



'GOD ACCOMPANIES A TASK WITH THE APPROPRIATE GRACE'

BR VINCENT UCHENNA ABADOM, NEW PROVINCIAL OF NIGERIA

The general council has appointed Brother Vincent Uchenna Abadom as new provincial superior of the province of Nigeria for a first three-year term.

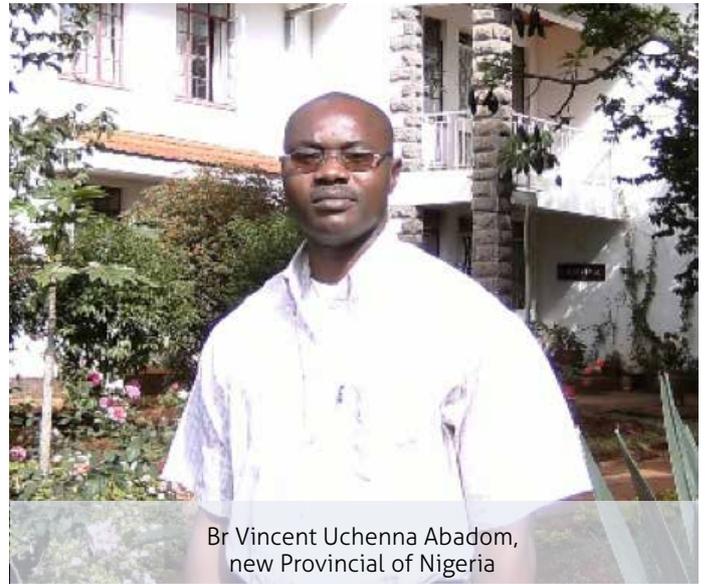
"I must admit that to be a provincial superior is not an easy thing but I am fully aware that when God gives a task, He accompanies it with the appropriate grace to carry it out," Brother Vincent told the general house communications office.

Br Vincent will begin his mandate at the provincial chapter in January 2018.

In his letter to the brothers of the province, superior general Brother Emili Turú thanked him "for his openness and willingness to serve the Institute in this mission as Provincial."

Br Vincent was born in Onitsha, Nigeria, on 7 June 1973. He made his first vows on 13 June 1998 and his final vows in 2004.

He was sent to the Rome to study psychology at the Pontifical Gregorian University from 2009 – 2013, and was then sent to the novitiate in Ghana, where he lived until he was appointed as provincial.



Br Vincent Uchenna Abadom,
new Provincial of Nigeria

In 2015, he was appointed as a member of the International Commission for Brothers Today.

"I wish to use my little knowledge to serve my brothers and to inspire them to embrace the "new beginning" with audacity," affirmed Br Vincent.

150TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ARRIVAL OF THE BROTHERS IN CAPE TOWN

SAINT ALOYSIUS' SCHOOL, FIRST MARIST SCHOOL OUTSIDE EUROPE

The Marist Brothers gave the South African National Gallery, which now owns the building of the first Marist school outside Europe, a plaque to commemorate the opening of a school 150 years ago in Cape Town.

Former provincial superior of Southern Africa, Brother Joe Walton, presented the plaque to Bongani Hdhlovu, CEO of the Iziko Museums of South Africa, on April 25. The celebration, with 30 laity and Brothers, included tes-

timonies of a former student and a former teacher of the school.

The Gallery, which has kept the original portal of the St Aloysius School, received the plaque in April that it will place next to the portal with the following words:

"SAINT ALOYSIUS' SCHOOL - From April 1867 to December 1970, this building, now the Annexe to the Iziko South Afri-

can National Gallery, housed the first Marist Brothers school in Africa.

Founded in France by Saint Marcellin Champagnat in 1817, the Institute of the Marist Brothers at present educates and cares for youth in 80 countries, including 20 in Africa.

After its closure on this site, Saint Aloysius' Primary School for boys was moved, successively to two different church properties in the City Bowl, until, in 1985, it was finally incorporated into Saint Joseph's Marist College in Rondebosch.

Presented by the Marist Brothers to the Iziko South African National Gallery in April 2017 to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the arrival of the Brothers in the Cape and the 200th anniversary of the foundation of the Institute."

When the Marist Brothers arrived, they renamed the diocesan estab-

lishment St Aloysius and they established a second school, St Joseph's Academy, in another part of the city.

St Joseph's Academy closed in 1933 and in the 1960's the government revealed plans to expropriate the

property of St Aloysius to create an annexe to the South African National Gallery.

The school closed in 1970, but the Brothers reopened it at another church property.



Left: Former provincial superior of Southern Africa, Brother Joe Walton
Right: Bongani Hdhlovu, CEO of the Iziko Museums of South Africa

BRASIL CENTRO-SUL INAUGURATES THE MARIST MEMORIAL AND GATHERS MARISTS OF CHAMPAGNAT

From April 27 – 30, Brothers and laity of the Brasil Centro-Sul province gathered at the Champagnat Marist centre of Curitiba in two general assemblies.

At the same time, the 'Marist Memorial' was inaugurated, covering the foundation of the Marist Institute's 200 years, and **Brother Tiago Fedel made his perpetual profession.**

The Assembly of Brothers gathered 67 participants to dialogue, study and reflect on the path of the province. Participants covered topics related to the sustainability of a project on religious organisation, contemplating the strategic planning of the Grupo Marista, and the progress of projects in the America Sur region.



The provincial assembly of Marist laity gathered 62 people of different lay expressions within the province. They presented the laity's provincial plan, under the title Praça da Vida Marista, which contemplates a place of encounter and welcome in which tradition is celebrated and which projects the future of Brothers and laity, together in mission and living the Marist charism.

According to Brother Joaquim Sperandio, provincial superior, brothers, leaders, collaborators and lay people

NEWS IN BRIEF

AUSTRALIA

On May 10, the communities of Westmead, Blacktown and Seven Hills celebrated the combined sum of 170 years of religious life of three brothers: Alexis (60), Frank Richardson (60) and Michael Jones (50).

LA VALLA NOVITIATE

At the end of April, Brother Juan Moral of the province of L'Hermitage accompanied the novices of Medellin in their reflection on Marist spirituality and emphasized the importance on the experience of poverty and the options that the Institute has been taking in the last years.

BICENTENARY STAMP

On May 20, Correos de Argentina is launching a stamp to celebrate the bicentenary of the Institute. The Vatican's Philatelic Center will also launch its own on the occasion of the opening of the General Chapter, on 8 September.

SOUTH AFRICA

Brother Jude Pieterse received the most important medal awarded by the Catholic University of the country. The award is given to people who have contributed in an exceptional way in academics, especially those who dedicated themselves to the welfare and development of society. Brother Jude, in the 1970s, was responsible for the Education Council of Associations of Religious.

had a moment to share one's life and strengthen fraternal bonds as well as the charism, while the reports were presented and relevant topics of general interest were discussed.

Marist Memorial

The Marist Memorial was launched on April 29, with the hope of promoting the Institute's cultural, historical and spiritual patrimony through educational, artistic and religious actions and the realisation of technical processes of investigation, cataloguing, preservation of the Marist memory and of its legacy to the Church and to society.

The space was designed with the main objective of rescuing and preserving the historical facts and documents of the 200 years of foundation of the Marist Institute and of disseminating them among the Marist community and future generations that will visit it searching for knowledge and the deepening of the vitality and continuity of the Marist charism that Saint Marcellin Champagnat and the first brothers left us.

You can access a complete report in Portuguese, and PDF, of the 4 days of meeting and activities of the Marists of the province of Brazil Centro-Sul, [click here](#).

SPAIN: EX-GENERAL COUNCILLOR BR FABIÁN

JAVIER GARCÍA TERRADILLOS PASSES AWAY, AGED 97

Brother Fabián Javier García Terradillos passed away on May 8 in Benalmadena, Spain, aged 97 and having completed 80 years of religious life.

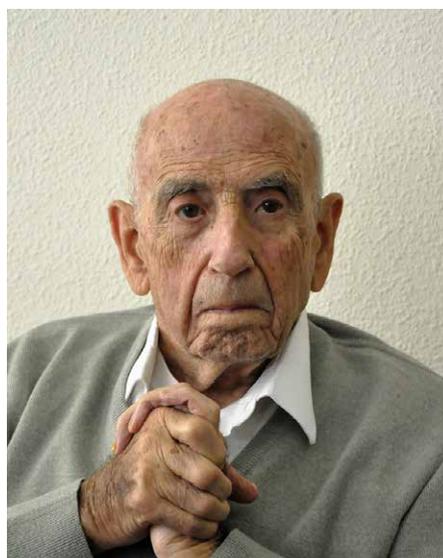
He was a general councillor from 1976 – 1885, and belonged to the Mediterraneo province. In his funeral, professor Javier Navarro Sánchez, of Jaen, recalled him with the following words.

"I can say that he was one of those people that God shone through. Some

religious are able to make God's grace bear fruit in them.

That's how it was for him. When they killed the brothers in Zaire he asked to go to Rwanda and his request was granted. He stayed there for several years. Seeing him pray each day was a school of how to have a face-to-face with God."

Today at the funeral, his nephew told us that he was going to pray to him like he would to any other saint. I think the same.



"I can say that he was one of those people that God shone through.



MARIST WORLD



Dem. Rep. of the Congo: Université Mariste du Congo



General House: Meeting to elaborate the New Horizons formation programme



Cambodia: Br Álvaro Sepúlveda, from FMSI visits the District of Asia



Canada: Community of Willowdale



Portugal: Marist Pilgrimage to Fatima



Malaysia: Marist Asia Conference gather in Kuala Lumpur

BEING A LAY MARIST: THE SECRETARIAT OF THE LAITY REFLECTS ON A DOCUMENT IT WILL PRESENT AT THE GENERAL CHAPTER



Brother Javier Espinosa's mission for the past two months consisted of visiting 25 groups of different expressions of laity to boost the experience of the charism and collect contributions for the document of the Secretariat of the Laity of the Marist Institute that will be presented at the General Chapter to be celebrated in Colombia during the month of September.

As leader of the Secretariat, he repeated the experience in Brazil on May 4 with the help of Raúl Amaya, of the Santa María de Los Andes province, organising a workshop that was developed in Brazlândia/DF, with 21 participants – Marist Brothers, laity and staff of the country's three provinces (Centro-Norte, Centro-Sul and Sul-Amazônia). The sentence of supe-

rior general Brother Emili Turú, “abandoning land that we have known to enter new territory,” served as motivation to initiate activities. The group was invited to reflect and express, through images, what this challenge means when applied to the lay process in the Institute.

“How do we want to start the third centenary? What novelty do we want to contribute?,” asked Brother Javier. Brother Javier spoke about the process that is being followed in the institutional treatment of the theme ‘bonding and belonging’ to the Institute; the beginning of the

revitalisation process of the Champagnat Movement of the Marist Family; the preparation of the documents ‘Being Lay Marist’ and ‘Entering into the territory of the new:’ References for a road map, which received contributions from the groups of the provinces for the General Chapter.

The text to date has received suggestions from the teams in Rome, Bolivia, Chile, Peru, Argentina, Ecuador and Colombia. “Towards the end of May, we gathered in Nairobi, Africa, to gather all the information,” explained Brother Javier.

60 PEOPLE FROM ALL FIVE CONTINENTS IN THE MARIST PLACES MARISTS SHARE TIME AT THE HERMITAGE

Over sixty Marists from all five continents found themselves together at The Hermitage in France in the first week of May.

They included the two groups of Brothers on the ‘Senderos’ courses (from El Escorial and Manziana) and a group of 33 Marists from Australia (mainly teachers from Marist schools) who were completing the annual pilgrimage organised by the Marist Association of St Marcellin in Australia.

This coincidence allowed everyone to get to know other Marists from across the world, and also to have some prayer and shared experience.

As both groups had planned to go to Lalouvesc and Le Puy on the same day, they decided that they

would travel together, and to celebrate Mass together at the old High Altar in the Basilica at Le Puy.



SPAIN: MARISTS OF CHAMPAGNAT

ENCOUNTER OF BROTHERS AND LAITY IN ROXOS



The team for communion of Brothers and Laity of the Compostela province animated a provincial encounter from April 27 – 29 aimed at helping search for life and mission paths shared by those invited to be “Marists of Champagnat” within the province.

With the presence of the provincial brother and some councillors, the formators of IDEM and a group of guest laity and brothers, the team for communion of Brothers and Laity presented the 31 participants the work that they have been carrying out this year, reflected in a draft of an itinerary of Marist identity.

The encounter was described as “days of reflection and search, filled with hope.” From the diversity and through dy-

namics that have favoured the exchange, participants intuited new horizons for the dream of giving birth to a new form of Marist identity at the dawn of the Bicentennial. The house of Roxos has served as a framework for this meeting, which

has had as fundamental ingredients, in addition to the work and reflection noted, simplicity and a family spirit, personal and community times of silence and awareness (Amanecer and Hora 00) and the richness of sharing.

BROTHERS WITHOUT FRONTIERS: THE MARIST BROTHERS AND THE DE LA SALLE BROTHERS GATHER IN BUCHAREST

In the context of international cooperation between their Congregations, the Marist Brothers of Bucharest and the De La Salle Brothers of Iasi and Pildesti came together in Iasi for this year's spiritual exercises from April 23rd to the 29th.

The meditations for the retreat were presented by Father Claudiu Eva of the Divine Word Missionaries, and they were inspired by the Scriptures and by the document on The Identity and Mission of the Brother in the Church, published in 2015 by the Pontifical Congregation for Institutes of Consecrated Life and Societies of Apostolic Life.

The eleven Brothers taking part in the exercises were able to reflect more deeply on the contents of the document and they had the occasion to experience in a concrete way the value of fraternity at the intercongregational level.

The programme of activities helped the participants to become more aware of the the identity and mission of the Brother in the Church, and it gave fresh impetus to their commitment to the service of God through others.



The Brothers who participated expressed the wish that this kind of intercongregational cooperation would continue and take on other forms in the future.



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