

INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITIES FOR A NEW BEGINNING

L'HERMITAGE: THE LAVALLA200> 2017 GROUP CONCLUDES ITS PROGRAMME

After nearly two months at San Martino a Monte, the last formation week of the second group of the Lavalla200> project, held from June 29 – July 2, was an intense experience “in the footsteps of Champagnat,” treading on the land where everything began, walking on his paths, praying in front of the same images and places that had inspired his soul.

The last two days, dedicated to personal synthesis, were under the guidance of Br Hipólito Pérez: “Take off your shoes, this is sacred land!” Was his invitation to the participants, repeating the gesture of Moses on Mount Horeb where he received his mission face to face with God.

In silence, each participant had the chance to reflect on the experience at San Martino a Monte, on the “new beginning” to which they are called to give life... and to make an in-depth synthesis of a strong personal experience.

But above all it was a community experience and has changed (probably definitively) the way of being Marist together: Brothers and laity, diverse generations, language and culture, distant from each other...

Yet the unity that was experienced has been so strong, so full, so contagious that it really made us feel “one body.”

And this is what everyone emphasized when sharing what they experienced, while remaining concrete and giving suggestions to further improve the formation proposal for the next group in 2018.



Br Emili, Superior General, also shared the two days of synthesis before seeing everyone gathered in front of Champagnat’s urn and before repeating each of Marcellin’s gestures: “Go and be Mary’s presence ... in Tabatinga (Brazil), Atlantis (South Africa), East Harlem (United States), Moinești (Romania) and in the Marist District of Asia.

Before giving each participant a small Marist cross, he recalled two Biblical expressions: the first, which is very well-known, was: “Do not be afraid!” and the second, which Paul told Timothy: “The Lord trusts you!”

And on the last day, we were all in the Basilica of Fourvière, in front of the “Good Mother,” to give her thanks and to make our promise, like Champagnat and the first Marists did.



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STRATEGIC PLAN OF THE AMERICA SUR REGION

MEETING OF THE REGIONAL COMMITTEE IN BUENOS AIRES

In June, the Regional Committee for América Sur met for the first time in the City of Buenos Aires, Argentina,

after having been approved by the Regional Assembly, held in Montevideo.

It is made up by a lay person and a brother from each of the five Provinces, plus a Provincial Brother as president.



Luca Olivari accompanies this opportunity as an adviser of the New Models

It was very intensive work, with the aim of continuing to elaborate the Strategic Plan of the Region, the Roles and Responsibilities of each stage of the Operative Model approved by the Regional Assembly and the routing of the "Experts," "Communication," "Vocational Animation," "Pre and Post Novitiate," "Network of Bursars" and "Network of Schools."

It was also a very symbolic moment, the trip to the National Shrine of Our Lady of Lujan, where, following the example of Marcellin before Our Lady of Fourvière, the Regional Committee entrusted to the Good Mother the birth of the South America Region.

I HAVE CARRIED YOU UP ON EAGLES WINGS

AFRICAN MARIST FORMATION FOR A NEW BEGINNING

"I have carried you up on eagles wings and brought you here to myself." Ex 19:4

Fifty brothers from the 5 provinces and districts of Africa are gathered in Nairobi from the 22 – 29 July in order:

- To meet their fellow African Marist formators
- To know the recommendations of the 2015 International Colloquium.
- To reflect on current Initial Formation programs in the African context
- To deepen the identity and mission of Marist formators in Africa.

These images of the first few days cover the area of BEING.

- BEING a formator
- BEING a formation community
- BEING spiritual



These days are being facilitated by Br Óscar Martin (Compostela) currently working in the novitiate in Matola (Mozambique).

DECEASED BROTHERS 2017

24/07/2017: Francisco Mugueta Martínez
Prov. LHermitage
Spain, Mataró

23/07/2017: Thomas David Hickey
Prov. Australia

16/07/2017: Lawrence Perera
Prov. South Asia
Sri Lanka, Negombo

16/07/2017: Osvin Ludwig
Prov. Brasil Sul-Amazônia
Porto Alegre

13/07/2017: João Baptista Bizzotto
Prov. Brasil Sul-Amazônia - Santa Maria, RS

09/07/2017: Michael Lim Hiow Choo
Prov. East Asia - Malaysia, Petaling Jaya

06/07/2017: Gilles Martel
Prov. Canada

Saint-Jean-Sur-Richelieu
02/07/2017: Adrian Walker
Prov. Europe Centre-Ouest /
West Central Europe
Scotland, Glasgow

02/07/2017: José Guadalupe Padilla
Prov. México Occidental
Aguascalientes

26/06/2017: José Bet
Prov. Brasil Sul-Amazônia - Porto Alegre

26/06/2017: Ernest Censi
Prov. LHermitage - France, Saint Genis-Laval

24/06/2017: Brendan O'Shea
Prov. África Austral / Southern Africa - Johannesburg

20/06/2017: William Lawson
Prov. Pacific - New Zealand, Auckland

10/06/2017: Paul Rozé
Prov. LHermitage - France, Saint Genis-Laval

08/06/2017: Rafael Herrero Gutiérrez
Prov. Santa María de los Andes - Peru, Lima

07/06/2017: Shao Po Chang
Prov. East Asia - Hong Kong, Kowloon

03/06/2017: Gaudentius Schmid
Prov. Europe Centre-Ouest / West Central Europe - Germany, Mindelheim

01/06/2017: Victor Emmanuel Fernando
Prov. South Asia - Sri Lanka, Negombo

25/05/2017: Armand Rakotomalala
Prov. Casa general - Madagascar, Antananarivo

19/05/2017: Raymond Collavet
Prov. LHermitage - France, Saint Genis-Laval

08/05/2017: Fabián Javier García Terradillos
Prov. Mediterránea - Spain, Benalmádena

06/05/2017: Pablo López Ruiz
Prov. Compostela
Spain, Valladolid

26/04/2017: Eladio Flórez González
Prov. Ibérica - Spain, Collado Villalba

24/04/2017: Roger Séguin
Prov. Canada

18/04/2017: Angelo Zucchet
Prov. Santa María de los Andes - Chile, Santiago

16/04/2017: Ezequiel Vaquerín Fernández
Prov. Compostela - Spain, Valladolid

11/04/2017: Jean-Paul Julien
Prov. Canada - Château-Richer

05/04/2017: Teófilo Paredes
Prov. Santa María de los Andes - Chile

24/03/2017: Francis Field
Prov. Australia

21/03/2017: Adrien Beaudoin
Prov. Canada - Canada, Château-Richer

17/03/2017: Laurent Potvin
Prov. Canada - Canada, Château-Richer.

17/03/2017: Salatiel Franciscano do Amaral
Prov. Brasil Centro-Norte - Recife

10/03/2017: Aurélio Ortigara
Prov. Brasil Sul-Amazônia - Porto Alegre

04/03/2017: Teodosio Sánchez Sáez
Prov. Ibérica - Spain, Fuenlabrada

01/03/2017: Luis María Briones Besné
Prov. Mediterránea - Spain, Córdoba

25/02/2017: Gottfried Prechtel
Prov. Europe Centre-Ouest / West Central Europe
Germany, Pfeffenhausen

23/02/2017: Michel Rampelberg
Prov. LHermitage - France, Beaucamps-Ligny

22/02/2017: Albino Modesto Moretto
Prov. Brasil Centro-Sul, São José dos Pinhais

19/02/2017: Charles Marcellin
Prov. United States of America - Bronxville

15/02/2017: Roland Joyal
Prov. Canada

Château-Richer

09/02/2017: Francis Thomas
Prov. United States of America - Lincroft, NJ

07/02/2017: Elie (Lucien) Blomme
Prov. Europe Centre-Ouest / West Central Europe
Belgium, Ottignies

06/02/2017: Ignacio Aranguren Larrañaga
Prov. Ibérica

Spain, Lardero

01/02/2017: Benito García Díez
Prov. América Central

Guatemala

31/01/2017: Elto Aloísio Puhl
Prov. Brasil Sul-Amazônia - Porto Alegre

07/01/2017: Lucinio Medel Salas
Prov. Ibérica
Spain, Lardero

MARIST WORLD



Brazil: Directors of Marist Schools from Brasil Centro-Sul



Madagascar: Meeting of Lay Marists in Antananarivo



Spain: MarCha, Bonanza



General House: Visit of Brothers and lay people from Brasil Sul-Amazônia



United States: Marist College, Poughkeepsie



Australia: Diamond Jubilee Celebration at Mittagong

MEXICO: A SPIRITUALITY FOR A NEW BEGINNING

11TH MEETING OF THE INTER-AMERICAN NETWORK OF MARIST SPIRITUALITY

The 11th Meeting of the Inter-American Network of Marist Spirituality was held in Mexico City at the Marist residence 'Quinta Soledad', from July 5 - 10.

Thirty-five laity and brothers took part, including 8 guests from the Province of México Central. Brother Javier Espinosa, of the Secretariat of the Laity, was among the participants.

The topic was: "A spirituality for a new beginning" and the theme was: "La Valla: mystical inspiration of our lives".

Inspired by one of the aspects of Marist Spirituality, the "Four Ways of Apostolic Spirituality" was deepened and lived: Contemplating God in oneself; Contemplating God in history and in the world; Contemplating God in prayer; Get out of yourself. On the first day, there was a rich sharing of the significant experi-



ences of Marist spirituality developed and lived in the provinces. There we perceived the wealth and at the same time the possibilities and needs that each province has regarding the experi-

ence of spirituality. The central and most important moment was the experience of "finding God in the city", held on the morning of the second day together with the experience of solidarity.

For the solidarity visit, we divided ourselves into five groups and visited houses and projects that serve refugees and migrants.

It is an increasingly important and recurrent situation in our reality, especially in the country of Mexico.

In a message to the participants of the meeting, Brother Mariano Varona, founder of the RED EAM, encouraged us to study and live the four paths of apostolic spirituality and recalled that, within the current culture of interiority, Marist Spirituality is not reduced to just interiority, rather it is one of its dimensions.

At the end of the meeting, the RED EAM presented some proposals from the two regions of the American continent, which

will be sent to the provincials in August. The main proposal is that we must somehow recover our Marist purpose, as regions, in the provinces and units, taking into account that Spirituality should not be understood as a movement already included within the various projects of mission and provincial animation, but rather at the heart of all our charismatic actions and animations.

It was also recalled that the RED EAM has been insisting from the beginning on the creation of teams of provincial animation of the Marist Spirituality and that this helps a lot the experience and animation of spirituality in the provinces.

We have the grace of the Spirit so that, in the new organisational models of our regions, the RED EAM continues to animate the life and charismatic processes of our provinces.

UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW BEFORE THE UN HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL

FMSI CONO SUR'S REPORT FOR ARGENTINA

The report was presented by FMSI, together with VIVAT International and Edmund Rice International, for the examination of Argentina (third cycle), that the Human Rights Council will carry out, from Nov. 16 - 17 in Geneva, Switzerland.

The report was worked on by FMSI Cono Sur with the organizations mentioned above, and is the result of the investigation carried out by this coalition of NGO's on the situation of the human rights in the country; especially focused on the rights of girls, boys and adolescents who live in the Province of Buenos Aires.

In Argentina live 40.091.359 inhabitants, of which 33%, lives in Ciudad Autonoma of Buenos Aires and in the great Buenos Aires. In Argentina between 25% and 32% of the children is multidimensionality poor, and the 8,4% is extremely poor. Access to technology and to information, protection against violence, access to health and leisure are determinant factors at the hour of identifying these levels of poverty and explain more than 63% of the total poverty of the country.

[The report](#) is especially focused on child abuse and violence exercised against children in all its forms and the lack of a defender of children. In regard to the first point, the recommendations

to the state of Argentina are the following:

1. To adopt effectively the prohibition and elimination of every type of violence toward children.
2. To develop and implement the processes of denunciation, treatment and follow-up of cases of children victims of abuse, simplifying the access to justice, focusing on their needs.
3. To allot human and economic resources to deal with the problems of children victims of abuse.

Regarding the lack of a defender of girls, boys and adolescents, is recommended to the State of Argentina:

1. To appoint the Defender of Girls, Boys and Adolescents, in agreement with the national law 26.061 of the year 2005 and according to the Principles of Paris on Independent National Institutions of Human Rights.
2. To increase or strengthen the political measures and of institutional coordination so that the work of the Defender of Girls, Boys and Adolescents is developed in an effective manner, with territorial presence and his own Budget.

[Download the Report for the Universal Periodic Review of Argentina \(in Spanish\).](#)



MEXICO: A SPIRITUALITY FOR A NEW BEGINNING

11TH MEETING OF THE INTER-AMERICAN NETWORK OF MARIST SPIRITUALITY

FMSI participated in the Global Consultation of Experts "Violence against children in mobility: from continuum of violence to continuum of protection," organized by the Office of the Special Representative of the General Secretariat of the UN on Violence against Children, in the University Iberoamericana in Mexico City, on June 27 and 28.

On this occasion FMSI was represented by Maria José Lazcano, coordinator of the Centro de Apoyo Marista al Migrante (Marist Center of Support to the Migrant) (Queretaro, Mexico).

Through the use of different panels it was tried to picture or represent the dynamics of violence that affect the migrant and refugee children, as well as the positive actions and good practices which from different fields and organizations have been taken to improve the life conditions and the access to rights in the different stages

which integrate the migratory process (origin, transit, destiny and return).

María José Lazcano stressed during her intervention the good practice of some Marist initiatives: [Three2six](#) (South Africa), [the Project Samut Sak-hon for migrant children of Myanmar](#) (Thailand), the Fratelli Project that seeks the inclusion of Syrian refugees (Lebanon) and Marist 180 for migrant children who are not accompanied (Australia).

These initiatives endeavor to get the protection and the right to education for the migrant and refugee children, helping them to find a secure place in schools, not to suffer discrimination.

They support the construction of an including community through working teams qualified for giving attention to migrant and refugee girls and boys.

The good practices of the projects that have been presented were shared

with colleagues of organizations such as [Save the Children](#), [UNICEF](#), [ONU](#), [ACNUR](#), [IOM](#) and organizations of civil society which work in countries such as Honduras, Guatemala, El Salvador, Mexico, Dominican Republic, United States, among others.

The intervention of FMSI stressed the importance of coordinated work with other organizations of civil society, religious congregations and with the to obtain greater benefits for the migrant population.

The need to cause impact with national local governments was stressed so that they assume their responsibility in the defense or protection of the social and economic rights, by establishing adequate processes for the integration of migrant children and their families.

In the same way, on the 28 and 29 we participated in the "Global Consultation of Experts" for the "Joint General Observation on the Rights of Children in mobility" which the [Committee on the Rights of Migrant Workers](#) and the [Committee on the Rights of the Child](#) are preparing. Observations were made on the section on "Right to education and professional formation".

We consider that it is fundamental to be present in these forums through the witnesses and experiences which come from the direct and committed work with migrant children at international level to continue strengthening our work, and above all, by promoting the access to fundamental rights to attain the full development of the migrant and refugee girls and boys in the world.



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