



GENERAL ADMINISTRATION CELEBRATES BICENTENARY ON FEAST OF ST MARCELLIN WITH 170 PEOPLE

GUESTS INCLUDE TWO BISHOPS AND CARDINAL JOÃO BRAZ DE AVIZ



Around 170 Brothers, laity and guests gathered at the general house for the celebration of the Institute's bicentenary and feast of Saint Marcellin Champagnat on June 6.

The event, celebrated in Rome to highlight the Institute's presence in the Church, included a presentation of the three volumes of the book 'History of the Institute' and a photographic exhibition of Brothers and laity on mission worldwide.

A Mass was then held by Cardinal João Braz de Aviz, Prefect of the Congregation for Institutes of Consecrated Life and Societies of Apostolic Life.

During the mass, a burnous (an Arabic tunic) that belonged to Br Henri Vergés, martyred in Algeria in 1994 was placed at the altar to commemorate all the Marist brothers who have given their lives for their faith during

these 200 years of our history. At the end of mass, this holy Marist relic was passed onto a representative of the Sant'Egidio community who will place it at the Basilica of St Batholomew on the Isola Tiberina in Rome.

The Mass readings and prayers were said in different languages to stress the internationality of the Institute, and then the event came to an end with a dinner.

The Institute's general administration set three dates this year to celebrate the Bicentenary: the date of the founding of the Institute (Jan. 2), the feast of St Marcellin (June 6) and the start of the 22nd general chapter in Colombia (Sept. 8).

The full audio of the book presentation and the photographic exhibition presentation are available at this link: <https://goo.gl/Erc8ov>.

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

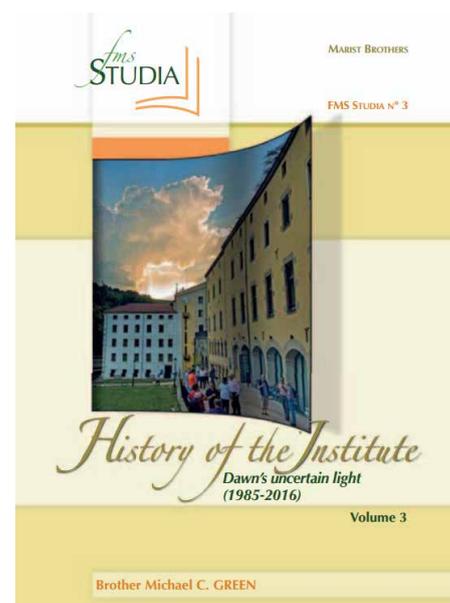
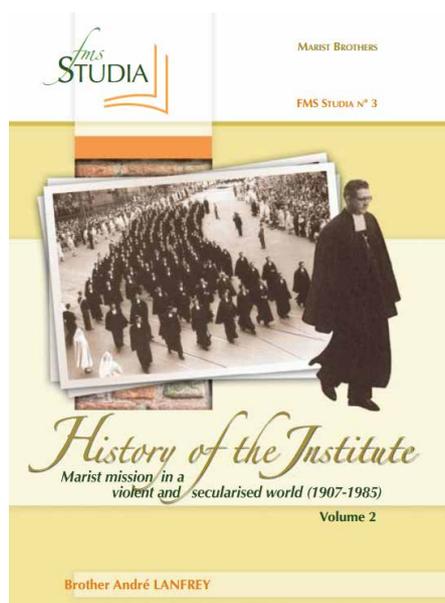
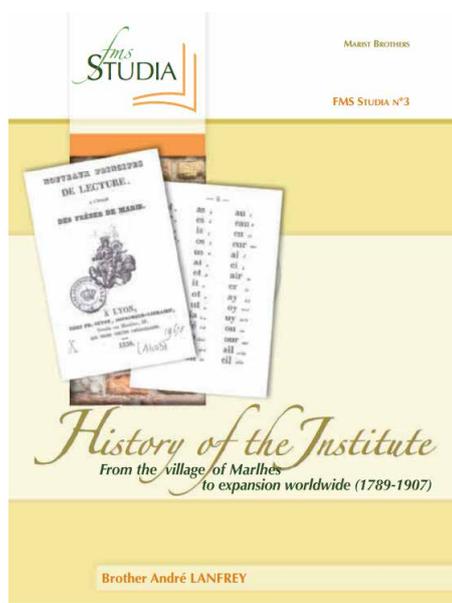
The general council began its final plenary session last week, and it will last all of June. This week, it will cover: integration with the Secretariats; the accompaniment of the regions; the foresight and planning of the Lavalla200 communities and the preparations for the General Chapter.

From June 8 – 10, meetings of the Provincial Council and the Extended Council of Canada took place with the participation of vicar general Brother Joe McKee. These meetings are part of the preparation for the celebration of the provincial chapter in December.

Br Emili Turú was in Athens on June 9 and 10, celebrating the bicentenary with the Marists of Greece.

During this week, the meeting of the American continent's Marist foundations, 'Corazones Solidarios,' is taking place in Santiago de Chile. FMSI's director, Marzia Ventimiglia, and Brothers Álvaro Sepúlveda and Manel Mendoza are taking part.

On June 13, Br Javier is travelling to Guatemala, where he will participate in the final stage of the process of preparation for the accompaniment of lay Marist vocations in the Arco Norte Region.



PRESENTATION OF THE “HISTORY OF THE INSTITUTE”

TO EMBARK IN THE HISTORY AND SERIOUSLY COMMIT ONESELF TO IT

During the celebration of the feast of Saint Marcellin Champagnat and of the Bicentenary of the Institute, in the General House, there was the presentation of number 3 of the collection FMS Studia, consisting of 3 volumes on the History of the Institute of the Marist Brothers, from the time of its foundation until the year 2016.

The first two volumes were written by Brother André Lanfrey and the third one by Brother Michael Green. The translators were Brothers Anthony Hunt and Jeff Crowe (English); Br Antonio Aragón Martón and Br Carlos Martín Hinojal (Spanish);

Jean-Pierre Cotnoir (French); Br Miro Reckziegel and Ricardo Tescarolo (Portuguese). The work was carried out under the coordination of the International Commission of the Marist Patrimony and Brother Santiago Fernández coordinated the translation of the third volume. Brother Antonio Estaún was responsible for the final layout. The authors, during a Panel, in the presence of an audience of approximately 150 persons, participating in the celebration of the Bicentenary of the Institute in the General House, responded to questions related to their research work. To download the volumes in PDF in different languages, visit: <https://goo.gl/RtzYMU>.

Presentation of Br Emili Turú, Superior Geral

If we, Marist brothers, are collectively what we are today, it is largely due to those who have preceded us. Therefore, we will hardly understand ourselves without studying the path that has led us to the present moment, when we are about to celebrate the 200th anniversary of our foundation.

For over a century, and due to a number of reasons, the interest for our Institute's history was apparently not among our priorities. However, there has been a significant effort over the last 50 or 60 years to study our tradition in a systematic and organized way. The numerous publications and the new appreciation of the Marist places in France are two facts that have generated a growing interest for our origins and for a scientific study of our Marist history.

The three volumes we are now publishing are somehow a humble tribute to all the brothers who – with great love and dedication at different points of our history – have helped us return to our sources in order to know and love them better.

The universal Church is celebrating the Year of Consecrated Life in 2015. As part of it, Pope Francis has invited us to look at the past with gratitude. In line with this invitation, how could we read these pages without gratitude in our hearts, not remembering the over 25 thousand brothers that preceded us in this Gospel journey since 1817? Many of these brothers' names will never appear in history books. However, they are actually the central characters of our Marist story because they

gave their life beyond measure at the service of our mission in a simple and discrete way, sometimes even heroically.

I invite the reader to approach these pages with gratitude. This will lead us to live the present with passion and embrace the future with hope, following the Pope's invitation. In these early years of the 21st century, we want a new beginning for the Marist Institute, and we are collectively committed to this task. The testimony of those who have preceded us encourages us to live this historical moment with passion and hope.

For many years now, Brother André Lanfrey has studied our Marist history in a very professional way. With great

NEWS IN BRIEF

LEADER TRAINING

Over the weekend, a group of Young Adults gathered at Marist High School in Bayonne, United States, for Encounter Leader Training for the 2017-2018 school year.

INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATION

The Province of Australia is hosting Matheus Silva for 12 months as part of the International Marist volunteer program - CMI (Collaboration for Mission International). Matheus is a 22 year-old volunteer who has worked for the last few years in Marist Youth Ministry in the Province of Brasil Centro-Sul. Matheus is a full-time volunteer in MYM/Remar and will work out of at Brunswick.

URUGUAY

"La Juntada" was held in Montevideo from May 26 – 28. Within the context of the Bicentenary, 150 young people from all the country's Marist works gathered in Zorrilla School to meet, play, live and serve together.

BICENTENARY CELEBRATION AROUND THE WORLD

There have been countless activities in the Marist world last week. In addition to the celebration in the General House, whose material (audio, video and images) can be downloaded at <https://goo.gl/KeXfCs>, other activities on our site can be seen. You can find the list at <https://goo.gl/HM8nnx>. If your community has done any activity, you can send it to us to add it to the list.

patience, he has helped us understand better where we come from and, therefore, to love more deeply what we are. He now gives us the first two volumes of this History of the Marist Institute, which, as we can see, are written with great precision and depth. Thank you very much, Brother André, for this beautiful contribution to our spiritual heritage.

Thanks also to Brother Michael Green, who has taken on the challenge of preparing the third volume about our recent history from 1985 to the present day. Brother Michael has listened to numerous protagonists of this historical

period for many hours. I am sure that the documentary and testimonial character of this three-volume work will be a precious treasure for future generations.

It is easy to picture Father Champagnat and the first brothers sitting in the recently concluded Hermitage building. They would vividly remember the historical and anecdotal events that took place during the initial construction. What a great courage they needed to undertake that formidable task, which would have enormous consequences for the future!

Likewise, when Father Champagnat entrusted the task of collecting the early-days memories to Brother Jean-Baptiste Furet, he knew he was living and writing a story that should be handed down to posterity but, most of all, he was convinced that being part of and committing to it was worthwhile. There-

I invite the reader to approach these pages with gratitude. This will lead us to live the present **with passion** and embrace the future **with hope**, following the Pope's invitation.

Br Emili Turú, Superior Geral

fore, these volumes on the history of our Institute – first told by Furet's book – can become a manual for living, which can help us discover what is still new in the old stories, "like a householder who brings out from his storeroom new things as well as old" (Mt 13:52). It is certainly a story we can tell today but, above all, a legacy we must receive and bestow on others. Since the hard and happy beginnings, we have realized with gratitude that the maternal hand of Mary, who has done everything for us, has guided our history. We should thus never lose our confidence, for we are convinced that the future of our Institute will be a reflection of such a Good Mother's face, and an expression of her faith journey in the footsteps of her Son.



MARIST WORLD



Brazil: Bicentenary Celebration in Brasília



Nigeria: Bicentenary Celebration, Province of Nigeria



Mexico: Br Amancio Rodríguez Pastrana, at Los Mochis



France: Chazelles sur Lyon



Chile: Meeting of the FMSI Cono Sur



Greece: Br Emili Turú in Athens

A LOOK AT THE MARIST LIFE DURING THE INSTITUTE'S BICENTENARY

PHOTOGRAPHIC EXHIBITION ON THE LIFE OF THE MARIST BROTHERS

The Brothers Today Secretariat organised a photographic exhibition titled '[A look at Marist Life in the Bicentenary of the Institute.](#)' with photos taken by visual storyteller Conor Ashleigh, a former Marist student from Australia, telling the life of the Marist Brothers around the world.

The exhibition, organised in the hall of the superiors general at the general house, was inaugurated on June 6, the Institute's Bicentenary in the general administration and the day of the feast of Marcellin Champagnat.

Forty-seven photographs were chosen among the thousands of photo-



Conor Ashleigh explains his pictures to Sister Vivienne Goldstein, General Councillor of the Marist Sisters, during the bicentenary celebration and feast of St Marcellin

graphs taken in the last two years by Conor. They were divided into three sections that recall brotherhood as the heart of the religious brother's identity: mystery (brotherhood as a gift that receives), communion (brotherhood as a gift that shares) and mission (brotherhood as a giving gift).

These three aspects are inspired by the document of the Congregation for Institutes of Consecrated Life and

Societies of Apostolic Life entitled 'Identity and Mission of the Religious Brother in the Church.'

The photos chosen for this exhibition represent a synthesis of those that will be used in the photographic book, which will be presented to all the Brothers in September as a tribute to the 200 years of the Institute. To listen to the full audio of Conor's presentation of the photographic exhibition, visit: <https://goo.gl/kNVchF>.

A MARIST HEART FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTHS

BROTHERS TODAY SECRETARIAT'S PROJECT TO COMMEMORATE THE BICENTENARY

Two hundred years ago the Marist Brothers were founded. Marcellin Champagnat founded an order of brothers committed to helping the young people of the world.

As part of the Brothers Today Secretariat's project to commemorate the Bicentenary, visual storyteller Conor Ashleigh, a former Marist student from Australia, has been photographing and interviewing Marist Brothers around the world. This is the first in a series of short film he has made.

The theme of this short film echoes the original dream of Marcellin 200 years ago: Serving God through the service with children and young people. To watch the video, visit <https://goo.gl/Nf07pG>.



#MILLIONMARISTS REACHES 1 MILLION PEOPLE

MARIST CHARISM IN THE SOCIAL MEDIA

#MillionMarists



The Marist Institute celebrated the Feast Day of Champagnat on June 6th by using the hashtag #MillionMarists for the second time on social media. After over 5,000 posts more than 1,000,000 people were reached!

Since the implementation of #MillionMarists there have been more than 14,000 posts seen over 11,000,000 times by 2,800,000 people!

We hope to keep adding to these numbers, and to reach 1,000,000 people again on the third and final day to use the hashtag, September 8th, when will begin the 22nd General Chapter.

KENYA: TOGETHER, TOWARDS A COMMON FUTURE

EXTENDED SECRETARIAT OF LAITY MEETING

This year, our meeting took place in Nairobi from May 29 to June 4. It was an opportunity to encounter and to be in communion with Marist life in the African continent. We spent the first two days sharing experiences and projects both from the African Commission and the Secretariat of Laity in an atmosphere of fraternal dialogue and attentive listening. Then both groups joined efforts to lead a workshop with the young brothers and formators from the MIC – an experience that turned out to be very motivating regarding the future of communion between brothers and laity.

Throughout the agenda, we kept in mind that the Institute is preparing the next General Chapter, and that we are facing the challenge of a third century of Marist life that is just beginning. There were several expressions that deeply resounded in our discussions: new beginning, personal conversion, institutional renewal, inspiring communities, lay vocation and communion around the same charism. The proposals from the Secretariat of Laity – which the General Council asked us to present the Chapter with – are an attempt to 'translate' these topics coming from the



numerous consensus-seeking meetings we have carried out across the Provinces.

Saying good bye to the four members of the Secretariat who completed their second three-year term was an emotional moment. They are Paty Ríos (Mexico), Raúl Amaya (Chile), Agnes Reyes (Philippines), and brother Sylvain Ramandimbarisoa (Madagascar). We highlighted the process of maturity, stability, and depth that the group developed these

years as we walked together – a pathway that involved spending many hours meeting and discussing, besides a great experience of friendship, love and fraternity. The fact that new members are presently joining the Secretariat made us reflect about new ways of organizing our work and animation mission, in line with the challenges posed by the lay process the Institute has experienced these years, and with the call from the Spirit to embark in a new beginning.



VIDEO OF THE BICENTENARY CELEBRATION AT THE GENERAL HOUSE

To watch a video of the Institute's bicentenary celebration during the feast of St Marcellin Champagnat on June 6, at the general house, visit <https://goo.gl/oLGxOD>

Institute of the Marist Brothers - General House

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

Our website: <http://www.champagnat.org>

YouTube channel:

<https://www.youtube.com/user/champagnatorg>

Follow us:

<https://www.facebook.com/fmschampagnat>

https://twitter.com/fms_champagnat