



PROJECT FRATELLI BEGINS A NEW CYCLE, 2018-2019

MARIST BROTHERS AND LASALIANS WORKING TOGETHER IN FAVOR OF THE DISPLACED

By the initiative of two Congregations of the Marist Brothers and the Lasalians, the Project 'Fratelli' arrived to Lebanon in 2015 to know the territory and identify the possible spaces for action. Today, three years later, the Project is in two places, Rmeileh and Bouri Hammoud.

'Fratelli' has been developing activities with refugee children and young people since December 2016. The community of Brothers and Laity, which resides in Rmeileh collaborates in the coordination of the Project which daily is led by Lebanese educators.

Rmeileh is at 30 kilometers to the South of Beirut, the capital of Lebanon. The Project 'Fratelli' and the Community of Brothers and Laity are using the Installation of a former Marist School, which was necessary to abandon in the 1980's because of the war in Lebanon. The activities in Rmeileh began in March 2016, and since then, the Project seeks to attend the refugees by means of several programs. The priority of the programs is destined for children and young people (Nursery school, School support, Basic Program for Learning and youth Groups), but also there are activities for the young people and for adults (sewing, cooking, English and Informatics).

In Bourj Hammoud (metropolitan region of Beirut), in an apartment of the Society of Saint Vincent de Paul where there is a school of the La Salle Brothers, the Project



GENEAL ADMINISTRATION

- From 1 to 4 November Br João Carlos Prado, General Councillor, participated in the Meeting of the Provincials of the Arco Norte Region in Canada.
- From Monday to Friday this week the Marist Conference of Europe met in Barcelona, with Br Ben Consigli, General Councillor, in attendance.
- This week, Br Libardo Garzón, Ecologue General, took part in the meeting in Las Avellanes (Spain) of the International Council for Economic Affairs.
- From the 5th to the 15th November, Br Joseph Maria Soterias, General Councillor, has been visiting the District of Asia.
- From 6th to 9th November, General Councillors Ken McDonald and João do Prado will visit the Province of the United States of America.
- From 7th to 14th November, General Councillors Sylvain Ramandimbarisoa and Óscar Martín Vicario are to visit to the Province of Brazil Centro-Sul.
- On the 9th and 10th November, the Directors of the Secretariat of Education and Evangelisation, Brothers Carlos Alberto Rojas Carvajal and Mark Omede will participate in a Seminar on Education arranged by the Union of Superior Generals in Rome.
- Pep Buetas, Co-director of the Secretariat of the Laity, will take part in the meeting of Marist groups of the Province of West-Central-Europe in Mindleheim, Germany, on 10th November.

As an example of the present dimension of the Project, in the programs of the last Summer (July and August) more than 1,000 children and young people followed two programs, Summer School and Vacation Colonies, adding 900 from Rmeileh and 200 from Bouri Hammoud.

The origin of those taken care in Rmeileh, the largest number, are of Syrian nationality (95%), but there are also some Palestinians and some Lebanese who live in a situation of vulnerability. In Bouri Hammoud, the majority are refugees from Iraq, but there are also some Lebanese.

The community of the Project 'Fratelli'

Many people work in favor of the Project 'Fratelli', being employed educators, volunteers and Brothers. Brothers, Laity, men and women volunteers who live in the Center of Rmeileh, Miquel Cubeles, FMS (Spain) and Andrés Porras, FSC (Mexico), form the permanent community of 'Fratelli'. They are in Lebanon since the middle of the year 2015; they began the activities of the Project and coordinate the programs together with the educational team.

Br. Isaac Alonso Arribas, fms (Spain) arrived to the Project in September 2016, and finally Br. Gilbert Oullabegue, fsc (Chad) landed on Lebanese land in January 2018. Among the volunteers who are in the community, Laura Gonzalvo, Marist from Spain, arrived in October 2017 and remained there until August 2018 and Bruno Manoel Socher, Marist from Brazil arrived in January 2018 and will return to his country in December of this year. The Lasalian Sara Maria Amarillas, Mexican, arrived in July 2017 and remained in Lebanon until the first days of November. The community

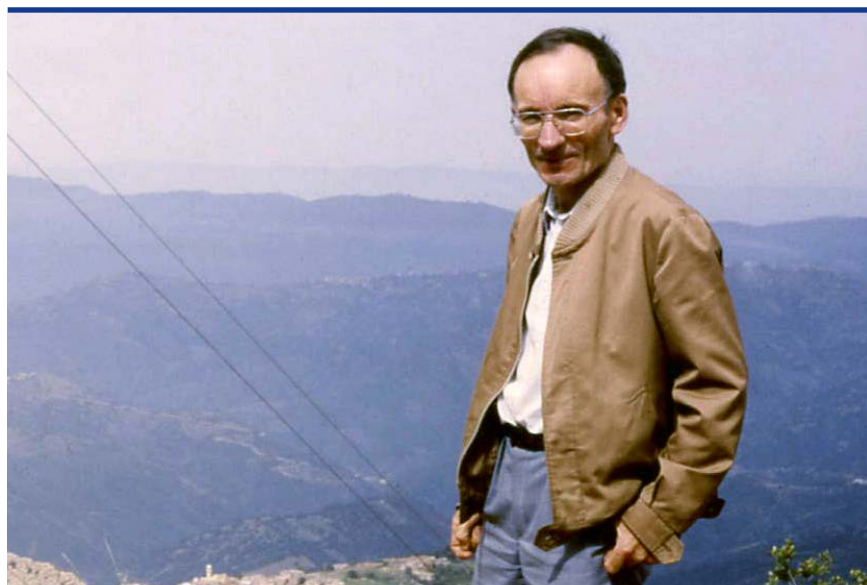


expects three new volunteers in November, Florian Schultz, German, from the community of Taizé and the Marists Laura Miño Pérez, Bolivian, and Pablo Cobo, Spanish.

Besides conducting the Project, the community helps to facilitate the activities, which are conducted by the educators and has the call to be "brothers and sisters for these more vulnerable children and young people; to be a sign of fraternity in a disadvantaged environment".

Volunteers and educators

The Project accepts volunteers for a short duration of time. During the summer, (July), seven Spanish volunteers helped in the activities and participated in community life: The Camoso Family, the couple Pepe and Mari Carmen and their three children, Alvaro, Javier and Irene; as well as Francisco Priego Navas and Natalia Cárdenas. Even a priest from Ireland William Stuart. In August, the volunteers were Javier López, Pablo Cobo and Oscar Muñoz from Spain, Gemma Ferri, from Italy and Miko Cabazor from the Philippines. In addition to these, the visits of friends of the Marist Families and of La Salle were many



Br Henri Vergès Marist martyr

Br Henri was killed at his place of work on 8th May 1994, together with Sister Paul-Hélène. He had been working since 1988 in Algiers, in the Casbah, in charge of the Library that served many students. Brother Henri, along with 18 other martyrs, will be beatified on 8th December in Oran (Algeria).

Further information on Br Henri Vergès can be found at <https://bit.ly/2EECZOG>

NEWS IN BRIEF

AUSTRALIA

The Australian Marist Solidarity launched the 2018 Christmas Appeal which this year focuses on four projects from the Pacific region: St Dominic's Rural Training Centre in the Solomon Islands; St Joseph's College in Bougainville, Papua New Guinea; St Louis High School, Kiribati; and the Marist Champagnat Institute in Fiji.

A COMMUNITY OF SPIRITUALITY

The Granda community of Brothers and laypeople of the Province of Meditteranea will soon complete one year of existence. The three pillars on which the community has built its life together are the experience of God, simple life in community, and discerning the will of God in community.

SRI LANKA

The novices of the Tudella International Novitiate last week participated in a seminar learning the value of compassion and collaboration in relationships through non-violent communication. Other religious congregations joined them for these sessions.

UMBRASIL

On 5th November, the 2017 Social Report of Marist Brazil was released. It is a document that details the activities undertaken by the various centres of the three Brazilian Provinces throughout the year to celebrate the Bicentenary of the Institute. Mention was made of 67 communities of Brothers, 81 schools, 9 centres of Higher Education, and 28 social welfare centres, besides publications, hospitals and other centres. Further details are available at the website <https://bit.ly/2AOBOSX>.

which enriched much more the experience of the children and young people taken care of by the Project.

It is important to stress that all the volunteers of short or long duration, are directed by the department of Collaboration for the International Mission (Cmi), of the General House of Rome.

To attend to the classes of the Project, all the educators are Lebanese and, besides of communicating new energy to the activities, they facilitate the communication with the children and young people and the families because of the barriers that the Arabic language can imply for the members of the community and the volunteers.

Cycle 2018-2019

The new cycle 2018-2019 of the Project 'Fratelli' in Rmeileh began in the middle of October. The first source of the work is addressed to the small children who have no access to any type of formal education. The enrollment in the Nursery School arrived to 300 children.

In Bourj-Hammoud, the activities will begin in October, with one class in the Nursery School, and with school support as well, to young people from Iraq, Syria and Lebanon.

Other projects, foreseen, as it happens from the beginning of the activities in Rmeileh, Bouri Hammoud must begin little by little, according to the possibilities, and to the needs of the public, we attend. In addition, the agreements with the local NGO's favor attention and open perspectives for new activities in the future.

Marist and Lasalian Brothers working together

In addition to the Brothers and the Laity and collaborators who are in Rmeileh and Bouri Hammoud, the Project is feasible by the effort of many hands which are not daily in the Project, but who offer their availability and competence to help. There is the Council 'Fratelli', in Rome, formed by the La Salle Brothers and Marist Brothers, Jorge Gallardo, fsc, Rafael Matas, fsc, Oscar Martin, fms, Valdicer Facchi, fms. The last two replace respectively Brothers Joe McKee, fms, and Chris Willis, fms, who were present from the beginning of the Project and who finished their activities in the General Administration of the Marist Brothers and returned to their respective Provinces.

In addition there is a Consultative Council in Lebanon which advises the Project and is formed by Habib Zraibi, fsc, Antoine Jarjour, fms, Edouard Jabre, Carlos Mario, fms, Claire Said, Hoda Hajjar, besides Andrés Porras, fsc and Miquel Cubeles, fms, who form part of the community in Rmeileh, Angel Matulli, of Solidarity International of La Salle (Rome). Collaborates with the Fundraising of resources to finance the projects. In addition to those mentioned, there are innumerable other persons who help and make the Project 'Fratelli' be a real and viable idea.

To know more:

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/FratelliProject>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/FratelliProject>

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/fratelliproject/>

If you want to make a donation, see here the details: <http://www.champagnat.org/400.php?a=6&n=4936>



MARIST WORLD



Peru: Meeting of the Board of the Marist International Network of Institutions of Higher Education



East Timor
Br João Batista with children



South Africa: LaValla200> community of Atlantis with Principal of Reygersdal Primary School in Atlantis



France
Cemetery of Notre Dame de l'Hermitage



Sri Lanka
Novices of the Asian Novitiate at Tudella



Argentina: Meeting of the Network of Marist Schools from the Region of América Sur, in Luján

FRANCE: FAMILY SPIRIT

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE CHAMPAGNAT MOVEMENT OF THE MARIST FAMILY

The General Assembly of the MCFM of the fraternities in France took place on October 13 and 14 in Notre Dame de l'Hermitage. There were present 40 people of whom 16 were Brothers, among them Brother-Pere Ferre, Provincial of the Province of the Hermitage. We were able to benefit from his recollection of the General Chapter.

Our meeting was based on 5 important issues:

"To hear for ourselves the news of all the fraternities and to establish greater ties among us; all the fraternities of France were present (except that of Beaucamps)

"Together, to find enrichment through our differences, to share, to pray, to celebrate and to reinforce in ourselves the charism of Marcellin.

"To take ownership of the calls of the XXII General Chapter in a deep and meaningful way. A big thank you to our Brother Pere Ferre.

"To discover the new project of life of the MCFM, with a beautiful intervention by Marta Portas.



"And thanks to our Brother André Déculty, we could even understand the dynamics of the forum..."

The General Assembly re-invigorates us, gives back to us the sense of adherence in the MCFM and reinforces in each of us the spirit of family so dear to our founder.

The next A.G. which will take place in 2 years time will be a very joyful one because we will be celebrating 35 years of the MCFM.

AMANACER PROGRAM

THIRD AGE FORMATION PROGRAM (SPANISH-PORTUGUESE SPEAKERS)

23 Brothers participated in the 2018 'Amanacer' program that took place at the General House between September 1 and October 31, co-ordinated by Brs Landelino Ortega and Alfonso Levis.

Br Teóduo Hernando Ureta left us his account of the experience of the participants during these two months.

At dawn the train will move out and us with it.
In Rome the season of autumn has arrived and the leaves of the trees are slowly falling to the ground or being blown away by the wind to other spots.

Will I paint a picture of Dawn? Definitely not.

I offer these few lines, a compressed summary, to be read quickly but with all the grandeur and beauty of an aurora borealis.

Not what but who constituted AMANACER in 2018?

Twenty-three riders from the Apocalypse coming from outside the city (from 9 different countries) who have dreamed together and interlaced their life stories to form a Global Family.

A journalist may ask, "What did you do during those two months?"

Dream, sing, pray, discover new horizons, become grounded, touch base with our humanity, have a good look at the present, prepare the future, contemplate God from our standpoint as seniors, become aware of our richness and frailty. All this besides going for walks, relaxing, enriching ourselves culturally and celebrating the Eucharist as a remembering, after a lifetime of the gift of brotherhood.

Are you taking something away from the course?

Of course, a bag and a backpack.
In the bag go the notes, the talks, the handouts, the touching souvenirs from different countries, some clothing and shoes, maybe even some dirty laundry to wash.



In the backpack, what is most personal and meaningful: the God who has been with me over my 70-75 years, my personality, experiences, falls, hopes for the future, service to the community, the way I am a mystic and prophet in the Church—as—communion; the consolation of knowing that a senior Brother in a community is never a left-over but remains a real person of reference.

Would you advise others to do the program?

Come and do it yourself and then tell me. There are still many paths to be discovered.

I leave you with this thought: "Since you do not know when dawn will come, leave all the doors open."

Thanks to Brothers Landelino and Afonso. AMANACER 2018 is over. May the AMANACER of 2019 begin tomorrow.

PROVINCIALS OF IBÉRICA AND COMPOSTELA APPOINTED FOR A SECOND TERM



Moisés Alonso Pérez, Ibérica

On October 16 Br Superior General, Br Ernesto Sánchez, announced the appointment of Br Moisés Alonso Pérez, from Ibérica, and Tomás Briongos, from Compostela, for a second period of three years. Their mandate will start from the Provincial Chapter which will take place from 26 to 29 December.

The General Council took this decision after studying the results of the sondage made in the Provinces that showed clearly that both Brothers enjoy the support of a large majority of the Brothers. The Superior General expressed his thanks to Br Moisés and Br Tomás for their service to the Institute as Provincials and for generously accepting to continue in this service as leader for a further three years.



Tomás Briongos, Compostela

EVANGELICAL ADMINISTRATION OF GOODS

FORMATION IN THE AREA OF ECONOMIC MATTERS

From 1 to 26 of October a course was held in Curitiba, Brazil concerning formation in the area of economic matters of the Marist Institute. The Province of Brasil Centro-Sul, with the support of the Papal Catholic University of Paraná, organized the course which aimed to contribute to spreading the knowledge of the Marists of Champagnat in the diverse Provinces of the world and representatives of the Society of Mary, where there is more than enough administration of goods and the revision of best economic practices in line with the Guidelines of the Church.

With this formation it is the intention of the Marist Institute to forward suggestions so that the participants can guarantee the economic and financial sustainability of their Provinces, Districts and Regions in the years to come, with an eye to guaranteeing the sustainability of our charism and mission.

The first part of the course was carried out in Portuguese and Spanish, and at the same time there are plans being made for the course to accommodate English-speaking participants which will take place in 2019 in the Philippines.

The course was conceived keeping in mind the guidelines of the Institute in the face of the challenges of the XXII General Chapter and the expectations of the Provinces, manifested in the survey carried out in September of 2017. The data were compiled and analyzed by Brother Libardo Garzón Duque, the Econome General, and professors of the School of Business of the PUCPR coordinated by Professor Silvana Hastreiter.

After analysis, a group of modules was prepared which contained three areas of formation:

1. identity of the Marist Institute and the challenges and horizons of the General Chapter.
2. strategic administration and government
3. animation and leadership of teams.



Each one of the modules presented practical and technical activities, facilitating the exchange of experiences and the application of concepts and practices in different contexts.

At the end of the course, the participants were divided into groups to produce a final work. This is a project of intervention with the objective of developing solutions that can, indeed, be applied in the Provinces. The works were accompanied by the facilitator and then they were presented to the group of participants.

According to Brother Libardo, the reality of the Institute has many shades in how it organizes and negotiates its assets. At the same time, today, the bursars are more aware of the need to think like a global family and to act locally, feeling responsible for coordinated and competent administration in the Provinces. "It is my belief that training is a key element in facing these challenges", he explains.

For him, the course is an excellent opportunity to form Brothers and Lay people in the appropriate administration of goods, according to the calls of the XX General Chapter and the last document of the Vatican dealing with economy in the service of the charism and mission.

Institute of the Marist Brothers - General House

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