



STRATEGIC PLANNING FOR THE ANIMATION AND GOVERNMENT OF THE INSTITUTE WEEK OF INTEGRATION BETWEEN THE GENERAL COUNCIL AND THE SECRETARIATS

During the third week of the Plenary Session, from June 18 to 22, Brother Ernesto Sánchez and the General Council met with the Secretariats of the General Administration to work on the strategic planning for the Animation and the Government of the Institute for the next eight years.

The organization of the work of the week was the charge of the Vicar General, Brother Luis Carlos Gutierrez and of the Councilors Ben Consigli and Oscar Martin. Brother Gabriel Villareal, Provincial Vicar of L'Hermitage, was invited as facilitator of the process.

Brother Ernesto and his Council, as leaders of the Institute, began to draw up their plan of action, last February, during the first encounter with the Team of the General Administration. After this the Provinces were invited to make an



analysis on the critical themes related with the calls of the General Chapter. This work was done by the Mission Committee. The General Council collected all the suggestions of these groups in a document of 20 pages, which served as the basis to prioritize the critical affairs and the identification of strategies, which are now being judged.

Divided into five groups, the Councilors and members of

the Secretariats indicated the elements that they judge as fundamental for the animation and the government of the Institute up to the year 2025. The result obtained was the fruit of the clear view of the critical affairs and of a profound analysis of the weaknesses, threats, strengths and opportunities (DAFO), which exist today within the Institute and in society, in relationship with the 5 calls and the 5 areas of action indicated by the Document of the General Chapter.

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

- From July 2 to 4, in Lardero (Spain), Brothers Ben Consigli, General Councilor, and Carlos Alberto Rojas, Director of the Secretariat of Mission, are participating in the Assembly of Mission of the Iberian Province.
- Br. Libardo Garzón, General Bursar, is participating in the meeting of the working group of MIC & MIUC in Nairobi (Kenya), which is taking place from the 2nd to the 6th of July.

- Brothers Luis Carlos Gutierrez, Vicar General, Sylvain Ramandimbirisoa and Oscar Martín Vicar, General Councilors, are participating, from July 2 to 6, in the Regional Assembly of South America, in Porto Alegre, (Brazil).
- Br. Tony Leon, Director of the Secretariat Brothers Today, is participating in the Encounter of Specialists or Experts in Leadership of

- Marist Spirituality, which is taking place in Valladolid, (Spain).
- On July 7 will end, in France, the Program of Formation for the candidates of the Program LaValla200>. Brothers Ernesto Sánchez, Superior General, and Valdicer Fachi, director of Cmi, will participate the last days, together with Brothers Angel Medina and Jeff Crowe, Formators of LaValla200>.



This exercise helped in the drawing up or preparation of the view for the Institute which will synthesize what is desired from the Marists of Champagnat for 2025. This view will

be the lighthouse or beacon which will give orientation for the creation of strategies for the animation of the Institute on the part of the General Council. The last day the group drew up a synthesis of the critical affairs and of the weaknesses, threats, forces and opportunities. This allowed the identification of different strategies which are considered important for the realization of the view indicated for 2025.

The work carried out during the week will be used by the Council to develop a draft of the strategic plan, which will be ready for the end of the Plenary Session, July 12. After this, the proposal will be sent to the Administrative Units which will give their opinion, with eventual suggestions. With the reactions received from each area of the Institute, the General Government will meet once again with the Secretariats, from the 10-14 of September, to conclude the strategic Plan.

In [the Video](#) Brothers Luis Carlos, Óscar and Ben share more about the Strategic Planning.

COLLABORATION FOR MISSION, INTERNATIONAL (CMI)

BR. VALDÍKER FACHI REPLACES BR. CHRIS WILLS IN THE GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

On July 3, after 6 years of working at the Secretariat Collaboration for the mission, international (Cmi), Brother Chris Wills returned to the Province of Australia. Brother Valdícér Fachi, from the Province of Brasil Sul-Amazônia, is the new director of the secretariat.



The secretariat was established in 2012 as a means of responding to the calls of the XXI General Chapter. Some of the proposals for action from the Chapter were:

To establish international and inter-provincial communities which will be open to Marist Brothers and Lay Marists and serve in the vanguard of new areas of mission.

To strengthen the further development of Mission Ad Gentes in Asia, and open it out to other areas where a need is discerned.

To establish a Marist volunteer

service in support of our mission, whose members are available to work in our ministries in need or to be mobilized for emergencies.

Responsibility for these and a fourth one - the development of greater international consciousness among Marists (Lay and Brother) - was dele-

gated to CMI and its leader, Br Chris.

The Cmi has been critically involved in key Institute developments during his period in Rome: the establishment of the Fratelli Project, the development of the Lavalla200> International Communities and Formation programme, the management of international volunteering, to name just a few.

The key action word in the Secretariat's name ("Collaboration") highlights the centrality of relationships in all that is its responsibility. Br. Chris has spent much time developing these collaborative relationships - with other Secretariats, Provinces, Districts, Marist laymen and women and Brothers, other Congregations and International Agencies.

On his return to Australia, Br. Chris joined the Westmead community.



Cmi: Matteo Cavicchioli, Br. Chris Wills, Br. Valdícér Fachi

NEWS IN BRIEF

PROFESSION IN COMPOSTELA

On June 30 last, Brother Jesús Muiños made his first religious profession in the Chapel of the Champagnat Marist School of Salamanca.

MAPAC

The Center of Formation of the Post-Novitiate of the Philippines held a Seminar during two days with Mr. Ashley Bulgarelli, coordinator of the Projects of Marist Solidarity of Australia (Australian Marist Solidarity). He taught the young Brothers to draw up and write Projects to collect funds for works of solidarity with those who are excluded.

Fiji

The new Team of Lay Administrators of this country is formed by Mr. Joeli Koroiravudi (Coordinator – Professor in Deuba), Mrs. Sheena Penjueli (Assistant of the Coordinator – Teacher in the Champagnat Marist Institute) and Mrs. Elizabeth Roseru (Secretary, Teacher in the Marist Primary School).

LAITY OF URUGUAY

Two Fraternities of the Champagnat Movement in Montevideo (Uruguay), were officially created, the Fraternity Gethsemane and the Fraternity Group of Faith, both of which form part of the Fraternities of the Province Cruz del Sur.

HELP TO VENEZUELA

The Norandina Province continues promoting three initiatives to help collect funds for the Marist Educational Works of Venezuela which is going through the worse socio-economic and political crisis of its history. You can find the details in: <https://tinyurl.com/ycn-9v25y>

AMERICA SUR REGION DISCUSSES EDUCATION

THIRD MEETING OF THE NETWORK OF SCHOOLS IN THE AMÉRICA SUR REGION



From June 18 – 21, the third meeting of the network of schools in the America Sur region was held in Curitiba, Brazil. Its objective was to review its strategic plan, discuss new projects and activities, and present the data of each province that was participating: Brasil Centro-Norte, Brasil Sul-Amazônia, Brasil Centro-Sur, Cruz del Sur and Santa Maria de los Andes.

The Encounter was attended by the executive secretary of the America Sur region, Brother Natalino de Souza, and Rosângela Oliveira, from the bursars' network of the America Sur region.

The first day of the meeting was more strategic. It resumed the strategic plan and presented the work agenda. On the second day, the participants visited the Ecological Marist Educational Center and the Anjo da Guarda Marist School, where they could learn about the Integral Time, Marist Languages and High School projects.

The representatives of each province worked on reviewing their action plan during the last two days of the meeting.

"It is an exchange of experiences, of processes, of actions, of several units and, also, of cultures, because we are working together with seven countries," affirmed Deysiane Pontes, from the province of Brasil Centro-Norte.

"These meetings allow us to exchange ideas and information, which are valuable in the construction of the plans and projects for the network of schools," he continued.

At the end of the meeting, the participants defined the next steps of the network of schools as well as the evaluation of the processes. The next meeting will take place in October, in the province of Cruz del Sur.

MARIST WORLD



Spain: Valladolid: Brothers Tomás Briongos, Tony Leon and José Santamarta



France
N-D de l'Hermitage



Peru: Meeting for child prevention of the tripled frontiers; Brasil, Colombia and Peru



Fiji: Suva - St Gregory College immersion 2018



El Salvador
Colegio Champagnat, Santa Tecla



Spain
Marist School Zalla Ikastetxea

JULY – SEPTEMBER 2018

CALENDAR OF THE GENERAL COUNCIL AND DIRECTORS OF SECRETARIATS

July 02 – 04: Mission Assembly of the Province Ibérica in Lardero, Spain – Brothers Ben Consigli, General Councillor, Carlos Alberto Rojas, Director of the Secretariat of Mission

July 02 – 06: Task Force – MIC – MIUC in Nairobi, Kenya – Br. Libardo Garzón, Econome general

July 02 – 06: Regional Assembly of America Sur in Porto Alegre, Brazil – Brothers Luis Carlos Gutiérrez, Vicar General, Sylvain Ramandimbarisoa and Óscar Martín Vicario, General Councillors

July 02 – 06: E.L.E.M Programme (Marist Spirituality Leadership Specialists) in Valladolid, Spain – Br Tony Leon, director of the Brothers Today secretariat

July 07: culmination of the formation programme of the new members of Lavalla200> and their commissioning to the International communities by the Superior General in ND de l'Hermitage – Brothers Ernesto Sánchez,

Superior General, Valdicer Fachi, Director of Cmi, and Ángel Medina and Jeff Crowe, formators of Lavalla200>
July 12: End of Plenary Session
July 12: End of the Current Formators programme

July 13 – 17: General Council holidays in community

July 17 – 20: Brothers Today & ongoing formation teams meeting in Rome – Brothers João Carlos do Prado and Óscar Martín, General Councillors, and Tony Leon, director of the Brothers Today secretariat

July 17 – 27: Writing group for Rule of Life meets in Rome – Br Josep Maria Soteras, general councillor

July 18 – 20: the first Lay Marist Assembly of the United States province, in Long Branch, New Jersey – Pep Buetas, co-director of the Secretariat for the Laity

July 20 – 30: Canada Marist lay and brothers leaders pilgrimage at ND de l'Hermitage, France – Br Tony Leon,

director of the Brothers Today secretariat

July 22 – 28: Meeting with members of the Fratelli Project in Beirut, Lebanon – Br Valdicer Fachi, director of Cmi

July 23 – 27: Mission Committee gathers in Rome – Brothers Luis Carlos Gutiérrez, Vicar General, Ben Consigli, General Councillor, Br Libardo Garzón, Econome General, and Carlos Alberto Rojas and Mark Omede of the Secretariat of Mission

July 23 – 28: Meeting of the Provincials of Africa (CSAC) in Nairobi, Kenya – Brothers Ken McDonald and Óscar Martín Vicario, General Councillors

July 23 – 28: Provincial Assembly and Provincial Chapter of México Occidental in Guadalajara – Brothers Ernesto Sánchez, Superior General, and João Carlos do Prado, General Councillor

July 30 – Aug. 1: Bedford Fund Executive Committee in San Juan, Puerto Rico

– Br. Libardo Garzón, Econome General

Aug. 1 – 10: Brothers and Laity retreat and a meeting with the Commission of Brothers and Laity of Compostela in Tuy, Spain – Raúl Amaya, director of the Secretariat for the Laity

Aug. 2 – 20: Contact visit of the General Council to the Marist District of Asia and East Timor – Brothers Ernesto Sánchez, superior general, Luis Carlos Gutiérrez, vicar general, and Ben Consigli, João Carlos do Prado, Ken McDonald, Óscar Martín Vicario, Sylvain Ramandimbarisoa and Josep Maria Soterias, general councillors

Aug. 6 – 8: Meeting to prepare the training for people involved in the economato area of Africa, Asia and Oceania, General Santos, Philippines – Br. Libardo Garzón, Econome General

Aug. 8 – 12: Network of Marist communities in Europe - meeting in El Escorial, Spain – Br Tony Leon, director of the Brothers Today secretariat

Aug. 13 – 17: Chapter of West Africa District in Accra, Ghana – Br Ken McDonald, General Councillor

Aug. 16 – 20: African Mission Commission in Abuja, Nigeria – Brothers Mark Omede and Carlos Alberto Rojas, of the Secretariat of Mission

Aug. 19 – 24: Encounter of CMMF's animation leaders of Arco Norte in Guatemala City – Raúl Amaya, director of Secretariat for the Laity

Aug. 20 – 21: Meeting with links of the Marist Places, in Barcelona – Br. Luis Carlos Gutiérrez, Vicar General

Aug. 21 – 24: Sustainability Project in Accra, Ghana – Br. Ken McDonald, General Councillor

Aug. 29 – Sept. 1: Mission gathering of the America Central province in Guatemala City – Br João Carlos do Prado, General Councillor

Aug. 31: Meeting of Superiors General of the four Marist Branches at the general house of the Marist Missionary Sisters – Br Ernesto Sánchez, Superior General

Sept. 1: Preparatory meeting for Synod in Rome – Br Ernesto Sánchez, Superior General

Sept. 1 – Oct. 31: Third age programme Spanish and Portuguese in Rome

Sept. 3 – 20: Plenary Session General Council

Sept. 7: Education Commission USG/UISG - Br Mark Omede - Secretariat of Mission

Sept. 10 – 14: Planing of the General Council with Secretariats at the Gen-

eral House

Sept. 12: The four Marist Branches celebrate the Feast of the Holy Name of Mary at the Marist Sisters' General House – Superior General and General Council

Sept. 20: Meeting with the Council of the Fratelli Project at the General House – Brothers Oscar Martín Vicario, general councillor, and Valdicer Fachi, director of Cmi

Sept. 20–22: Compostela Mission Assembly in Lisbon, Portugal – Br. João Carlos do Prado, General Councillor and Secretariat of Mission

Sept. 21 – 23: Youth gathering of the Ibérica Province in Lardero, Spain – Br Tony Leon, director of the Brothers Today secretariat

Sept. 23 – 26: Australia Provincial Chapter in Mittagong – Brothers Luis Carlos Gutiérrez, Vicar General, and Ben Consigli, General Councillor

Sept. 24 – 28: United Nation's Day of General Discussion in Geneva – Br. Rich Carey, FMSI Child Rights Coordinator

Sept. 28 – 30: Provincial Chapter Cruz del Sur in Uruguay – Brothers Ernesto Sánchez, Superior General, and Sylvain Ramandimbarisoa and Óscar Martín, General Councillors

INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITIES FOR A NEW BEGINNING

LAST WEEK IN SAN MARTINO A MONTE FOR THE PROGRAM LAVALLA200>

The eighth week of formation (25-30 of June 2018) for the third group of candidates of the Program LaValla200> began with a presentation of Br. Valdicer Fachi on practical questions of the program (Visa, travel insurance, health plan, personal money, among other things), so that the participants can go to international communities. He also presented a Memorandum, which contains important information on responsibilities of the Institute, of the participants themselves and also of the Marist Provinces of origin.

After that all were invited to draw a personal synthesis of everything they have lived in San Martino a Monte. Each one presented this synthesis in a particular own way: Power Point, music, drawing, poetry, etc. – the principal things learnt and their reflections throughout the formative process. During Thursday 28, the Fraternities celebrated their two months of experience of shared life, they met to recall the intercultural lived experience, to mutually thank one another for the life they had shared and to ask for pardon for any failures committed during this journey together. Friday was the day for cleaning the common spaces in San



Martino a Monte and the organization of the journey to L'Hermitage (France). The participants lived a week of retreat and had an encounter with the Superior General, Br. Ernesto Sánchez, who will send each one to his/her new mission place.

BICE: SEVENTY YEARS OF COMMITMENT WITH CHILDREN

ANNIVERSARY OF THE CATHOLIC INTERNATIONAL BUREAU OF CHILDREN

As part of the 70th anniversary of the Catholic International Bureau of Children BICE, on June 18 in the Collège des Bernardins of Paris there was the release of the Book "Toward the implementation of the Resilience" - "Hacia la Implementación de la Resiliencia". On this occasion the educator Rana El Khoury of the Project Fratelli was invited to present this program developed by the Marists of Champagnat and the La Salle Brothers of Lebanon. This program is destined for the school and psycho-educational attention of hundreds of Syrian and Iraqi refugee children.

FMSI is an active member and part of the Board of Administration of the network formed by BICE. Following a call of Pope Pius XII, BICE was founded in 1948 to take care of the victims of the Second World War. At present it is a



network of 80 Organizations distributed in four continents and is dedicated to the promotion of the dignity, the rights and the resilience of children.

The links between FMSI and BICE began to become consolidated in Latin America through the formation of national networks in Chile, Argentina, and Brazil, as well as in Geneva through the different initiatives with the United Nations.

With the funds collected in the Christmas Campaign that BICE carries out in France, in 2017 courses of formation on masters of resilience were supported in Marist projects of Granada and Lebanon. In 2018, the formation in Syria will be supported (Blue Marists of Aleppo) and Haiti (Dame Marie).

Photo: Br Alvaro Sepúlveda (FMSI), Rana El Khoury (Fratelli Project), Alessandra Aula (Executive Secretariat of BICE), Néstor Anaya (La Salle Brothers)

South Africa: Community Lavalla200> Atlantis

The International community Lavalla200> Atlantis is formed by 4 members: Brother Pietro Bettin (Italy), Brother Nnodu Onwutalu (Nigeria), Brother Tony Clark (Australia) and María Bobillo Añel (Spain). Atlantis is a city situated at 40 kilometers from Cape Town (South Africa) which was created around the years 70 during the time of the Apartheid. It is a town where the majority of the inhabitants are mestizos and with a significant young population. It is there where a new Marist presence has established itself in the African continent.

Sometimes it is said that what is good keeps one waiting. We waited 8 months until all the community was complete. Pietro advanced more and arrived to South Africa in September, María in the month of October, Tony in March and Nnodu, the one we were waiting for, finally arrived in April.

The first six months until Tony arrived, the Brothers of the School of Cape Town accepted us in their community. Those were months for learning to wait, to begin to move around (seeking for a house, buying an auto, beginning to enter into contact with Atlantis...), months of community life and of discovering, through the stories of the Brothers the richness of the African continent. We are truly very grateful for the welcome and acceptance and for the shared experiences during those months. For us, we are



very lucky to be able to count with another Marist community here so close to us. It was very nice to be able to see one another from time to time, to share moments and activities and to be a mutual support for one another.

April was really a month intense in activity, emotions, visits, and changes. With the arrival of Nnodu, we moved to the house which is now our house, and a few days later ar-

rived some visits. Angel Medina and Jeff Crowe, our Brothers who accompanied us from Rome, arrived first and spent here a week seeing for themselves how we were, and helping us to recall the why of our Marist presence here, concretely in Atlantis and also enjoying the wonders that Cape Town offers.

In April also the family of María arrived (who left very happy, enchanted seeing her so well accompanied), and then the visit of Brother Norbert (Provincial of South Africa), to whom we can really be very grateful for his support and care.

With the month of May arrived something of the "routine" to our lives, which in a certain sense we have also maintained throughout the month of June. Tony, Nnodu and Maria, we all began classes of Afrikaans in a language school. We go every day for 3 hours and with the help of 2 Professors, little by little we are beginning to speak somewhat in that language. It is certain that progress is slow, but we do consider it important to be able to communicate with the people of Atlantis in their mother tongue. When we try to do it they are surprised and above all, they appreciate it. Luckily, the majority speaks English also and this has been an advantage for us, to be able to communicate with them from the beginning.

Already in the months of January/February, we began to enter into contact with different Organizations and youth groups of Atlantis, which work in favor of children and young people. The first surprise was to meet a good number of Organizations which are already developing this work and besides the acceptance on their part could not have been better.

And now for a period of two months we have already been collaborating as volunteers with several organizations. This helps us to be in contact with young people, to know at first hand their reality, their dreams, and concerns and also to make ourselves known in the community of Atlantis. And also to gradually know the real needs and begin to draw a future Marist Project there.

We are also in contact with the Parish of Atlantis and they are the ones who have proposed to us to organize a week of activities during the school holidays of the month of July. These past weeks, we have been planning and preparing everything. We feel the emotion of being able to organize something ourselves, intrigued waiting to see how all this will come out, and grateful for the responses received and



with great desire and feeling anxious to begin.

We would also like to mention the support received from the Saint Joseph's Marist College. The Professors, the Administration Team of the school, the Brothers of the community... always receive us with a smile and offer us their collaboration. We have been present in the celebrations of the centenary of the School; on the Day of saint Marcellin and some of the professors have even collaborated with our community giving us things for the house. For this holiday program we have invited the pupils from the higher courses to collaborate with us as animators. We believe this will be beneficial for all, for them to get close to a reality which is not theirs, and for us, to be able to count on volunteers to accompany the children in the different activities. And at the same time, we open a door for future collaborations, which no doubt will come.

And community life, little by little is getting formed. We are getting to know one another and to adapt to one another. We seek to have common moments and personal moments, times for doing and times for being. We are careful to respect differences and to learn to understand the other.

And now during the month of July, after the program of the holidays for the young people of Atlantis, we hope to dedicate some time to reflect on where we can direct our Project and to be capable of knowing intuitively which is our call and our mission here.

Institute of the Marist Brothers - General House

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