



CRUZ DEL SUR: GATHERING WITH NEARLY 60 PARTICIPANTS OF 13 FRATERNITIES

SUPERIOR GENERAL LAUNCHES VIDEO MESSAGE FOR THE CHAMPAGNAT MOVEMENT OF THE MARIST FAMILY



During an encounter of fraternities of the Cruz del Sur province in Luján, Argentina, 10 brothers and 48 laity received a video message from Superior General Brother Emili Turú.

"I hope that as small Marist Christian communities, you are able to promote the revolution of tenderness and the revolution of care," he remarks in the video.

Br Emili labeled this year "a happy coincidence" of the Church's Year of Mercy with the Institute's Fourvière Year.

Brother Guillermo Mautino, one of the participants, underscored that "the meeting allowed us to integrate fraternity members of the province's different areas, enrich each other by sharing our experiences, and to feel that these 'little Marist Christian communities' are part of a large movement where many hearts vibrate with the charism of Champagnat increasing their sense of belonging to the Marist work."

"The aim was to continue with the project we began last year and to promote and encourage specific ministries for the fraternities to carry out, emphasizing the fact of being contemplative when acting," he told the general house press office on May 11.

Cruz del Sur's Vice Provincial, Brother Raúl Schönfeld, and members of 13 fraternities representing 12

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

From May 17 to 21 May, the third meeting of the Preparatory Committee of the XXII General Chapter, led by Brother Joseph McKee, Vicar General, took place at the general house.

From 16 to 20 May, the meeting of the Permanent Council of the Inter-american Conference of Provincials took place in Guadalajara, Mexico. Brothers Javier Espinosa, Miguel Ángel Espinosa Barrera, Hipólito Pérez, Manel Mendoza and Chris Wills took part.

From 17 to 24 May, the Asian Commission of Mission met in the Philippines with the participation of Brother João Carlos do Prado.

From 16 to 19 May, the Econome General, Brother Libardo Garzón, and Brother Mario Meuti, of FMSI, took part in the International Council for Economic Affairs at the General House.

On May 19, the programme "Horizons" for Brothers aged between 35 and 45 began in El Escorial and Manziana. The course will end on July 13.

works gathered from May 6 – 8 to reflect on the path of the province and the new region, América Sur.

Brother Gerardo Accastello held a workshop of spirituality during the event, which focused on “working on one’s interiority while reflecting how it carries us towards our mission.”

On May 8, each fraternity presented its own history, dif-

ficulties, challenges and the concrete ministry it is currently working on.

“We consider it is a beautiful way of visualizing how Marcellin’s spirit helps to continue transforming the world and we feel we are moving together, with a family spirit, on a path that leads us towards the Montagne of today and that keeps Champagnat’s dream alive,” affirmed Br Guillermo.

CHILE: FIRST MEETING OF IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NEW REGION AMÉRICA SUR



The first meeting of implementation of the region América Sur took place in Chile from May 7 – 10 to define the guidelines for cooperation and implementation of the new regional structure and to strengthen the integration of this team, which is in charge of its launch.

This team includes Brothers Wagner Rodrigues da Cruz, Patricio Pino, Deivis Fischer, Jorge Gaio, José Kuhm and Alberto Aparicio, as well as the following laity: Manuela Suassuna, Inés May, Ernesto Reyes, Rony Ahlfeldt, Marcelo Cordeiro and Luca Olivari.

“We are taking very significant and vital steps to transform the region,” affirmed Brother Wagner Rodrigues da Cruz, coordinator of the implementation team.

“To potentiate the Institute into new regions is to potentiate a new beginning for a new life, where we will be closer together and stronger.”

The new region was created by uniting the Marist areas of Brazil and Cono Sur, which are made up of the Provinces of Brasil Centro-Sur, Brasil Centro-Norte, Brasil Amazonia-Sur, Cruz del Sur, Santa María de los Andes and the District of Paraguay.

Luca Olivari, of the general administration in Rome, underscored that “América Sur will have a fundamental role in changing the institute.”

“Let us not forget that it makes up 50% of the Institute, which means it transforms it into the engine in changing other regions,” he added.

In this first encounter, participants worked mainly on the strategic definitions such as the vision, principles, priorities, the operating model, as well as other guidelines that are necessary for the path of the new Marist region.

The open letter of the first assembly of the Extended Provincial Councils

of the Marist provinces of Brasil Centro-Norte, Centro-Sur, Sur-Amazonia, Cruz del Sur and Santa María de los Andes, which took place in Florianopolis, described this new structure.

It notes that it “goes beyond cultural, social, political and geographical differences, where the provinces of the América Sur region take up the commitment of contributing to the life of the Marist Institute and its mission, in light of the XXI General Chapter, towards a new beginning.”



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NEWS IN BRIEF

AUSTRALIA'S SOLIDARITY

The Marist Fathers and Brothers of Australia have created an association to work together in a centre that helps foreigners (Australian Marist Centre for Overseas Aid). The Australian centre collaborates with funds destined to projects abroad through Non Governmental Organisations of the two Marist Institutes.

COMPOSTELA

A group of 40 elderly Brothers travelled to Bilbao, Spain, to take part in a retreat titled "Identity and mission of the religious Marist within the Church." Brother José María Ferre led the group.

BRASIL CENTRO-SUL

On May 10 and 11, Brother André Lanfrey led a course in Curitiba aimed at the different employees of the Brasil Centro-Sul Province. He covered the Institute's history and particularly, that of Brother Francisco. It was a phase of the Programme of Marist Formation and Life.

CRUZ DEL SUR

The Cruz del Sur province has recently launched a new proposal for religious lessons in schools. The campaign includes certain publications and means of promoting the proposal. Details can be found here: <http://goo.gl/E84POP>.

SRI LANKA: SEVEN NEW NOVICES IN TUDELLA
YOUNG VINE AND BRANCHES GROWING INTO THE LIGHT



The chapel is cleaned and floral arrangements are in place. The songs have been rehearsed. The various procedures of the ceremony have been practised. The guests are arriving. Then the storm and black out struck.

This was the prelude to the formal prayer service to welcome the 7 young men into their canonical year at the Marist Novitiate in Tudella, Sri Lanka on the evening of Tuesday 10 May.

The show must go on despite the darkness and the entrance hymn of Side by Side, Marcellin (Avec Toi, Marcellin) was coordinated beautifully by the second year novices with the assistance of many torches.

Br Nicholas Fernando the novice master welcomed the local brothers, aspirants, postulant and guests under the subtle ambience of candle light and Br Shanti, provincial of South Asia, called forth the young men.

As if by cue, when novice master came forward to light the lamps on the sanctuary, the power was re-

stored and there was light. Such was the wondrous way that began this occasion for Xia Baoxuan, Wang Peng (China), H.A.Pradeep Kumara (Sri Lanka), Rubel Nokrek (Bangladesh), Trần Văn Thành, Lé Danh Thuong & Nguyễn Văn Trình (Vietnam).

Br Peter Walsh, offered an insightful gospel reflection on the Vine and the Branches and the nature of the novitiate as one which helps one chose the ways to abundant life as well as pruning the part which do not.

The Novitiate years can be compared with both a desert for discernment as well a fertile garden for growth.

Br Shanti accepted the request of the young men to enter into the Novitiate and presented each with a copy of the Constitution, a Bible as well as the Marist Cross.

The evening continued with gracious hospitality.

Songs and stories were shared amongst the young men in the var-

MARIST WORLD



General House: International Council of Economic Affairs



Fiji: Suva



Spain: Provincial Council of L'Hermitage, in Barcelona



Colombia: Our Lady of Fourvière in Pasto



Samoa: Apia Harbour



India: Chetana Hostel in Talit - Boys and Marist Community together

ious levels initial formation from the province of South Asia, Marist District of Asia and the District of Melanesia.

May the Novitiate years for this group of young brothers, which began in literal darkness, continue to lead them into the dawn of the third century of our Institute.

CO-NOURISHERS OF THE CHARISM: MARIST LAITY

ARTICLE ON THE LAY EXPERIENCE OF THE MARIST CHARISM



The article of Eder D'Artagnan Ferreira, a layperson of Brasil Centro-Norte, investigates the lay experience of the Marist charism, pointing out its specific elements based on the experience of 26 participants of the Course for Lay Animators, which was organised by the Marist Institute's Secretariat for Laity in 2015.

The Qualitative Epistemology of González Rey was used as reference to analyse the data.

The information was grouped in three areas regarding the sense of: mission, shared spirituality and life of which he talks about the place and the role of the laity within the Marist mission; the characteristics of Marist spirituality that stress the laity's experiences and practices of faith; the space and dynamics of a shared life; the characteristics that, according to the group, identify the laity; the sense of recog-

nizing one's self as a lay Marist; and the contributions of the laity for the vitality of the Marist charism.

According to the investigation, the Marist lay life results from a personal vocational call that shapes a specific life-style, commits the laity into the mission and demands interaction with the Brothers.

It also confers a sense of institutional belonging, promotes a personal fulfilment, develops the co-responsibility for

the life of the Institute and contributes to the relationship between Brothers and the laity, the vitality of the mission, formation processes and the designing of the Marist world's future. It is understood that lay people are co-nourishers of the charism, a neologism created with the sense of nurturing together and to explain that they not only feed their vocation, mission, spirituality and life choices, but they also bring forth vitality, growth and sustainability.

PROVINCIAL ASSEMBLY OF CANADA

BEING A MARIST TODAY



The Province of Canada celebrated its provincial assembly on April 28 – 29. A group of brothers and laity spent time reflecting, sharing and agreeing on what it means to be a Marist today in the province and in the world.

How does one recognise a Marist? What elements defines us, what distinguishes us and what mobilizes us?

Whether we are brothers or laity, men or women, young or old, believers or non-believers, what common factors unite us?

It was not about the first Provincial Assembly of the Marist Province of Canada, but rather the first time that

assembly takes place where we reflected together, brothers and laity, subject to a common responsibility.

Sixty brothers and laity of different Marist works were invited to attend: 43 were present but all of them showed interest despite having other commitments that did not allow some of them to take part in the gathering.

The methodology that was chosen included dialogue and exchanging thoughts, throughout tables of five or six participants.

The aim was to arrive a consensus in each phase – a consensus expressed in a sentence, a word or an expression.

The synthesis of the exchanging of thoughts and the common elements were embodied in a panel that was visible to everyone.

The essential elements that define the charism and that we are called to live and to transmit began appearing.

Later, in a moment of silence and reflection in the chapel, everyone was invited to write a commitment that that person was willing to make immediately in their life and in their environment, taken from one of the chosen elements during this reflection.

The path of the Marist community of Canada continues towards a new beginning!



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BIRTHDAY OF SAINT MARCELLIN CHAMPAGNAT

20 MAY 1789

Marcellin Champagnat was a priest of the Society of Mary and founder of the Marist Brothers.

He was born in the house in the picture on 20 May 1789 in Rosey, Marlhès, near St Etienne (Loire), France, the youngest of 10 children.

From John Baptist, his father, committed to the ideals of the French Revolution, he learned his love of work and his spirit of enterprise.

Marie, his mother, and his aunt, a religious expelled from her convent by the Revolution, cultivated his piety, his Christian charity, and his devotion to the Blessed Virgin.



EAST ASIA PROVINCE: NEW NOVICES

IN THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION NOVITIATE IN COTABATO



Five young Marists began their novitiate on the feast of Pentecost, May 15, in the city of Cotabato, Philippines. The celebration took place in the Im-

maculate Conception novitiate, where they entered.

The parents of new Marists and also the eight novices of the second year took part in the celebration.

Master of novices of the Oblates of Mary, Father Hilario, presided the celebration.

The novitiate's community is formed by Brothers Wency Paterno (superior), Alfredo Herrera (master of novices, who substitutes Lindley Sionosa), and Nelson Beltrán.

Brother Roy Deita, the director of the postulancy that the new novices attended, also took part.

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