

NIGERIA: NEW HORIZONS PROGRAMME

SCHOOLS GATHER TO DISCUSS SUCCESSSES, CHALLENGES



The schools are **making an effort** to develop strategic plans with clear objectives and are seeking to **change policies**



Staff of 15 schools from the Province of Nigeria gathered in Uturu in southern Nigeria on March 4 to evaluate an initiative, which focuses on the development of Marist leadership, their contribution to the development of Africa and the evangelisation of children and youth by means of education.

The school members gathered to discuss the 'New Horizons' programme, by looking at reports from the schools on the implementation process, as well as successes and challenges since they last met in Ghana in 2016.

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

The General Council is continuing its plenary session this week, during which it is dealing with topics such as: the global programming of the General Chapter, some staff appointments, Cmi and the Lavalla200> project; from March 23 to 25, the Council will be in Nemi, for the annual meeting of the general councils of the four Marist branches.

From Monday, March 20, until Friday, Brothers Mark Omede and Carlos Alberto Rojas, directors of the Secretariat of Mission, are participating in the assembly of Provincial Councils of América Sur in Montevideo, Uruguay.

From March 20 – 23, FMSI director Marzia Ventimiglia is at the Human Rights Council in Geneva.

The assistant director of Brothers Today Secretariat, Brother Hipólito Pérez, is visiting the Canada Province from March 20 – April 7.

On Saturday and until March 30, Marzia and Brothers Mario Meuti and Álvaro Sepúlveda of FMSI will be in Haiti to plan a project with the México Occidental Province for better administration of funds gathered after the hurricane.

During the encounter, participants told how the biggest challenges include a lack of adequate funds and the slow implementation of the New Horizons initiative by some staff.

But schools are making an effort to develop strategic plans with clear objectives and are seeking to change policies, disciplinary measures and administrative processes.

New horizons is an initiative of the African Commission for Mission, which has the support of the Conference of Provincials of the African continent and of the Secretariat of the Missions.

Each school of the Nigerian Province has an implementation committee of the 'New Horizons' initiative and the meeting was facilitated by the New Horizons implementation committee of the Province.

FRANCE: THE ANIMATION TEAM OF MChFM

HERMITAGE PROVINCE



The Animation Team of the Champanat Movement of the Marist Family (MChFM) in France is formed by ten persons.

They represent the different regions of France that is the North, the Center and the South.

They also represent the different Marist realities; the world of the young with the schools and colleges or high schools, sharing with the communities of Brothers and life in the mixed communities.

The Team meets three or four times a year according to the program of the

year.

The principal objectives: to connect the fourteen Fraternities, encourage those that have some difficulties and to open to the Fraternities of Belgium and the groups of Marist life in Catalonia (Gerona).

To organize the general Assemblies, the regional meetings and the Marist planning for holidays of July, to be attentive and respond to the propositions of the Institute.

Meeting in Lyon

The Team met on Tuesday, February 28 in Lyon in the Provincial House.

It was the first encounter of the year 2017 after the enlarged Assembly of November 2016.

The essential objectives of this meeting: above all, the organization of the life of the Fraternities for the year and therefore, to draw up a plan of animation which consists in:

- Projecting the regional encounters of autumn (North, Center and South) which permit the Fraternities to meet by Regions. These times of encounter can also provide moments of formation which touch on the themes of the Institute for the year.

NEWS IN BRIEF

CANADA

The Province of Canada has recently completed a history document of their province in French. One of the chapters outlines the early history of how some Canadian Brothers moved to the United States and founded a number of Marist schools. The document has been translated into English.

URUGUAY

The Assembly of the Provincial Councils of the America Sur region has begun, at the Casa San José of Montevideo, Uruguay. Participants in the encounter include the Councils of the Provinces Brasil Amazonia-Sur, Brasil Centro-Norte, Brasil Centro-Sur, Cruz del Sur and Santa Maria de los Andes, as well as the Implementation team of the region, the Coordinator of the Arco Norte region and representatives of the Secretariat of Mission.

MADAGASCAR

The St Joseph Marist School in Antsiranana celebrated the feast of its patron saint over the weekend. During a Eucharistic celebration, the school inaugurated a new statue of Saint Joseph on Friday, March 17, and a new podium. Celebrations continued throughout the following day.

- To finalize the arrangements for the Marist holidays. This year, they will be in Auvergne, a beautiful region of volcanos in the center of France.
- To review, examine the articles of the bulletin Frat-Echos, a true

bond of union among the Fraternities.

- To reflect on the way in which the Fraternities have been contacted for the different pre-chapter stages.

2ND WORKSHOP FOR THE SUSTAINABILITY OF PACE

'THE MARIST MISSION IS IN OUR HAND'



Twenty Brothers and six lay people gathered in Kigali, Rwanda, to discuss ways of improving financial coordination and its centralisation in the province of East Central Africa (Democratic Republic of Congo, Central African Republic, Kenya, Rwanda, and Tanzania).

They gathered for the 'Second Workshop for the Sustainability of PACE' from March 6 – 12, during which they also looked into ways of improving the province's works in Bymana, Save, Orote and Nyakato, as well as the project of a new school in Masaka, located in the southeastern Rwanda.

A religious sister from a Marist school in Save and three facilitators from the technical support of the

province of Brazil Centro-Sul also took part in the event.

Brother Mario Meuti, of FMSI, took part on behalf of the general administration.

The participants, who came from Kenya, Tanzania, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Rwanda, included the provincial council, the provincial and the former provincial.

The encounter kicked off with a presentation of the Institute's project regarding sustainability, the work other provinces have already done and a self-analysis of Marist works in Tanzania, Kenya and Rwanda.

They then went on to discuss concrete ways of achieving the objec-

MARIST CALENDAR

March 28: Foundation of the community at Esztergom (Hungary, 1999)

MARIST WORLD



United States: Lavalla200> East Harlem



Syria: Monthly retreat of the management team of the Blue Marists - Aleppo



Spain: Formation of Orientation Teams of Compostela Prov - Cordova



Spain: Bicentenary celebration of the-Mediterranea Province in Granada



Germany: Bicentenary celebration



Sri Lanka: Tudela - Novitiate of the MDA, the South Asia Orovince and East Timor

tives they set for each Marist work. The coordinating team requested advice from the provincial council, who in turn will be decisive in making concrete decisions and how to accompany the province in this process, based on reflections made during the meeting.

Br Mario stressed that "it has been wellemphasised in the conclusions that it was not a nice joint exercise, but rather a collective awareness that the Marist mission is in our hands, in our resources, in the path taken together thus far, which now waits to be transformed into action."

AUSTRALIA: TO ENSURE CO-RESPONSIBILITY

OCEANIA PARTNERSHIP COMMISSION



The latest meeting of the Oceania Partnership Commission took place on 10th and 11th March in the Marist Centre in Brisbane, Australia.

The Oceania Partnership Commission's role is to promote, support and develop a spirit of communion between all Champagnat Marists involved in Marist mission and life in the region of Oceania.

Its purpose is to ensure co-responsibility in decision making and in animation of Marist life and mission.

The members are: Mr. Tony Clarke (Australia), Ruth Hihiru (Melanesia), Dan Dungey (New Zealand) and Liz Falcon-

er (Australia). The Commission represents a successful model for partnership within the Church and provides

a framework for lay and brothers to commit and belong to Marist life and mission at local and regional levels.

THE PROVINCES OF MEXICO CELEBRATE 200 YEARS OF THE INSTITUTE MARIST BICENTENARY IN LA CHONA



It was a very fraternal encounter that strengthened the bonds of union, the love for the Congregation and a better understanding of the Charism

From the 3rd to the 5th of March, members of the Marist Family of the two Provinces of Mexico, met in the Marist 'Casa de Encuentros' of la Chona, to celebrate the Bicentenary of the Marist work.

It was a very fraternal encounter that strengthened the bonds of union, the love for the Congregation and a better understanding of the Charism that God has given through the Marist Brothers.

The third began with the welcome in which were expressed the desires and yearnings that the Marist Family may, from day to day, be more in love with God.

The central themes for the reflection were three: 1) Mary present in our Insti-

tute and in our life, 2) Our spirituality is in God, 3) We walk with Marcellin.

On Saturday, March 4th in the morning the central theme was Mary, we went to visit the Virgin of San Juan de los Lagos; there we had the Eucharistic celebration and at the end, at the feet of the Virgin the group said a prayer and sang the Salve. Then we returned home and in the afternoon we had a reflection centered on each one and to see how God has always been present in them. In the second part of the afternoon there was an intense prayer of interiority.

In the evening the whole group celebrated at the rhythm of Mexican songs, roasted meat and a good cake on the occasion of the Marist celebration.

The following day the reflection was centered on Marcellin Champagnat, considering the Charism in a future perspective.

Then followed the Eucharistic celebration and reflection in groups, which was followed by the sending and a little gift was given to each one as a souvenir so that in their life they can continue the Marist work.

It has been foreseen to have other meetings in this house, on the Marist Bicentenary.

From the reflections of these groups a report will be made seeing the Marist Congregation according to the challenges of today so as to strengthen the tomorrow with a living dynamism.

Br. Hugo Jiménez Padilla

Institute of the Marist Brothers - General House

Piazzale Marcellino Champagnat, 2 - Rome, Italy - comunica@fms.it

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