



## FOR A CHILD TO LIVE WITH MORE DIGNITY

### THE PROVINCE OF NORANDINA APPEALS TO SOLIDARITY

Norandina province – composed of Colombia, Ecuador and Venezuela – has launched an appeal with three initiatives to help fundraise money for Marist educational works in Venezuela, which is experiencing its worst socio-economic and political crisis in history.

Venezuela has been hit hard by an economic crisis and shortages of food and medicine have become common.

During 2016, consumer prices rose 800%, the economy contracted by 18.6%, and hunger escalated to the point that the “Venezuela’s Living Conditions Survey” (ENCOVI) found nearly 75% of the population had lost an average of at least 8.7 kg in weight due to a lack of proper nutrition.



Now, the Marist province of Norandina is carrying out three initiatives to help fundraise: 'Escuela acogedora para todos: estudiar con materiales indispensables' (A welcoming school for all: studying with indispensable materials); 'Felicidad del compartir: un desayuno para un niño = un dólar' (Happiness of sharing: one breakfast for one child = one dollar); 'Quiero formarme: formarme para servir, mejor formación, mejor educación' (Form me to serve, better formation, better education).

The objective of 'Escuela acogedora para todos: estudiar con materiales indispensables' is to obtain indispensable materi-

als for the education of children and adolescents that study in free Marist schools in Venezuela.

'Felicidad del compartir: un desayuno para un niño = un dólar' aims at offering breakfast each day to children in need that attend one of those schools.

The 'Quiero formarme: formarme para servir, mejor formación, mejor educación' initiative hopes to form people to better serve children, adolescents, youth and educators.

The Institute has 17 works in Venezuela, of which 13 are free.



## GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

- Since Monday, May 21, until Friday, May 25, Brother Álvaro Sepúlveda is participating in a seminar with the De La Salle Brothers entitled 'Rights, Citizenship and School', in Rome.
- From Wednesday to Friday, May 23 – 25, Brother Ernesto Sánchez, superior general, will attend a meeting of the Union of General Superiors in Ariccia, Italy.
- From May 29 – 31, Brother Ernesto Sánchez and the general councillors will visit the community of the general house.

The money of the three initiatives will go to the free works of: Escuela Puchi Fonseca, Escuela Marcelino Champagnat in La Cañada de Urdaneta, Escuela Misael Vilchez, Escuela H. Ildefonso G., Escuela San Marcelino Champagnat

in Maracay, Escuela granja Santa Catalina, Casa Peruchito en Los Teques, Medical dispensary José Félix Rivas in Caracas, Medical dispensary Francisco Rivat in Maracay, Colegio San Pablo in Machiques, Formation

centre San Pablo for youth outside the school system in Machiques, Formation centre Ildefonso Gutiérrez for youth outside the school system in Maracaibo, and the Formation centre San Vicente in Maracay.

## YOU CAN CONTRIBUTE THROUGH THE MARISTS OF NORANDINA OR FMSI



### Province Norandina:

**Bank: Banco del Pichincha C.A**

Quito, Ecuador

Swift code: PICHECEQ

Beneficiary's name: Agrupación Marista Ecuatoriana

Current account number: 2100145328

Beneficiary's address: 9 de octubre No 23-70 y Veintimilla

### FMSI:

**Bank: Banca Prossima**

BIC code: BCITITMM

Beneficiary's name: Fondazione Marista per la Solidarietà Internazionale Onlus

Current account number: 100000125288

IBAN: IT70M0335901600100000125288

## SRI LANKA: SEVEN NOVICES JOIN THE INTERNATIONAL NOVITIATE OF TUDELLA

### THE INSTITUTE'S SECOND LARGEST NOVITIATE

The recent entry of five new novices at Tudella, Sri Lanka, adds to a total of 19 making it the Institute's second largest novitiate after the Marist

Brothers Formation Centre in Kumasi, Ghana, which currently has 26. The International Novitiate of Tudella, in the South Asia province, began

its programme on May 3 and received Liu Cong, Tran Long, Le Van Nghi, But Van Duc, Le Van Duy, Nguyen Van Phuc and Le Danh Hai officially on May 11. They are all from two countries of the Marist District of Asia.

The novitiate includes, for the second-year novices, a three-month placement in an apostolic community from May 15 – Aug. 10. Later, after making their first vows, they begin their post-novitiate formation in Manila, Philippines, at the Marist Asian Pacific Center (MAPAC).

On May 13, the 12 second year novices – from Sri Lanka, East Timor, Melanesia and another country of the Marist District of Asia – were commissioned for their apostolic community experience.

In the picture, from left to right: Le Van Nghi, Nguyen Van Phuc, But Van Duc, Liu Cong, Le Danh Hai, Le Van Duy, Tran Long.





NEWS IN BRIEF

**AUSTRALIA**

The Marist School of Bendigo recently celebrated 125 years. Kilmore was the first Marist school opened outside of Sydney, in the country, and Bendigo the second; both were created in 1893. The celebrations were marked by the inauguration of new wings in the school and by the placement of a new statue of Saint Marcellin.

**CRUZ DEL SUR**

The coordinators and directors of the participating schools of the project 'Contribution of Reggio Emilia to early childhood education' visited schools in the Brasil Sul-Amazonia province from May 14 – 16. The objective was to share theoretical frameworks, fundamental principles and experiences of children and educators in spaces where they develop their proposals.

**COMPOSTELA**

With the aim of improving communication skills and advancing the transparency and public information of the life of the schools, activities, projects and the educational model of the Compostela province, the representatives of the Marist schools of Galicia participated in a two-day work gathering. Organised by the communication's office of the province, the theme was 'We are all spokesmen and everything we do communicates'. In the coming weeks, the office will also develop these days for the schools of Castilla y León and Asturias.

**BRASIL CENTRO-NORTE**

The province of Brasil Centro-Norte promoted a series of educational sessions in social assistance from May 14 – 16. The social assistants of the Marist socio-educational works participated in this moment of formation based on themes chosen by the participants themselves. They addressed philanthropy, the institutional policy of comprehensive protection for children and adolescents and social inclusion.

THE FIRST WEEK OF THE CURRENT FORMATORS PROGRAM  
MAY 14-19, 2018

Seventeen Brothers from fourteen different countries have arrived at the General House in Rome for the Current Formators Program. Welcoming us at the airport were two members of the Escorial team, Br Antonio Peralta and Br Joaquim Sperandio. Two others leading our program include Br Tony Leon, from the Secretariat of Brothers Today, and Br Teofilo Minga, from Manziana.

On Tuesday May 15, the program started with a "bingo formator" game conducted by Br Tony, as a way for us to get to know each other better. Following that, a prayer and reflection helped us focus on the question "what do I thirst for?" - a powerful question for us to reflect on at the beginning of the program.

The image of the Roman Arch was introduced, following on from the third call of the General Chapter, for us to be bridge builders. Each stone in the arch has to be cut and shaped to take its place, and the KEYSTONE helps the whole system to stand firm after the supportive wooden scaffold is taken away.

There are different elements or 'stones' that will contribute to building our arch, our program, over these nine weeks. The arch image, with Jesus as the keystone, can also help us to understand various aspects of our role as Formators. For example, we are called to help construct sound formation programs, so that when we remove the "wooden scaffolding", the support for our young men at post-Novitiate Stage 2 level, the vocation and sense of belonging and direction for the young Brother will still be solid stones in his life.

On Wednesday, May 16, the program continued with the topic of LISTENING. Tony explained to us the meaning of listening by the use of the Chinese

symbol for writing, which is composed of images of listening with one's ears, eyes, heart, and whole being. The symbol gives a sense of listening fully and deeply.

The themes of IDENTITY and MISSION were then highlighted, with the questions: "Who does God want me to be?", and "What does God want me to do?" After some reflection we were invited into some "circle sharing" where we were invited to listen to each other



attentively. Before ending the second day Br Joaquim introduced to us to the program outline.

For the next two days, Thursday 17 and Friday 18, we were blessed to welcome Sr Guadalupe from Spain, our speaker on the topic of accompaniment, a deeply important part of our ministry as Formators.

The week concluded with a group outing into Rome for an orientation to the old city, to visit the Champagnat statue at St Peters, to share lunch together, and to attend our Pentecost Eucharist at Santa Maria de Trastevere – a fitting feast for us to celebrate, as we strive to build supportive community over these days of growth and learning together!

## MARIST WORLD



Colombia  
IED los Naranjos, Bogotá



Spain: Formation week for school directors at Castillo de Maimón - Córdoba



Argentina  
Colegio MACNAB Bernal



Spain  
Maristes Sants-Les Corts, Barcelona



Costa Rica  
Colegio Marista Alajuela



Australia  
Timor Leste Novices arrive in Alice Springs

## THE FUTURE OF THE INTERNATIONAL NETWORK OF MARIST PUBLISHING HOUSES

### FOURTH ASSEMBLY

From May 7 – 9, brothers from the General house and from the provinces of Ibérica, Compostela and Brasil Centro-Sur as well as executives from the Marist publishing houses FTD Educação, Edelvives and Gram participated in the fourth assembly of the International Network of Marist Publishing Houses.

Under the title 'The Future of the International Network of Marist Publishing Houses', the event took place in Curitiba and São Paulo, Brazil. It was organised by FTD Educação with the objective of evaluating the Network's journey aligned with the New Model of Mission and Management and with the guidelines of the XXII General Chapter, as well as to define its networking model.

The meeting was attended, on behalf of the general administration and the provinces, by: Br Libardo Garzón



(economie general) and Br Carlos Rojas (director of the Secretariat of Mission); Br Rogério Mateucci and Br Lino Jungbluth (Brasil Centro-Sur); Br Ángel Muñoz and Br Eduardo Montenegro (Compostela); José Luis Santamaría and Alberto Alberto Oribe (Ibérica).

The participants who represented the editorials were: Br Délcio Balestrin, Br Dario Bortolini, Antonio Rios, Cecilia-ny Alves and Victor Linhares (FTD Educação); Br Julian Sanz, Alberto Pazos and Javier Cendoya (Edelvives); Br Agustín Martínez and Jorgelina Bastiani (Gram).



# Marcellin and the Young: attentive eyes, compassionate heart

The message of the Superior General, Br Ernesto Sánchez, for the feast of Saint Marcellin Champagnat is already available on our website.

Use [this link](#) to download the PDF file: <https://bit.ly/2rZA3Wj>

## EXPERIENCES OF INTERNSHIPS

### EDUCATION TEAM AND NETWORK OF MARIST SCHOOLS IN AMÉRICA SUR

From April 23 – 25, Marists from the five provinces of the América Sur region met in Santiago de Chile to share their experiences and internships of Santiago and Rancagua (Chile) that had been a continuation of internships carried out in 2016 in the country and in 2017 in Porto Alegre (Brazil).

Sixteen representatives from the provinces of Santa María de los Andes, Cruz del Sur, Brasil Centro-Norte, Brasil Centro-Sul and Brasil Sul-Amazônia participated.

The purpose of the meeting was for coordinators and educational managers to better know the educational intervention that is chosen to help them grow in their responsibility, while knowing the requirements of qualified personnel, infrastructure, equipment and other aspects of adopting the strategy.

They discussed the organisation and networking in Chile as well as the knowledge of the baterías psicoeducativas (psychoeducational batteries) and evaluaciones de aprendizaje (apprenticeship assessments). They also touched on leadership, accompaniment and evaluation of network skills that is done in the 12 educational



works of the country and the 100 directors and 1,000 educators who live this process. The curriculum team of Chile then presented the Marist pedagogical model.

On April 24, they reflected on the process of Marist accreditation and result of the governing school that had been created, installed and accompanied by the country's education management team.

Then they worked on the model and the work itinerary of this theme in the works. In the afternoon, they learned about the system strategies for learn-

ing; the use of the interactive portal; Chile's design and informative educational communication.

It closed with educational projects that have been implemented in the network of schools: Learning and Service; "Delet" (Early Reading); "Singapore Method"; Reading comprehension.

On April 25, some very important projects were made known on the site at the Marist School of Rancagua, with experiences of these learning strategies, such as the Neurosciences Project and the "Singapore Method".

## BRASIL: STRENGTHENING OF THE REGIONAL UNIT

### MEETING OF THE COMMUNICATIONS TEAM OF THE AMÉRICA SUR REGION

The communications team of the América Sur region met on May 10 and 11 in Brasilia, Brazil, to update and adjust the region's communication plan, which had been approved by the general assembly.

They also met to advance in the matters of strategic projects and to organise the visual identity of the third general assembly of the provincial councils of the América Sur region.

The group discussed the communication work of the provinces, defined the workflow and schedules, and prepared for the next assembly of the América Sur region, which will take place in Porto Alegre, Brazil, from July 3 – 6.

This communications team is made up of representatives of the Marist provinces Brasil Centro-Norte (PMBCN),

Irene Simões; Brasil Centro-Sul (PMBCS), Carmem Murara; Brasil Sul-Amazonia (PMSA), Diego Wander; Santa María de los Andes, Joaquín Meli; In the regional committee, Manuela Suassuna, of the PM-BCN.

After this meeting, the team began to work on the proposals suggested during the meeting, such as the production of an electronic bulletin on communication in the provinces, as well as the production of a video on the América Sur region.

With this work, the communication



team hopes to contribute to the improvement of the flow of communication in the region, to strengthen the regional identity and to help integrate the provinces.

## GERMANY: A MARIST INTERNATIONAL YOUTH COMMUNITY IN MINDELHEIM

### SOUTH AFRICAN YOUNG MARISTS VOLUNTEER IN EUROPE FOR THE FIRST TIME

Two South African youths arrived to Mindelheim, Germany, earlier this month marking the first time ever that South African Marists volunteer in Germany.

Palesa Shabangu, aged 21, and Shari Maluleke, aged 18, arrived on May 3 and will be looking after kindergarteners in two schools until December. Palesa will be at the Marcellin-Champagnat-Kindertagesstätte and Shari will be at the Johann-Baptist-Luxenhofer-Kindertagesstätte.

Another young Marist volunteer arrived from Mexico earlier this year and two others – one from the United States and another from South Africa – will arrive in September. Upon their arrival, they were received by Marists as well as the mayor of Mindelheim, Stephan Winter.

Brother Chris Wills, director of the Collaboration for Mission, International secretariat, underscored that "Germany wishes to open itself to the rest of the Marist world and using the Cmi volunteering system is one way of doing it in both directions."

Palesa and Shari will be living in a Marist international youth community. These communities are not student accommodations, nor are they part of fraternities or the Marist Champagnat Families Movement (MChFM).

"But they have a shared spirituality and culture so it's more than just a boarding house, it's a Marist community," stressed Br Chris on May 14. "Just as Marist Brothers' com-



munities are different in different parts of the world, so are these, but they're all Marist."

"You instantly feel at home in them," he continued.

Other Marist international youth communities are in Melbourne (Australia), Johannesburg (South Africa), Montreal, Quebec, Sherbrooke and Drummondville (Canada), Esopus (United States) and in Mexico City, in the provincial house of México Central.

The community in Johannesburg, called the Marcellin House, hosts volunteers from different countries such as Australia, Brazil, Spain and Germany.



## LAVALLA200> - WEEK 2

### LAVALLA200> PARTICIPANTS RECEIVE FORMATION ON THE ENNEAGRAM AND DISCERNMENT

In the second week of Lavalla200>, the participants went to San Martín a Monte for the next steps of the formation.

Initially, they were organised into four fraternities composed of brothers and lay people, with the purpose of enriching their experience and enabling intercultural learning.

In these fraternities, the members began to organise themselves with food, cleaning and prayers.

The formative itinerary of the second week contemplated two modules. The first of them, led by Brother Lluís Serra, was a great invitation to all for an inner journey.

Based on the enneagram, this stage was aimed at expanding self-knowledge, elucidating potentials, limitations and possibilities of each one. According to Brother Jorge Gaio, from the Brasil Centro-Sur province, it was an opportunity to deepen personal characteristics and abilities.

"With this tool, I was able to become more aware of how I behave in more relaxed moments and in the tensest, looking for more healthy and fraternal interrelations," he says.



In the second module, the Australian Brother Graham Neist addressed aspects related to discernment and how it is produced in the small daily decisions, the society relates it as great decisions, forgetting that they are 'the small daily actions that make possible that discernment. It is a procedural exercise.

Another highlight was the importance of contemplative practice. This module allowed the participants a refinement in the election process of the international and intercultural community in which they will act in the next two years.

The week ended with cultural immersions in cities near San Martín, such as Assisi and Florence.



**Mary, a woman who was able to create a home where she created new life and cared for Jesus, she will continue to encourage and accompany us. Marcellin Champagnat frequently repeated the words: "Mary, this is your work", and that gives me a total confidence that she will continue to take charge of this "New La Valla". From all this, we hear her telling us: "The new beginning has already begun! Let us put our hands to work and build it!"**

**(Br. Ernesto Sánchez, Superior General)**

## THE MYM RETREAT FOR SELF-KNOWLEDGE, DIALOGUE AND LISTENING

### YOUNG MARISTS OF THE BRAZIL SUL-AMAZONIA PROVINCE

Carrying out an encounter with himself and with God reflecting on following Jesus of Nazareth was the objective of the retreat that brought together 25 animators and advisers of the Marist Youth Ministry from May 4 – 6 in Tramandaí, Brazil.

There were dozens of experiences imbued with intense listening, self-knowledge and dialogue inspired by the natural beauty of the place that was the venue of the meeting.

The apron was the symbol of the meeting, based on the letter "Just a Tent as the Heart of our Future" written by Brother Emili Turú (superior general of the Marist Institute from 2009 to 2017) in which he speaks about the "Church of the Apron".

The text presents the proposal of "looking at the world from the perspective of another person. Being able to put yourself in their place; letting yourself be touched by that person."



The synthesis of the activities was recorded on the inner side of the apron, which referred to the care and inner knowledge that each one needs to have.

On Friday night, May 4, the sharing was about what the colour of each one's day was. The moment also provided the opportunity for the integration and presentation of the group members.

On May 5, Saturday, began on the shore of the beach with the beautiful landscape of sunrise. They contemplated nature with the verses of the creation of the world in Genesis. Consequently, the invitation was to reflect on the disappointments of each one's life and to think about how one faces them.

Throughout the afternoon, the questions were: what was the reason for the life of Jesus of Nazareth, why did Champagnat live and why do I live? Reflections on these questions were made in trios. At the end of the afternoon, each one summarised the experience of the retreat until then by designing with clay. The meanings of each work were later presented during vespers.



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