



### BUILDING THE FUTURE OF MARIST EUROPE

### MEETING OF THE EUROPEAN COUNCIL OF THE MISSION IN DUBLIN

The European Council of Mission held its first meeting for the year 2018-2019 in Dublin, Ireland, on Sept. 13 and 14.

The first day was dedicated to our mission to "build the future of Marist Europe".

Keeping in mind the strategic lines described in the Assemblies of the Councils of the Mission, we worked on the objectives by creating two teams that will work in the field of the mission:

The European Solidarity Team, which aims to define the framework of solidarity for Europe, in collaboration with the other Marist structures of solidarity, the rights of children, the protection of minors.

The European Pastoral Team whose main objective is to address the ministry issue in our region.

The Council also worked on the organisation of the 3rd European Assembly of the Councils of the Mission to be held on Jan. 14 and 15, 2019 at the Monastery Les Avellanes in Lerida.



It will be a moment of reflection and exchanging ideas as the region of Europe on the structures of Marist Europe and on a European formation plan, sharing the good practices that are developed in the educational works across Marist Europe.

The second day was an opportunity for members of the European Council of

the Mission to meet the Marist reality in Dublin by visiting Moyle Park College. The students responsible for the project 'Marist Student Leadership Gathering' presented the objectives of the project in detail, after organizing the welcoming and the visit of their school. The meeting with the educational community of the school marked a true moment of presence, coexistence, sharing.

Before concluding this meeting, a quick visit to the historical sites of Dublin was an opportunity for us to learn about the long history of Ireland and at the same time to thank the Council of the Mission of the Province of West-Central Europe for the welcome and organization of these two fruitful days, full of affection.

### GENEREAL ADMINISTRATION

- From Oct. 8 – 12, Federica De Benedittis and Mario Colucci, from FMSI, are visiting the Marist mission in Giasnigor, Bangladesh.
- From Oct. 8 – 12, Br Álvaro Sepúlveda, of FMSI, is participating in the Universal Periodic Review of Mexico before the United Nations, in Geneva, Switzerland.
- Until Oct. 28, Br Ernesto Sánchez is participating in the Synod of Bishops on young people, in the Vatican. The superior general is one of the participants representing the

- religious congregations chosen by the Union of Superiors General.
- On Wednesday, Oct. 10, Br Luis Carlos Gutiérrez introduced the new logo of the general administration of the Institute, which will begin to be used as of next Monday, to the brothers and staff of the general house.
  - From Oct. 10 – 16, a meeting of the Extended Secretariat of Laity will be held in Mexico City with the participation of Brothers Sylvain Ramandimbisaro and João Carlos do Prado, general councillors, and lay Marists Raúl

- Amaya, Agnes Reyes and Pep Buetas, director and assistant directors of the Secretariat for the Laity.
- Br Pau Fornells, until now secretary of superior general Br Ernesto Sánchez, returned to the province of Norandina last week. Br Jesús Alberto Rodríguez Delgado is the new secretary of Brother Ernesto.
  - On Oct. 14, superior general Brother Ernesto Sánchez and vicar general Br Luis Carlos Gutiérrez will participate in the canonization of Archbishop Óscar Romero and Pope Paul VI in Rome.

|| “Listening and accompanying in order to discern. With concrete gestures, Pope Francis models a style of presence and closeness.”



“Listening, being open minded and searching together with youth, lay, religious, bishops and the Pope.” ||

Br. Ernesto Sánchez

## A VISIT TO THE 'MARIST PLACES' IN ROME

### RECALLING THE 194 DAYS SPENT BY B. FRANÇOIS IN ROME 1858

On September 26 2018, a pilgrimage began to those 'Marist places' in the city of Rome, acknowledging the presence of Brother François Rivat, with the participation of a group of 18 older Spanish and Portuguese Brothers following the "Dawn course."

Brother François travelled to Rome in 1858 accompanied by Brother Louis-Marie who had to return very soon to the Hermitage. Brother François remained in Rome for 194 days in order to deal with the administration concerning the approval of our first Constitutions. As can be seen from his diary, during that long stay in the city, as a good mountain dweller accustomed to walking long distances he searched the city, visiting more than 200 churches. In each one of them he carried out his religious duties, honouring the saints and martyrs and studying the history. In some of those churches he had very particular experiences. The church that he visited most, apart from Saint Peter's in the Vatican, was that of the Holy Name of Mary (35 times).

The group of older Spanish and Portuguese Brothers who are taking part in the "Dawn" course were accompanied by Brother Antonio Martínez Estaún, Postulator General. They made a pilgrimage from the General



House to the church of the Holy Name of Mary located in the Forum next to Trajan's column .

From here theroute of the Marist places in Rome was started.

Brother François is waiting for numerous Marist pilgrims to come and discover his experiences in the diverse places in the city that he visited, at the same time inviting them to fill with spirituality the days spent in here.

NEWS IN BRIEF

**SAMOA**

The brothers of the Pacific District met to celebrate 50 years of religious commitment of Brother Julio Suaesi and his service to education as a Marist Brother on Oct. 5. He was given a commemorative plaque for this occasion.

**CHILE**

From Oct. 4 – 11, the thirty-fourth edition of the Men’s Marist Games is taking place at the Rafael Ariztía Institute in Quillota. Eleven Marist schools are participating in the tournament. Participants from other cities are housed in the homes of the members of the educational community, to promote the fraternity of the Marist Family.

**UNITED STATES**

The leaders of all the communities of the Marist Brothers of the United States province will meet on Saturday, October 13 at the Provincial Centre in Forest Hills.

**BRAZIL**

From Oct. 17 – 21, 12 young people from the Brasil Centro-Norte province will continue their vocational discernment in the Marist community of Maraponga (Postulate) in Fortaleza. They wish to follow the path of Marist religious life.

**IRELAND AND SCOTLAND**

A group of young Marist leaders met at Notre Dame de l’Hermitage, from Oct. 4 – 7, to participate in the ‘Marist Leadership Gathering 2018’.

**CALLED TO BE AND PROMOTE COMMUNITIES COMMITTED TO THEIR VITALITY**

**PROVINCIAL CHAPTER OF CRUZ DEL SUR**



From Sept. 27 – 30, more than 30 brothers and laity from Argentina, Uruguay and Paraguay participated in the provincial chapter of Cruz del Sur in Montevideo, Uruguay, with superior general Brother Ernesto Sánchez and Brothers Sylvain Ramandimbiarisoa and Óscar Martín, general councillors.

Brother Ernesto initiated the chapter by proclaiming Brother Raúl Schönfeld as the new provincial, succeeding Brother Alberto Aparicio, and the commission that would lead the chapter was then elected.

The call of the Cruz del Sur province for the next three years is “As Marists of Champagnat, we feel called to be and to promote communities - in all their expressions - committed to their vitality”.

The following brothers were elected as the new provincial council: Brothers Horacio Magaldi, Marcelo De Brito, Guillermo Mautino, provincial superior Raúl Schönfeld Hergenreder, Ruben Velázquez and Demetrio Espinosa.

During the Mass that closed the Chap-

ter, Brother Ernesto thanked Brother Alberto for his service as former Provincial and Brother Raúl for accepting his new mission.

He also emphasized the dream of Saint Marcellin Champagnat and used the letters of the Marist acronym – fms – to speak of three words that start with the same letters: family (global), Mary and service.

“I would like to invite you, with the leadership of Brother Raúl, of his Council and of so many teams (...) to imagine that in this province of Cruz del Sur, if we add all these 200 that are here to the 30 who participated in the three days of the chapter and we say ‘yes, I commit myself to this call during these three years and to do everything possible so that it becomes alive where I am’, tell me that this part of the world will not change for the better,” he affirmed.

The new provincial, Brother Raul, stated during the mass that “I find the equipment I need for this trip specifically in my history – there are values, ways of proceeding that demand faithfulness”.

## MARIST WORLD



Germany  
Cmi Anniversary Celebration in Mindelheim



Spain  
Directors of educational centers of Ibérica



Lebanon: Summer volunteers at Fratelli Project - Rmeileh



East Timor  
Baucau



Australia: Assembly of the Marist Association of St Marcellin Champagnat



Vatican: Br. Ernesto Sánchez, Superior General, in the Synod of Bishops

## WATER FROM THE ROCK

### RETREAT FOR THE POSTULANTS OF MTENDERE

From 17 to 21 September there was a week retreat for the postulants of Mtendere (Malawi). The theme of the retreat was focused on Marist Spirituality, taking as a starting point the book *Water from the Rock*.

The initiative was very positive according to the evaluation of the whole week that was done by the postulants. They are 13 postulants at the moment: 2 from Zimbabwe, 2 from Mozambique, 3 from Angola and 6 from Malawi. The formators are Brothers Gilbert Zenda (master of postulants) and Nicholas Banda and Br. João Reis.

The facilitator of the retreat was Br. Teófilo Minga.



ONE YEAR ANNIVERSARY



03/10/2017  
Election of the Superior General and the Vicar General



10/10/2017  
Election of the General Council

FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS IN OCEANIA

THIRD CHAPTER OF THE PROVINCE OF AUSTRALIA

Twenty-nine Marists gathered for the third chapter of the province of Australia from Sept. 23 – 26 in Mittagong, a town located 115km south of Sydney.

Vicar general Brother Luis Carlos Gutiérrez, general councillor Brother Ben Consigli, and Brother Tony Leon of the Brothers Today Secretariat took part on behalf of the general administration.

During the first day, Br Luis Carlos delivered a message from superior general Brother Ernesto Sánchez and encouraged the participants in their three-day reflection. Br Ben offered a reflection on their consecrated life as Brothers.

On Sept. 24, the first session was devoted to the theme of the Institute's global Marist reality. Br Tony gave a presentation on his experience of the Institute at an international level.

Participants went on to explore the issue of the Marist Association with an emphasis on the Brothers engagement with the Association, its members and local groups. A report on the province's finances was then present-



ed and at the end of the session, they reviewed the responses communities provided to the discussion they were requested to have about brotherhood.

On the morning of the chapter's third day, three issues were covered: the 2020 Plenary and what Marists would want to say to the Church at this time; the issue of future developments in Oceania, and finally, other emerging issues.

The Chapter attendees then wrote down a set of affirmations and com-

mitments, which formed the basis of their final Chapter

Statement, and passed the Province Norms and Rules of Procedure for the fourth provincial Chapter and elected the new Council to serve until 2021: Brothers Greg McDonald, Graham Neist, Darren Burge, Peter Carroll, Jeff Barrington, Dennis Cooper and Peter Rodney.

On Sept. 26, the Statement was finalized and during the concluding Mass, Brother James Hodge renewed his vows as a Marist Brother.

## COUNCIL OF THE FRATELLI PROJECT

### THREE YEARS EDUCATING REFUGEE CHILDREN IN LEBANON

The Council of the Fratelli Project met at the general house of the Marist Brothers on Sept. 20 with its members – Marist Brothers Oscar Martín Vicario, general councillor and Valdicer Fachi, director of Cmi, and De La Salle Brothers Jorge Gallardo, vicar general, and Rafael Matas, general councillor.

Other participants, who are not members of the council, were De La Salle Brother Amilcare Boccuccia, and Angela Matulli from the Fondazione De La Salle Solidarietà Internazionale ONLUS.

During the meeting, the economic report of last year was approved and the budget for 2018-2019 was established for both centres of the Fratelli Project, as well as the new volunteers. After it analysed the participation of volunteers in the summer activities, the Council agreed that three long term volunteers would benefit the project.

“The Fratelli Project has had a very high visibility and acceptance in Lebanon in its three years of existence,” affirmed Br Valdicer.

“The Fratelli project, as an inter-congregational project, is something new that is being born in the Church and a sign for society: a sign of hope for displaced children and adolescents, for families who see in Fratelli the possibility of entering a path of dialogue, religious tolerance and access to education and values,” he continued.

The Council will meet from Jan. 17 – 21 in Rmeileh, the location of one of its two centres, with its advisory committee and the coordinators of the Fratelli Project to evaluate the work



done until that moment, its challenges and its achievements. The Fratelli Project has two centres – one in Rmeileh located in the south of Lebanon and one in Bourj Hammoud, a neighborhood in Beirut.

In Rmeileh, it is located in a building

that used to be a school run by the Marist Brothers from 1960-1985, the College de Notre Dame de Fatima. The school closed down during the country's 15-year civil war. In Bourj Hammoud, the Fratelli Project is located in the fourth floor of a private school of the Society of St Vincent de Paul.

## LOGO OF THE GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

### TO BE PRESENTED IN THE NEXT ISSUE OF MARIST NEWS



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