



A PROPHETIC AND SERVANT LEADERSHIP AT THE SERVICE OF THE GLOBAL FAMILY

PLANNING OF THE GENERAL COUNCIL WITH THE SECRETARIATS OF THE GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

The general council dedicated the week of Sept. 9 – 14 to planning with the secretariats and the departments of the general administration.

The week began with the presentation of the new organigram of the Institute's animation and the other days were dedicated to deciding the way in which the strategic plan will be carried out.

The strategic plan of the general administration for the animation, leadership and government of the Marists of Champagnat is a document prepared by the general council, with the help of the administrative units and the secretariats, which will guide the service of the general government until 2025.

Its content is articulated in three major programmes, which recall the calls of the General Chapter: Journeying (mission:



to walk, move, educate, grow ...), as a global (networks and global body: relationships, connections, bridges, co-responsibilities) family (Marist life: identity, community, vocation, spirituality).

Nineteen projects have been created within these three areas, each with different initiatives that will

be carried out by the superior general, his council, the secretariats and the departments of the general administration. The strategic plan is intended for the general administration. Brother Ben Consigli stressed that the plan showed "how we wish to move forward over the next seven years as the General Administration".

It is not intended for the government and the animation of the provinces, although it can be helpful for the administrative units.

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

- Brothers Luis Carlos Gutiérrez, vicar general, and Ben Consigli, general councillor, are participating in the third Chapter of the province of Australia, in Mittagong, from Sept. 23 – 26.
- From Sept. 24 – 30, Brothers Rick Carey and Álvaro Sepúlveda, from FMSI, are participating in the 'Day of

General Discussion' (September 28), at the United Nations in Geneva. The theme of the Discussion is "Protecting and Empowering Children as Human Rights Defenders".

- Brothers Ernesto Sánchez, superior general, Sylvain Ramandimbarisoa and Óscar Martín, general council-

lors, will participate in the provincial chapter of Cruz del Sur, which will be held in Uruguay from Sept. 28 – 30.

- During this week, Brother Josep Maria Soteras, general councillor, is in New York working with the Commission for the drafting of the Rule of Life of the Marist Brothers.

The week served as an opportunity for each secretariat to begin to organise the initiatives of the projects it will carry out.

In addition to this practical aspect, Brothers Ben Consigli, Óscar Martín and Luis Carlos Gutiérrez, who coordinated the week, proposed reflections that underscored what kind of animation the Council proposes for the Institute, characterised mainly by two elements: synergy and leadership.

Sinergy

The Vicar General, Brother Luis Carlos Gutiérrez, stressed the importance of synergy in the Institute's leadership work. He recalled that "the key word of synergy is 'us'". And he described the fundamental attitudes needed as leaders affirming "we understand our role, we embrace our collaboration, we strive to make the project work, we commit ourselves to the team, we are flexible to eventually adapt ourselves during the process, we are optimistic regarding the projects that we will animate and we will carry out our goals with concrete actions."

Clarity, empowerment and commitment are the three keywords related to synergy and that should be present in the animation of the Institute.

Service leadership

Leadership is another element underscored and incorporated into the strategic plan. Brothers Óscar and Luis Carlos reflected with the group on what kind of leadership is necessary to act on the Calls of the General Chapter. Recalling the reflections that have been made in recent years within the Institute and underlining the Marian nature of Champagnat's charism, everyone is asked for prophetic leadership and service.



Brother Óscar invited everyone to be characterised by 'Servant attitudes and servant actions, in the way of Mary.' And Brother Luis Carlos asked that, as leaders of the Institute, everyone "goes from being a director to being a leader". Let each one assume "a prophetic and servant leadership, which closely accompanies life and mission," continued the Vicar General.

Superior general Br Ernesto Sánchez concluded by saying that "we are blessed, as Marists, because we have the gift of Marian leadership". And he reminded everyone to follow "the Marian Way: in relationships, in transparency, in being discreet and simple."

Next steps

The secretariats and departments of the general administration are now developing the initiatives inherent to the projects of the strategic plan, which will be completed in October.

In the coming months, the communications department will publish the strategic plan developed by the General Council, which will be sent to all the Administrative Units.

Finally, from March 4 – 15, 2019, the strategic plan will be presented to all the provincials, who will meet in Rome with the General Council.

NEWS IN BRIEF

PHILIPPINES

On Sept. 15, Cardinal Orlando Quevedo presided the Mass for the Jubilee of Marist Religious Life of Brothers Robert R. McGovern (75 years) and Wenceslao P. Callimon; Wenceslao L. Paterno and Manuel P. Uluan (50 years).



STAMP OF THE BICENTENNIAL

At the Salvadoran Liceo, on Sept. 18, a presentation of the commemorative stamp of the Marist Bicentennial launched by the El Salvador post was made. Last year, the Vatican also launched a postage stamp celebrating 200 years.

SYRACUSE

The Lavalla200> community in Italy now has five members, after the arrival of Rosa Schiaffino, from Spain. The community will also receive in the coming days the visit of the provincials of Mediterránea (Brother Juan Carlos Fuertes Mari) and of Compostela (Tomás Briongos Rica).

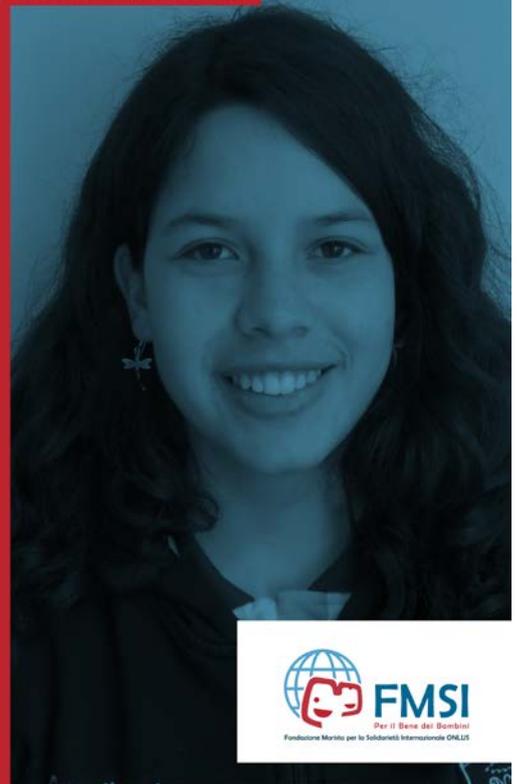
UNITED STATES

A group of lay Marists from Chicago, including students, family members of students and employees of Marist institutions, gathered for a prayer and fraternization meeting. The group spoke about the "invitation" launched by the province to promote the growth and organization of lay Marists.

CONSULTATION OF CHILDREN AND YOUTH IS RELEASED
DAY OF GENERAL DISCUSSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS
2018 ON CHILD PROTECTION AND RIGHTS

Worldwide MARIST participation in the
Day of General Discussion 2018
UNITED NATIONS

Hello. I am Camila Alvarez Cortes and I am 17 years old. I live in La Serena, Chile, and I am the co-ordinator of the Marist Youth Council for my country. On 28 September, I will participate in the General Committee for the Rights of the Child Day of General Discussion, in the office of the United National in Geneva (Switzerland). I think it is important to say that "if we young people have the opportunity to express ourselves freely, be heard and respected, we will be able to contribute to the development of all human rights on this occasion and on future occasions."



FMSI has released a publication with a summary of a large consultation of 1,700 children and youth, aged 5 – 17, of 13 countries that will contribute to a major United Nations' debate on Sept. 28 in Geneva, Switzerland.

Its purpose is to give children greater rights on defending their own Human Rights and to have a voice in the field of politics and in civil society.

The 50-page consultation designed by UMBRASIL is titled EMPOWER THOSE WHO HAVE NO VOICES Day of General Discussion 2018: "Protecting and empowering children as human rights defenders", and is available in [English](#) | [Español](#) | [Português](#)

The children that were consulted come from Australia, the Philippines, Spain, Portugal, Canada, Mexico, Colombia, Brazil, Argentina, Paraguay, Chile, United States and Madagascar.

Fourteen Marists will attend the UN's

Day of General Discussion later this month including Br Álvaro Sepúlveda, Cassandra Schumacher and Br Rick Carey of FMSI, as well as nine school teachers and directors from Brazil and two from Chile.

Three of them are Marist youth: Camila Álvarez Cortés, aged 17 of La Serena, Chile, Gabriel Genivaldo dos Santos, aged 16 of Curitiba, Brazil, and Pedro Cezarino Gouvea, aged 11 of Sao Paulo, Brazil.

Camila and Gabriel will be the only two Marists speaking at the event.

For the event, videos from Brazil, Portugal and Mexico have also been published with interviews of several Marist children.

For more background information on how the consultation was carried out, click here, and for information on the Day of General Discussion 2018 [click here](#).

MARIST WORLD



Spain
Marists Montserrat Lleida



Directors and Coordinators of the Marist Centers of Central Mexico



Portugal
Prov. Compostela - IV Mision Assembly



Australia: new Provincial Council



Guatemala
Centro Moises Cisneros Cisneros



Syria: Marists Institute for Training (MIT) with the Blue Marists - Aleppo

GATHERED AROUND THE SAME TABLE

MEETING WITH THE LAY MARISTS OF BILENE, MOZAMBIQUE

September 13 was a very different day in the Marist School of Bilene. It was a day dedicated to reflection among a number of students, staff and former students, with the objective of making more visible the presence of the Lay Marists in Mozambique.

From a past of great Marist presence and visibility in Mozambique, with great works such as the Marist School of Maputo and Beira. But because of the civil war suffered by the country, this presence decreased. However, the Marist flame in this country has never faded. Even during the war, with some very basic works, the Marist presence continued. And now

we have a group of highly organized former students who promote social activities, such as helping the orphaned and abandoned children. But they still look for more; they look for a Marist dimension and a more visible presence in the social work in which they are engaged.

The meeting, directed by Brother Teófilo Minga, was centred on the document Gathered around the same table, concentrating especially on the three dimensions mentioned in number 34: mission, shared life and spirituality.

During individual and group study a reflection was held on how to articulate these three dimensions in the current situation of Mozambique.

All the participants want the mission that they carry out to have the Marist stamp. One of the participants expressed it in this way:

"We want to continue our work of helping these abandoned children, thinking of Champagnat and in his way of working and also in the words of the recent General Chapter that encourages us to set out in search of the most needy. We are on the right track, but we need a stronger and more regular Marist presence".



FROM L'HERMITAGE TO GERMANY: STUDIES ON THE HISTORY OF THE MARIST BROTHERS

BR AUGUSTIN HENDLMEIER

A Brother from Mindelheim, Germany, in the province of West Central Europe, has published a book on several aspects of Marist history, including on the history of the brothers in Germany.

Br Augustin Hendlmeier, aged 75, is the author of 'From L'Hermitage to Germany: Studies on the History of the Marist Brothers' – a book of short chapters totaling 136 pages.

The text, originally in German, has been translated into Spanish and English. Copies of the English translation have been sent to several provinces to distribute to their communities.

To read the book in PDF format, click here:

[Inglês](#) | [Español](#) | [Alemão](#)



LATEST DECEASED BROTHERS

23/09/2018: John Murray Wilson

Prov. Pacific - New Zealand, Auckland

21/09/2018: Juan Antonio Serrano López

Prov. Norandina - Venezuela, Caracas

21/09/2018: Pierre Nussbaumer

Prov. L'Hermitage - France, Saint Genis-Laval

14/09/2018: Pedro Martínez Morán

Prov. Santa María de los Andes - Perú, Lima

09/09/2018: José de Jesús García Magaña

Prov. México Occidental - México, Zapopan, Jalisco

05/09/2018: José Mateo Torres Ballesteros

Prov. Compostela - Spain, Tui

01/09/2018: Aldoíno Cagliari

Prov. Brasil Sul-Amazônia - Brazil, Porto Alegre

18/08/2018: Joaquim Martins Duque

Prov. Compostela - Portugal, Carcavelos

18/08/2018: Avelino Jiménez Martínez

Prov. Santa María de los Andes - Chile, Santiago

16/08/2018: Félix García García

Prov. Mediterránea - Spain, Benalmádena

06/08/2018: Santino Amici

Prov. Mediterránea - Italia, Carmagnola, Torino

06/08/2018: Mark Murphy

Prov. Australia - Australia, Eastwood

01/08/2018: Marcel Bossuyt

Prov. Europe Centre-Ouest - Bélgica, Genval

28/07/2018: Jose Luis Gorriá Gardé

Prov. L'Hermitage - Spain, Mataró

28/07/2018: Charles John Aquilina

Prov. Australia - Australia, Campbelltown

19/07/2018: Jesús Recalde San Martín

Prov. Ibérica - Spain, Valencia

19/07/2018: André Bois

Prov. L'Hermitage - France, Saint Genis-Laval

13/07/2018: Manuel Hernández Gómez

Prov. México Occidental - Ciudad Gúzman, Jalisco

10/07/2018: Severiano Quevedo Rojo

Prov. América Central - Spain, Burgos

28/06/2018: Francisco Ferreira Torcato

Prov. Compostela - Portugal, Lisboa

27/06/2018: Antonio Bratina

Prov. Cruz del Sur - Argentina, Luján

26/06/2018: Joseph-Gabriel Samuel

Prov. L'Hermitage - France, Saint Genis-Laval

24/06/2018: Rosendo Pacheco Peña

Prov. México Occidental - México, Zapopán, Jalisco

19/06/2018: Pierre Lassablière

Prov. L'Hermitage - France, Saint Genis-Laval

26/05/2018: Luis Escuchuri Lacarra

Prov. Mediterránea - Spain, Cartagena

26/05/2018: William Lambert

Prov. United States of America - Lawrence

23/05/2018: Thomas Mulhern

Prov. Europe Centre-Ouest - Irlanda, Athlone

22/05/2018: Jean-François Terrier

Prov. L'Hermitage - France, Saint-Genis-Laval

19/05/2018: Augustine Ojukwu

Prov. Nigeria - Nigeria, Uturu

18/05/2018: Víctor Díez Mediavilla

Prov. Mediterránea - Spain, Madrid

18/05/2018: Rufino Martín Merino

Prov. Santa María de los Andes - Chile, Sótero Sanz

15/05/2018: Iván Buenfil Guillermo

Prov. México Occidental - México, Guadalajara

12/05/2018: Alberto Castrillo Tablado

Prov. América Central - Guatemala, Guatemala

08/05/2018: Nelso Crestani

Prov. Brasil Centro-Sul - Brazil, Curitiba

BROTHERS AND LAITY OF THE FRATERNITIES OF BRAZIL

NATIONAL ENCOUNTER OF LEADERSHIP OF THE CMMF

From Sept. 6 – 9, the National Encounter of Leadership of the Champagnat Movement of the Marist Family was held in Curitiba, Brazil, to strengthen the identity and path of the MChFM in Brazil in the light of the documents 'Life Project in Fraternity' and 'Being a Lay Marist'.

There were 65 lay leaders and brother advisers, members of provincial coordination teams of the MChFM and members of the Commission of Consecrated and Lay Life of UMBRASIL.

The event was counseled by Marilza Schuina, who worked on Document 105 of the National Conference of Bishops of Brazil and explained its importance for the lay vocation.

June Alisson Westarb Cruz facilitated the understanding and vision of the provincial realities through the "SWOT" analysis.

Edison Oliveira and João Luiz Gonçalves also collaborated with the presentation, underscoring the essential elements of the documents 'Life Project in Fraternity' and 'Being a Lay Marist'.

The dynamics of the meeting promoted the integral and continuous interaction of the participants who raised various questions about the MChFM's leadership formation processes.

The event also provided moments of coexistence and experiences to strengthen the relationship between brothers and laity; the celebration of the Year of the Laity in harmony with the Church of Brazil; the identification of implications of the



documents of the Institute and of the Church for the vitality of the Movement, in addition to the synchrony in the context of Marist Brazil.

Sonia Vidal, adviser of Consecrated and Laity Life of UMBRASIL, indicated that the meeting showed the commitments of UMBRASIL in strengthening the leadership of the Champagnat Movement in Brazil, by creating spaces for sharing, reflection and joint formation between brothers and laity.

This was the third National Leadership Meeting of the Champagnat Movement of the Marist Family, after its first meeting in February 2010 in Brazlândia and its second in May 2014 in Ribeirão das Neves.

BROTHER ÁNGEL MEDINA

NEW ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF THE BROTHERS TODAY SECRETARIAT

Brother Ángel Medina began his new role on Sept. 1 as assistant director of the Brothers Today Secretariat, which he is combining with his role as formator of the Lavalla200> communities.

"I felt I was placed in two close realities, though different, so it was a challenge of figuring out how to combine the adequate attention in each area," Br Ángel told the department of communications of the general house on Sept. 17.

"But this is an opportunity for me to learn, to be available beyond the specific areas," he continued. "It (having these two roles) is a small expression



of walking together as a global family and being bridges."

Originally from Spain and member of the Cruz del Sur Province, Br Ángel

served in El Escorial, Spain, as director of the courses of permanent formation for Spanish and Portuguese speaking brothers until 2016.

He then came to the general house in Rome to work with Br Jeff Crowe as formator of the Lavalla200> communities.

Since September, he is also working with Br Tony Leon in the Brothers Today Secretariat, where he will work specifically as the coordinator of the permanent formation team.

Brother Ángel replaced Brother Hipólito Pérez, who held the position until he was elected provincial of América Central at the end of 2017.

Institute of the Marist Brothers - General House

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