

Teachers of the Marist College of Mulivai, Samoa, are offering free support for students after school hours. Some of the students, who are interested, have difficulty in reading while others find it difficult to keep up with some subjects. The group plans to offer support in various subjects.

FORMATION IN SPAIN

Last week the people in charge of the four Provinces that have works in Spain gathered in Castillo de Maimon for a formation session.

CRUZ DEL SUR

Leaders from different areas of provincial animation gathered from Feb. 25 - 26 in Lujan, Argentina to take part in a meeting convened by the Provincial, Br Alberto Aparicio. The encounter aimed at taking the first steps in "walking together" of the provincial's new triennium.

BRASIL CENTRO-NORTE

Com o tema "Herdeiros da promessa, rumo a um novo começo" e o lema "Profetas e místicos para nosso tempo", a Semana Pastoral Marista acontece nesses dias nos colégios e escolas sociais da Província Marista Brasil Centro-Norte.

MARIST CALENDAR

- **3 March:** first Marist Brothers departed for Sri Lanka (1911)
- **7 March:** Brother Antoine, 4th member of the Institute, died in Ampuis, France (1851); Brother Stratonique, 5th Superior General, died in Grugliasco, Italy (1926)
- **8 March:** first Marist Brothers departed for China (1891)
- **9 March:** departure of the first brothers for Haiti (1985)
- **10 March:** departure of the first brothers for Ghana (1983)

FILM TO BE MADE ABOUT IRISH MARIST BROTHER WHO FOUNDED GLASGOW CELTIC FOOTBALL CLUB



The story of the Irish Marist brother who founded the Glasgow Celtic Football Club is going to go public on the screens.

Online news outlet catholicireland.net revealed in an article that the British Film Institute is backing a major feature movie about Andrew Kerins, known by his religious name as Brother Walfrid, and the Irish community in Scotland of his time.

"Brother Walfrid and the east end of Glasgow are very much central to the story," stated award-winning Scottish novelist Andrew O'Hagan, who is working on the script after the film's director – Peter Mullan – selected him.

"Without going into detail, it's the story of an Irish family around the Saltmarket area during the years running up to the establishment of the club," he added.

"It's the story of church members, the local clergy and the Irish immigrant community beginning to organise themselves socially and politically, it's a story that has never been told."

The film will cover the 40 years from when the first Irish famine survivors arrived to Glasgow in 1846 until Br Walfrid created the Celtic FC in 1887. Its focus will also be on how they formed a community around Irish Catholic parishes in the city.

"This team formed by Marist Brothers would go on to European glory, but

that 40 year period has never been documented in a way that would satisfy me," stated Andrew.

Br Walfrid was from Ballymote in County Sligo and joined the Marists in 1864. He studied teaching and became headmaster at the Sacred Heart School in Glasgow.

In 1888 he founded the Football Club to help raise money for the poor in the east end of Glasgow.

He was sent to London's East End in 1893 where he organised football matches for fundraising and established a charity called "The Poor Children's Dinner Table."

Br Walfrid died on 17 April 1915, aged 74, back in Dumfries, Scotland.

"This is a story about self-respect, it's an austerity movie about how to triumph over hard times so it couldn't be more timely in a way," said Andrew.



Founder of Glasgow Celtic FC, Br Walfrid (Andrew Kerins)

MARIST WORLD



Argentina: Assembly of Province Cruz del Sur in Luján



Brazil: Extended General Council for the Region of Brazil and Cono Sur



Italy: Week of formation for marist leaders



Manziana: Community Animators Course



South Africa: Sacred Heart College, Johannesburg



Spain: Programme for community animators (El Escorial)

BRAZIL: LA VALLA FRATERNITY OF MCHFM OF FLORIANÓPOLIS, SANTA CATARINA

Often it may seem that subjectivity prevails when assessing the work of a fraternity.

After all, is it really something you have to do of the human and Christian experience?

Reflecting on the words of the Master: "Where two or more are united in my name, I will be with them" we refer to the Eucharistic celebrations, where the commitment to meditate and receive the Christian food becomes a basic need.

The Marist experience and coexistence always emphasized these aspects.

Marcellin himself labelled the encounter with the community, the practice of cohabitation, as a means in the journey of the search for the good, as stated in his biography: "Convinced that in order to do good and win men to God, one must obtain their love and affection.

St Champagnat strived to gain the trust of the residents of the parish since his arrival in La Valla."



This has been one of the activities of the La Valla Fraternity, in Florianopolis, province of Brasil Centro-Sul. It is achieved through the liturgical apostolate in the parish of Santa Rita de Cassia, in the neighborhood Jardim Atlântico.

The animation of the monthly mass expressly counts on the support of the Marist Brothers of the community, close to the parish where the Fraternity meets. We gather each month for our encounter and festive celebrations. Af-

ter the meeting, we all participate in animating songs and the liturgy of the Eucharist of the parish community.

The desire and the pleasure of celebrating with the community as a testimony of the members of the

Fraternity has allowed us to overcome difficulties and has promoted services like catechesis, for example.

It is a joy and a projection of the Marist charism lived in fraternity.

FRATELLI PROJECT: PREPARATIONS FINISH FOR TWO SOCIO-EDUCATIVE WORKS FOR DISPLACED CHILDREN IN LEBANON



ed and begin to learn by actually meeting the basic education needs of displaced children," said Br Chris. "Other challenges are to engage the communities of displaced people within the project and to create a framework where our existing Marist and Lasallian communities – Brothers, teachers, parents and children – can share in the project."

The Fratelli Project Council members are two Marist Brothers – Brothers Chris Wills and Vicar General Br Joe Mc Kee – and two Lasallian Brothers – Brother Rafael Matas Roselló and Vicar General Br Jorge Gallardo.

One of the project's schools is in Borj Hammoud, a neighbourhood in north eastern Beirut.

This socio-educative project works in collaboration with Insan, a non-profit humanitarian organisation, and with the help of three teachers, a coordinator, an animator and a custodian. Brother Bertrand from the Little Brothers of Jesus (Charles de Foucauld) representing Insan is the partner for this project.

The second activity of the project involves rehabilitating a Marist school in Rmeileh near Sidon, 40 km south of Beirut, which was closed during Israeli-Lebanese conflicts.

The buildings will be used as a base for informal education of displaced people living in three UN accommodation sites in Sidon.



They're living simply, working enthusiastically and looking for support

Br Chris Wills

As reconstruction work of a school for displaced children in southern Lebanon continues, the Fratelli Project Council met at the Marist Institute general house on Feb. 17 to fine-tune details of the project, which so far concerns two schools in Beirut and in Rmeileh.

The Council met after Brother Chris Wills, director of Collaboration for Mission, International (Cmi), travelled to Lebanon from Feb. 8 – 12 to help organise the project's administration and management.

He also met with the members of the project's local advisory committee based in Lebanon – two Lasallians, Brother Habib Zraibi FSC and Clair Said and two Marists, Brother Jose Luis Elias FMS and Edouard Jabre. "The main challenge is to get start-





LATEST
DECEASED
BROTHERS

Pastoral youth groups and scouts from Marist and Lasallian Schools in Lebanon are helping to set up the facilities.

Classes are expected to begin in March with five staff – three teachers, one coordinator and one custodian.

Brothers Andrés Porrás FSC and Miguel Cubeles FMS are coordinating both schools.

The Marist and Lasallian superior generals launched the project in March 2015 and appointed Brothers Andrés, from Mexico, and Miguel, from Spain, as its leaders. They arrived to Lebanon at the beginning of September and have

been working ever since on organising the project and adapting to a new lifestyle.

“They’re living simply, working enthusiastically and looking for support,” stated Br Chris.

The Fratelli Project is an inter-congregational collaboration involving the Marist and De La Salle brothers to which other congregations are invited.

The Fratelli Project is not limited to operations in the Middle East and it is expected that it will be established in other places where children and young people suffer from conflict and are displaced or are refugees or migrants.

10/01/2016: Edward Breslin - United States of America Province

13/01/2016: Maurice Vilz - Europe Centre-Ouest Province, Belgium

4/01/2016: Frédéric (Julien) Pellegrin - Europe Centre-Ouest Province, Belgium

19/01/2016: Ángel Sáez Ruiz - Mediterránea Province, Spain

19/01/2016: Julio Galdeano Echávarri - LHermitage Province, Spain

20/01/2016: Thomas Lee - United States of America Province

24/01/2016: José María Mateo Cumba - Mediterránea Province, Spain

25/01/2016: José García López - Compostela Province, Spain

19/02/2016: Paul Clet Sing Wen Chuan - East Asia Province, Malaysia

19/02/2016: Vicente Villalaín Fernández - Paraguay District

22/02/2016: Gregory Ugwu - Nigeria Province

29/02/2016: Lazarus Onusoro - Nigeria Province



The Fratelli Project Council (from left to right): Brothers Jorge Gallardo, Rafael Matas Roselló, Chris Wills and Joe Mc Kee.

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