



MARISTS OF CHAMPAGNAT

LOGO OF THE MARIST INSTITUTE'S GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

On Oct. 10, vicar general Brother Luis Carlos Gutiérrez and the department of communications introduced the new logo of the Marist Institute's general administration to the employees and brothers of the general administration.

The general government of the Institute wanted to define an image for the general administration that conveyed the life and mission of the Marists of Champagnat in an objective and modern way. From now on, this logo will accompany all the communications of the general administration of the Marist Institute

The image, desired and approved by the superior general and his council in September, represents the nature of the Institute: its mission, its internationality, its charism and its Marist vocation.

The logo is composed of both the symbol and the name. The symbol resulted in uniting three elements: the cross, the balloon and the "M". The cross reminds us that being a Marist means to follow Christ and his Gospel as a church and that the Marist mission is to make Jesus Christ known and loved through education. The globe represents the place where Marist life and mission is developed, the place of the manifestation of God and the invitation to recognize and live as a global family. The letter "M", initial of the "Marist" name, evokes the charism, which is the aspiration to live and to serve God



through children and young people, in the style of Mary and Saint Marcellin.

The second element of the logo is the name "Marists of Champagnat" to include both Marist brothers and lay people.

The style of the font used, the "script", suggests a distinction and represents the charism's present, dynamism and vitality.

The blue colour recalls the Marian identity and the origins of the Institute and the orange colour, the third centenary of the Marist charism.

The new logo of the general administration of the Marist Institute recalls the Marist heritage and, at the same time, opens the Church and the world of today to new horizons.

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

- From Oct. 16 – 18, Br Rick Carrey, Br Álvaro Sepúlveda and Cassandra Schumacher of FMSI are taking part in 'Faith Action for Children on the Move: Global Partners Forum' in Rome.
- Tuesday and Wednesday of this week, Brothers Ken McDonald and João Carlos do Prado, General Coun-

cillors, are visiting the province of Mexico Occidental.

- From Oct. 16 – 19, Br Libardo Garzón, Econome General, is in New York City for a meeting with the Executive Committee of the Bedford Fund.
- From Thursday, Oct. 18, until Sunday, Oct. 21, Br Luis Carlos Gutiérrez,

Vicar General, Ken McDonald and João Carlos do Prado, General Councillors, will be in Mexico City for the Provincial Chapter of México Central.

- From Oct. 19 – 22, Br Sylvain Ramandimbarisoa, General Councillor, is attending a retreat for the East Asia Province in the Philippines.

“YOUNG PEOPLE, FAITH AND VOCATIONAL DISCERNMENT”

XV ORDINARY GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE SYNOD OF BISHOPS- OCTOBER 2018

On Oct. 11, superior general Brother Ernesto Sánchez gave a speech in the Synod of Bishops in which he touched on the “Vocational Culture”.

Quoting a phrase of Pope Francis who recalled that “there is the urgency to bring into the Christian community a new ‘vocational culture’,” Br Ernesto said that promoting this vocational culture “means to seek to connect and to be in tune with the new generations, with a positive perspective, finding the right language and understanding the local context.”



He told the participants of the Synod that, in order to reach young people, structural changes must be made “daring to set aside that which must die, to welcome the novelty of a world that also wants to surprise us today, since it belongs to God.”

Brother Ernesto is a member of the Synod after he was elected by the Union of Superiors General to be one of the representatives of the male religious congregations.

Below is the full speech of Br. Ernesto.

SPEECH OF BROTHER ERNESTO SÁNCHEZ DURING THE SYNOD OF BISHOPS

Dear Pope Francis,

Dear Cardinals, Bishops, Priests, Superiors General, Religious, Lay men and women, and young people present in this Synod,

My words focus on number 90 of the Instrumentum Laboris which says when presenting life itself as a vocation, “So, it is a matter of promoting a renewed vocational culture”.

It was St John Paul II who used the phrase vocational culture in 1992, saying, “I desire, first of all, to call attention to the urgency of cultivating what we could call, “basic vocational attitudes”, which give life to an authentic “culture of vocation”.”¹

Last year Pope Francis told the participants of the Italian National Congress on Vocation Ministry, “There is an urgent need to foster a new “vocational culture” within Christian communities.”²

In our days, we must approach this task humbly, more as disciples than as masters, seeking to co-create the dream of God, hand in hand with young people themselves.

Do we think that young people understand the words we use? Do terms like vocation, discernment or the like mean anything to them?



Promoting a renewed vocational culture involves seeking to connect with the new generation, being on the same wavelength, with a positive mindset, finding the right language and understanding where they are coming from. We need to create conditions for each young person to be the principal artisan of his or her own vocation, recognising the seed within that is waiting to germinate, grow, develop and bear fruit.

Isn't it obvious that the Gospel speaks to the young and challenges them, but the same cannot be said of our "religious" structures? We have to be capable of making the structural changes needed to move forward, daring to put aside what must die, in order to welcome the newness of a world that continues to surprise us inasmuch as it is the hands of God.

Promoting a vocational culture involves our capacity to create synergy. Such synergy begins with a broader vocational ministry, as is indicated in number 86 of the *Instrumentum Laboris*. It needs to be integrated into other pastoral activities associated with education, the family, social action etc.

It is a synergy that we can adopt with increasing dynamism in our attempt to be and act as a single body, giving value to and promoting charisms and ministries in all their diversity. We need to begin with the gift of the vocation of laypeople, who make up the majority of the baptised, including marriage as a vocation, as well as valuing and appreciating the gift of consecrated life with its various charisms and the gift of ministerial priesthood.

To conclude, I believe that we must act more energetically to stoke the fire of our passion for following Jesus and making him known. Stoking the fire in ourselves, and in those engaged in our Institutions, for I believe that it is mainly by "being caught" that we will be able to pass the fire on to generations to come.

Mary was able to welcome newness because her heart was full of God's warmth. May she touch our hearts with this fire and inner freedom.

Many thanks

Br. Ernesto Sánchez Barba, F.M.S., Superior General

¹ JOHN PAUL II, Message for the 30th World Day of Prayer for Vocations, 8 September 1992, No.2.

² POPE FRANCIS, Discourse of the Holy Father Francis to the participants of the Congress arranged by the National Office of Vocations Ministry of the Italian Bishops Conference (CEI), Paul VI Hall, 5 January 2017



MARIST WORLD



France
Horizontes 2018 in l'Hermitage



Italy
LaValla200> community of Siracusa



Bangladesh: FMSI visits Saint Marcellin School - Moulvibazar



Vatican: Superiors of La Salle and Marist Brothers together with the Pope



Mexico: Meeting of the Extended Laity Secretariat in Mexico City



Vatican: Canonizations during the Synod on young people

WEAVING LIVE - GUATEMALA, 15 - 21 JANUARY 2019

SONG OF THE INTERNATIONAL GATHERING OF MARIST YOUTH

Three months from now, the International Gathering of Marist Youth will be taking place in the city of Guatemala. The official song that will accompany young Marists from around the world in this adventure of "weaving lives" and to build a new world comes to light.

The song has been composed by Jordi Vicente and Brother Xavier Gual. The musical setting was done by Jordi Vicente and arrangements by Raúl Juan. The arrangement for the song was done by the musical group UBUNTU. This group came from the previous International Gathering of Marists Youth "Dare to Dream" held in Lyon, July 2016.

This occasion will see Guatemala City opening its doors to welcoming young Marists in an International Youth Encounter of the four branches of the Society of Mary. The theme " Weaving Lives", seek to give participants an opportunity to reflect and build a project based on four fundamental keys of living their own life and faith in the Marist style: the sense of community, the practice of solidarity, strengthening of interiority and the implementation of a mission project.



Many thanks to UBUNTU musical group and the Marist Province of the Hermitage for their support in the production of this song.

For more information visit <https://www.weavinglive2019.org/>

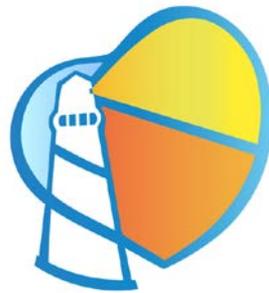
OUR BROTHERHOOD IS A BEACON OF HOPE

BRASIL CENTRO-NORTE'S CHAPTER AND ASSEMBLY TO TAKE PLACE IN DECEMBER

In December, the Province of Brasil Centro-Norte will hold both the Provincial Chapter and the Provincial Assembly in Mendes. The assembly will take place from 7th-10th December and the Chapter from the 11th to 14th December.

The objectives of the Assembly are to analyse, interpret, evaluate and celebrate the ongoing path of the Province, in the triennium 2016-2018, to reflect on the needs and possible ways of energising the life of the Province and to propose ways, strategies and options that the Provincial Chapter can prioritise for the next triennium.

Equally, the Assembly, like the Chapter, will have as their topic: Brotherhood is the Beacon of Hope, and the motto will be: You are the light of the world (Mt, 4,14). Brother José Augustus



**Nossa Fraternidade
é Farol de esperança.**

to Júnior, director of the sector for consecrated life and the laity of the province, explained "the preparatory commission for the Assembly and the Provincial Chapter have been responsible for the programming which includes time for celebration, working

in groups, mass for the Jubilarians and Brothers' vows, plenary and time set aside for sharing together."

At the end of the Provincial Assembly, the Brothers and laity will make a pilgrimage to the National Sanctuary of Nuestra Señora de Aparecida in San Pablo, to thank her for how far we have come.

Around 80 people will take part in the Assembly, while the Chapter will have the participation of the Brothers belonging to the Province. They will provide continuity to the discernment of the topics provided by the Provincial Assembly and they will choose the priorities for the next triennium and also the provincial councillors.

Other details concerning the two meetings can be found in this webpage: www.marista.edu.br/assemblei-aecapitulo

WORKSHOP FOR LAY FORMATION FACILITATORS IN GENERAL SANTOS CITY

AS BEACONS OF HOPE, WE ARE CREATIVE BRIDGE-BUILDERS OF GOD'S TENDER MERCY!

Responding to the Calls of the 22nd General Chapter and concretizing the thrust of the Asia Laity Commission in providing formation opportunities for the laity, the Philippines convened 18 lay leaders for a workshop from Sept. 21 – 23 at the Province Center in General Santos City.

The team who guided the workshop process was formed by Agnes Reyes, Elma Rafil and Brother Lindley Sionosa. The gathering provided orientation on the newly published document *Being a Lay Marist: Guidelines for accompanying people on their vocational journey and for formation pathways*.

This document, along with the documents *Water from the Rock*, *Gathered Around the Same Table*, Church documents on laity and Scripture texts, are considered as key references in the formation processes of participants.

The group also received varied and practical resource materials which are useful in the process of animating and deepening Marist life.

The formative processing experience in the workshop allowed participants not only to know key texts to study but also to have moments of prayerful silence and reflections. For most of them, these moments were helpful in trying to encounter and experience a deep spiritual union with God, giving them privileged spaces of communion.

The participants, who came from different mission areas and schools, shared practices and personal testimonies of



living the Marist way of life.

They received affirmation and the joy of mutual support as they drew inspiration from each other.

During the activities, the group experienced the strength of a family spirit, a reflection of the family spirit that Mary lived at home with Jesus and Joseph in Nazareth and Saint Marcellin Champagnat with his brothers in La Valla and the Hermitage.

The workshop for lay formation facilitators ended with expressions of commitment to be "beacons of hope" as lay Marist evangelizers, partaking in God's mission in the Church and in our global family today.

FMSI SUBMITS REPORTS ON FOUR COUNTRIES TO THE UN

CHILDREN'S RIGHTS IN PORTUGAL, NICARAGUA, COSTA RICA AND IVORY COAST

On Oct. 4, FMSI submitted four new reports regarding different issues that affect children's rights to the Human Rights Council after a six-month preparation from several Marist teams from the provinces of America Central and Compostela.

The Human Rights Council will review these countries next May.

The reports include issues such as early pregnancy, poor education for children with disabilities and the effects of the socio-political crisis in Nicaragua.

Reports on Portugal showed a need in the country to strengthen the national protection system for vulnerable children.

In Costa Rica, it was revealed that the youth disengage early from the educational system, violence, and the need for institutional coordination to guarantee the rights of the child.

In Ivory Coast, issues were unveiled regarding problems with juvenile justice in a report prepared by BICE, which was supported by FMSI.

During the next few months, FMSI and BICE will organise lobbying opportunities before the diplomatic corps at the embassies in their respective capitals and in their permanent missions in Geneva to present their recommendations.

These encounters also strengthen Marist partnerships with organizations like Franciscans International, Edmund Rice International, International Catholic Child Bureau (BICE) and many other national organisations.



Universal Periodic Review

It is a process carried out by the Human Rights Council (HRC).

It consists of the periodic review of the fulfillment of human rights in each of the member states of the United Nations. This process consists of the following phases:

1. The State presents the report about human rights in the country;
2. Exam and Interactive Dialogue between the State under review and the States party to the CHR and the observer States;
3. Adoption of the HRC report – Non-Governmental Organisations can address the State and members of the HRC orally;
4. The last phase involves both the State and NGOs and National Human Rights Institutes interested in implementing the recommendations;

This process constitutes a cycle that lasts four and a half years, so when this period ends the State is again examined by those who make up the HRC. FMSI has participated in the elaboration of 44 reports, with the cooperation of other NGOs or alone (13 in America, two in Europe, 13 in Africa, nine in Oceania and seven in Asia).

Institute of the Marist Brothers - General House

Piazzale Marcellino Champagnat, 2 - Rome, Italy - comunica@fmsi.it

Our website: <http://www.champagnat.org>

YouTube channel:

<https://www.youtube.com/user/champagnatorg>

Follow us:

<https://www.facebook.com/fmschampagnat>

https://twitter.com/fms_champagnat