



MARIST NEWS

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Marist Brothers - General House - Rome

BICENTENARY OF THE INSTITUTE - 2017

#MILLIONMARISTS

On Jan. 2, the Marist Institute will celebrate the bicentenary of its foundation.

The Marists of Champagnat have been preparing this historic event for three years making way towards a new beginning.

As in a triduum, the three years are giving us the opportunity to reflect on three aspects of the Marist vocation: the mission during the Montagne Year (2014-2015); Communion in the Fourvière Year (2015-2016) and, as of August 2016, spirituality in the Year La Valla.

The celebration of the bicentenary will take place in 2017.

The general council decided that this event will be celebrated in three different dates:

- On Jan. 2, a date that connects us with our past, the General Council will celebrate it in different places around the world, to highlight the internationality of the Institute: in La Valla, in Nairobi, in Lujan (Argen-



#MillionMarists

tina) and in Rome. Superior general Brother Emili Turú will be in Bangladesh, where he will attend the launching of a school for the sons and daughters of workers of tea plantations. On that day, the superior general will connect with all Marists through a video message.

- On 6 June, it will be celebrated in Rome to highlight our presence in the ecclesial community. On that day, the three volumes of the book History of the Institute will be presented and a photographic exhibition on the Institute today will be launched.
- On Sept. 8, it will be celebrated in Rionegro, Colombia, on the occasion of the opening of the General Chapter and representation of all Administrative Units of the Marist world. It will be a special moment of thanksgiving, of request for forgiveness and, above all, of commitment to the future.

Aside from this proposal of the general government, each Administrative Unit is organising a celebration for the bicentenary.

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

From Dec. 12 – 14, Brother Libardo Garzón, General bursar, is gathering with provincial bursars of the Arco Norte region in Mexico.

The assembly of the Pacific District will take place from Dec. 15 – 17 in New Zealand. The District Chapter will follow from Dec. 18 – 20. Brother Michael de Waas, general councillor, will take part in both encounters.

On Dec. 10, Archbishop Jorge Patrón, secretary for seminaries at the Vatican's Congregation for Clergy and former Marist student of Merido, Mexico, met participants of the programme for vocational animators at the general house. The programme finishes on December 14.



We intend to get one million messages, showing in this way how the dream of Marcellin has now become a large family



The General House's website will publish the different initiatives that are being developed in the Marist world. Our communications office is preparing a video on Saint Marcellin, an application for Smartphones (APP) to highlight a New Beginning, and is considering promoting other initiatives.

One of them, being launched now, is the hashtag #MillionMarists.

#MillionMarists

We propose using this hashtag on social networks.

We intend to get one million messages, showing in this way how the dream of Marcellin Champagnat which began with two youths in the small house of La Valla has now

become a large family made up of many people, including brothers and lay people. We are aspiring to create an important movement in the networks (trend), especially in those three most important dates of the year: January 2, June 6 and September 8.

We will show our unit using the channel of social networks and sending a message for the occasion of the Institute's 200 years through #MillionMarists.

We can spread this call in fraternities, in schools and in all areas of Marist mission.

We ask the support of the Administrative Units and especially of their communication teams, to help spread this initiative.

3RD AGE PROGRAM FOR ENGLISH SPEAKERS

19 OCTOBER - 16 DECEMBER

The 3rd Age Program for English speakers is being held in Manziiana.

It began on 19 October and will end on 16 December.

A total of 15 Brothers are participating in the program; 14 Marist Brothers and one Brother of Our Lady Mother of Mercy (CMM).

The participating Brothers are from Australia, Canada, France, Netherlands, New Zealand, South Korea, Sri Lanka and the USA.

A number of topics appropriate to the 3rd Age are presented.

Among them are Transitions, Being Brothers Today, Walking with

Mary, the Sacraments, Identity and Mission of the Religious Brother, Health and Wellbeing and Praying the Psalms.

Brother Emili Turú, Superior General, gave a presentation on Marists Today.

The group traveled to France in early November for a 10 day pilgrimage to our Marist Places.

They also visited the historical sites of the Marist Sisters, Marist Missionary Sisters and the Marist Fathers.

A three day pilgrimage to Assisi has also been scheduled.

Toward the end of the program, the Brothers will have a 3 day retreat and a day of evaluation.

The team for the 3rd Age Program is Mick Sexton (Australia – Algeria), Director – Don Neary (USA), Assistant and Marianist Father Mike Nartker (USA), Chaplain.



Third age Brothers at Manziiana, Italy, participating in the programme

NEWS IN BRIEF

EUROPEAN BROTHERS

The Commission which organises the meeting of brothers in Europe under the age of 50 taking place in August next year gathered in Alcala de Henares to begin preparations.

PUC OF PORTO ALEGRE

Brother Evilázio Teixeira assumed the Rectory of the University of Porto Alegre, of the Province of Brazil Sul-Amazônia on December 9. He is replacing Brother Joaquim Clotet. Jader-son Costa is the Vice rector.

CHILE MEMORIAL

Brother Saturnino Alonso, provincial of Santa Maria de Los Andes, launched the "Historical Marist Patrimony Archive" in Santiago. The centre gathers documents and material related to Marist presence in Chile.

MARISTS IN HOLLAND

A week of encounters took place in Nijmegen in November to reflect on projects and activities that Marist Brothers and their collaborators are carrying out in Holland. The meeting is part of the provincial programme for formation for laity and Brothers that hope to help them and increase their participation in the future of the Institute.

ENCOUNTER OF DIRECTORS AND ANIMATORS OF THE COMMUNITY OF THE NORANDINA PROVINCE

"WE ARE BORN OF SOLIDARITY, AND WE WILL BE BORN AGAIN FOR SOLIDARITY"



As part of the celebration of the Marist Bicentennial, the Council of the Province of Norandina, together with the commissions of mission and solidarity, held a meeting with the Brothers and Lay people entrusted with the leadership and animation of the communities and Marist works in the Norandina Province.

From Oct. 25 – 30, 70 Laity and Brothers from Venezuela, Colombia and Ecuador gathered in Fusagasugá, Colombia.

The encounter aimed at renewing the option for Gospel solidarity in all places where Marists are present in the Norandina Province, through a commitment centered on Jesus and thus helping the rebirth of the dawn.

For this meeting, the theme of solidarity was addressed as the main theme, which has marked the life of the Institute and its mission from the Marist origins.

The meeting had as a reference the event Montagne, an experience that marked the life of Father Champagnat and impelled him to the foundation of the Little Brothers of Mary.

We approach the issue from three dimensions of solidarity; first of all the ecology followed by a workshop on good living facilitated by Marco Raúl Mejía and finally a reflection on the document of the Marist Institute in America on solidarity entitled "Paths of Marist Solidarity in the Americas: Children and Young People with Rights."

The encounter's participants concluded the reflection affirming, "It is time that, as the Marist Province of Norandina, we keep our eyes open, our feet well fixed on the ground and above all, our hearts full of the Gospel so that we do not pass by our Montagne. Let us rather ask ourselves, let us have a meaningful and transformative presence with them."

MARIST WORLD



Madagascar: Marist lay people in Antsiranana



General House: Archbishop Jorge Patrón meets with Vocation Animators



General House: Some of the participants in the course for formators in 1996



Mexico: Marist International Network of Institutions of Higher Education



Italy: Perpetual profession of Br Stefano Divina in Giugliano



Madagascar: Marist lay people in Antsiranana

MOZAMBIQUE: RELIGIOUS PROFESSIONS IN MATOLA

WE ARE MARIST BROTHERS FOR THE MOST DISADVANTAGED

A big feast of Marist vocation was celebrated in Matola, Mozambique, on Dec. 3.

It was the perpetual profession of native Brother Mario Sábedo Valía and the first Marist profession of eight youths: António Armando Maveze, Rufino Macimcuele Paulo and Raimundo Gerónimo (from Mozambique), Golden Tati (Zambia), Joseph Lazarus Petro and Aubrey Chimangeni Chapata (Malawi), Blessed Vambe Kudakwashe and Mugove Chibengwa (Zimbawe).

The day centred on the Eucharistic celebration, which was animated by the choir of first year novices, a group of dancers, several Marist symbols and many expressions of faith.



A beautiful poster presided over the church, with a significant phrase, chosen by the novices who were going to make their profession,

which said, "We are Marist Brothers for the most disadvantaged." Almost all of the Marist Brothers present in Mozambique, many religious,

family members, neighbours and friends witnessed and participated in the celebration, which took place in the parish of Saint Gabriel the Archangel and which was presided by the Archbishop of Maputo, Archbishop Francisco Chimoio O.F.M. Cap.

The parish priest and several other priests, who are friends of the Brothers, concelebrated.

The provincial superior of Southern Africa, Brother Norbert Mwila, received the vows on behalf of the superior general.

A fraternal lunch followed with nearly 300 guests at

the Novitiate of Matola and was used as an occasion to continue to share experiences and to express their love towards Br Mario and the eight neo-professed Brothers with songs, presents and speeches.

Br Mario is currently destined to the Community and College of Bilene, a secondary school with 700 students.

The eight neo-professed Brothers will now have time to visit their families and then a few months of community experience until they join the MIC in Nairobi next month to continue their Marist formation.

MEXICO: MARIST SUPPORT CENTER FOR THE MIGRANT IN QUERÉTARO

MARIST EXPERIENCES OF ATTENTION TO THE MIGRANT POPULATION

Querétaro has been classified as one of the more secure cities of Mexico, with one of the highest GDP (PIB) – Gross Domestic Product - and economic growth of the country. Being in the center of the territory, many migrants cross Queretaro every day by the railroad tracks.

The majority of the migrants are men between 18 and 41 years of age.

Half of them come from Honduras, the rest from El Salvador, Guatemala, Mexico and Nicaragua.

As a response to the migratory situation in the city, in 2014 the Marist Center of Support for the Migrant (CAMMI) was founded.

The installations are located inside the Marist University of Queretaro.

The mission of this Center is to generate social conscience or awareness by means of concrete actions for the benefit of less favored persons, taking care of the fundamental needs of migrant persons and inviting the civil society to join in for the construction of better surroundings for the migrant brothers and sisters.

Among the services given, there are: showers, clothes, wardrobe, telephone calls, medicine, legal orientation, information regarding lodging and breakfasts.



In 2015, the CAMMI offered help to more than 600 persons. During January-November 2016 the number of persons taken care of was 450.

The main concern of CAMMI concerning the migrants and that derives from specific cases that have accompanied, is that the protocols of attention and channelling for all of them are not respected.

The CAMMI has accompanied cases with the end of watching over the processes that are carried out in the detentions of the National Institute of Migration (INM).

It is fundamental to make visible and make known that the INM is violating the federal laws through the following actions: the migrants are being taken directly to the migratory station and no alternatives to the detention are offered them, their rights are not read to them, they are not told and make known that they can be candidates to ask for refuge, they are not put in contact with their relatives, and they receive medical attention conditioned by their migratory status, they are not given access to education during their stay in the country and they have even been denied the right to identity.

HUMAN RIGHTS DAY: CHILDREN

Human Rights Day is celebrated on Dec. 10, recalling the day when the General Assembly of the United Nations adopted the Universal Declaration of Human Rights in 1948.

Two years later a resolution was adopted inviting all interested States and organisations to celebrate Human Rights Day every year.

This celebration indicates that, at least once a year, all world citizens are called to defend Human Rights because we are all born equal and are equal and there should not be any differences among people of different countries.

There should also be no differences because someone thinks differently or practices a different religion, which comes from a minority ethnicity or speaks a different language or has more or less material goods.

All human beings have the rights set forth in the Universal Declaration. There is no need for differences because the fact of being born in the same human community, which is humanity, gives us the possibility to enjoy the rights defined in the Declaration.

Belonging to the same universal community unites us, it does not divide us, and so we owe each other respect and equal treatment.

All human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights.

They are endowed with reason and conscience and should act towards one another in a spirit of brotherhood. (First article of the Declaration)

Celebrating the Universal Day of Human Rights means that we are called to defend our own rights, since they are all, like we have said, inherent to the person.

It also means that we must respect each other because respect is the basis of the enjoyment of our rights.

It also means that we have to remember people who have their rights violated and feel discriminated against in comparison to their peers, which are surmountable situations.

It also means that we have to defend all people that do not have enough knowledge to reclaim their rights.

We, Marists, commit ourselves to promoting and defending children's rights that are specified in the Convention on the Rights of the Child so that they can enjoy a better world for them.

It also means that we should do enough to avoid that there are people in the world that live with one dollar and a half a day.

It also means providing drinking water to all those who need it.

It also means we should look for peace and coexistence among all the peoples.

We, Marists, commit ourselves to promoting and defending children's rights that are specified in the Convention on the Rights of the Child so that they can enjoy a better world for them.

We seek equality among all the children worldwide and we defend them against any type of aggression.

We teach them what their rights are so they can exercise them in freedom.

We eliminate all kinds of discrimination between them and we try to leave them in inheritance a world a little better than they have found.



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