



LAVALLA200>

JOINING THE COMMUNITIES FOR A NEW BEGINNING

Lavalla200>, International Communities for a New Beginning, is an initiative open to Brothers and Marist Laypeople who feel called to dedicate a period of their lives to go beyond their geographical and cultural borders. It is characterised by sharing life in mixed Marist communities, global availability, internationality and inter-cultural living and mission, responding boldly to emerging needs.

After a Preparation Program, the participants are sent either to one of the Lavalla200> communities or to one of the special projects of the Institute, such as MDA (Marist District of Asia), the Fratelli Project in Lebanon, Solidarity in South Sudan and others.

Lavalla200> aims at being a significant evangelising presence of Brothers and Laypeople among vulnerable children and young people. In its spirit of global availability, having a mindset and attitude of international collaboration for mission, of intercultural living and a life characterised by its Gospel quality and community witness, Lavalla200> is a sign of hope for the Institute and the Church.

Until now, some 125 people have put their names forward. 55 have completed the preparation and discernment pro-



gram (23 in 2016; 15 in 2017; 17 in 2018) to become members of these communities in the different regions of the Institute: Africa: Atlantis in South Africa; Arco Norte: East Harlem in USA and Cuba; Europe: Syracuse, Italy and Moinesti, Romania; Oceania: Mt Druitt, Australia; South America: Tabatinga, Amazon, Brazil. In addition, 3 Lavalla200> members have been appointed to the Fratelli project in Lebanon. A further 12 brothers, a single woman and single man were appointed to existing communities in MDA. Three brothers (including the formation team) were appointed to the General Administration.

GENEAL ADMINISTRATION

- From November 19 to 21, Pep Bue-tas, Coordinator of the Secretariat for the Laity participates in the encounter of the Commission of the Laity of Europe in Malaga, Spain.
- Br. Ernesto Sánchez, Superior General, participates in the Encounter of the Union of Superiors General that takes place in Rome from November 21 to 23, in Rome.
- From November 22 to 24, Br. Álvaro

Sepúlveda, from FMSI, participates in the International Congress of Ill-treated Children in Barcelona.

- Brothers Luis Carlos Gutiérrez, Vicar General, and Libardo Garzón, General Bursar participate in the meeting of the Provincial Council of South Africa, in Johannesburg, from November 22 to 24.
- On the 24th the Directors of the Secretariat of Education and Evange-

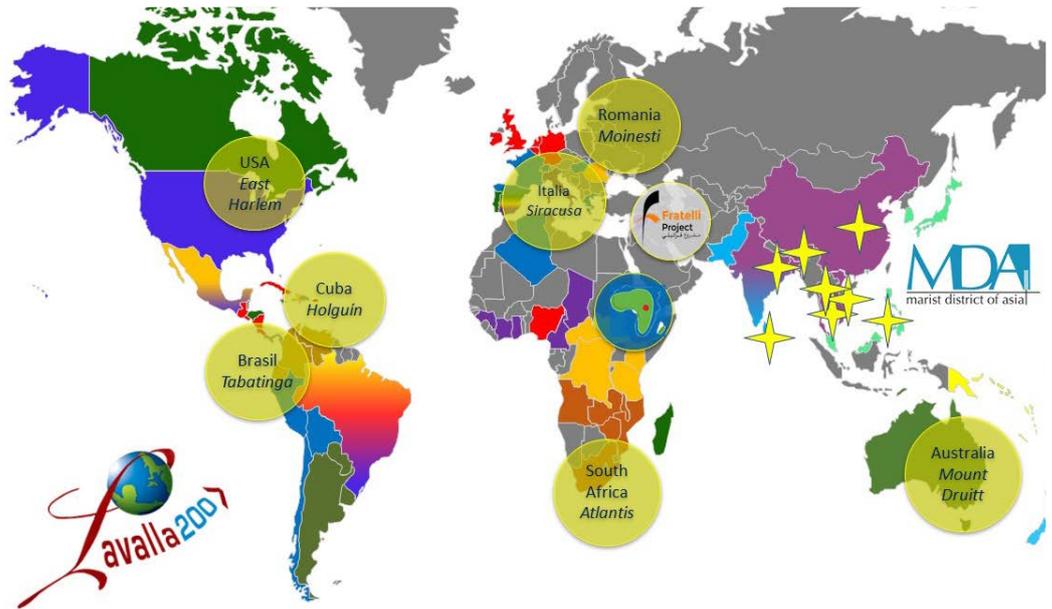
lization Brothers Carlos Alberto Rojas Carvajal and Okolo Mark Omede, participate in the meeting of the Commission for the preparation of the International Encounter of Marists Young People Guatemala 2019, in Rome.

- Between November 23 and 29 the General Councilors Sylvain Raman-dimbarisoa and Oscar Martin Vicario, visit the Province Santa Maria de loss Andes.

Joining

"If you wish to offer some years of your life to the service of the Marist mission beyond the borders of your province or your country, I encourage you to step forward and make known your availability." (Letter: The Dance of Mission, 2013)

To begin the journey, you can write a letter or send an e-mail directly to the Superior General or your Provincial, setting out your motivation and desire to join Lavalla200>. You will then receive directions for the next steps.



Preparation Program

A program of preparation and discernment has been designed especially for people wanting to join the Lavalla200> initiative. In this program each one make a discernment on the call to become a member of Lavalla200>; candidates live an international and intercultural experience and have the chance to develop new competencies and skills and a spirituality for intercultural living. The leaders of Lavalla200>, in dialogue with each candidate, discern those who are called to be part of the project and to which international community they will be appointed.

This program is held in the months of May and June each year: the first week at the General House, those following at Camaldoli, Tuscany, Italy, and the final week at the Hermitage, France.

Towards the future

The recent General Chapter (2017) stated its belief that "the future of the charism will be founded on a communion of fully committed Marists, brothers and lay". They described this as a "global charismatic family": our homes as beacons of hope, the face and hands of God's tender mercy, brothers and sisters to all, bridge-builders, journeying with children and young people on the margins of life, responding boldly to emerging needs. The incoming Superior General, Br Ernesto Sanchez, titled his closing words, "The new beginning has already begun!" The Lavalla200> communities model that new beginning.

Further Information

Anyone seeking additional information can access [this page](#) or e-mail cmi@fms.it.

20 NOVEMBER

UNIVERSAL CHILDREN'S DAY

United Nations Universal Children's Day was established in 1954 and is celebrated on November 20th each year to promote international togetherness, awareness among children worldwide, and improving children's welfare.

November 20th is an important date as it is the date in 1959 when the UN General Assembly adopted the [Declaration of the Rights of the Child](#). It is also the date in 1989 when the UN General assembly adopted the [Convention on the Rights of the Child](#).

Since 1990, Universal Children's Day also marks the anniversary of the date that the UN General Assembly

adopted both the declaration and the convention on children's rights.

Mothers and fathers, teachers, nurses and doctors, government leaders and civil society activists, religious and community elders, corporate moguls and media professionals as well as young people and children themselves can play an important part in making Universal Children's Day relevant for their societies, communities and nations.

Universal Children's Day offers each of us an inspirational entry-point to advocate, promote and celebrate children's rights, translating into dialogues and actions that will build a better world for Children.

NEWS IN BRIEF

70 YEARS OF PUCRS

On November 9, the commemorative supper and the launching of the book allusive to the 70 years of the Institution of Superior Education of Rio Grande do Sul took place. At that time, with four faculties, the educational Center of the Brothers was recognized as University on November 9, 1948 (Catholic University of Rio Grande del Sur). Two years later, it received the title Of "Pontifical". Today it counts with approximately twenty-seven thousand students and up until now 166 thousand persons have graduated and received a diploma.

EL SALVADOR

From November 3 to 9, in the Retreat House of Hermitage, 79 young people, from the School of Leaders, participated- For the young people it was a significant experience of profound encounter with self, with the others, with the environment and with God, which leads them to commit themselves to live as Christ in the ordinary situations of life.

SPAIN

During the past weekend, the NGOD SED celebrated its National Encounter of Volunteers in Burgos. SED wants with its solidarity, converted into fraternity, to go to encounter persons and peoples, to share life with them and advance together.

UNIVERSITY OF MEXICO

Since last August, the Marist University of the City of Mexico is celebrating 25 years of its foundation. The formation that the University provides is highly qualified, humanistic, creative and innovating, broadening critical minds of men and women to be good Christians and good citizens.

SINCE 2013, 29 YOUNG WERE SENT FOR A VOLUNTARY MISSION ALL OVER THE WORLD

ANNIVERSARY OF FIVE YEARS OF CMI IN MINDELHEIM



Last 5th October, in Mindelheim, Germany, the Provincial, Br. Brendan Geary, two representatives from the General House, Brothers João Carlos do Prado, Councillor General, and Valdicer Fachi, director of Cmi Rome celebrated five years of Collaboration for Mission, International (Cmi) in Germany.

With them, several German Brothers who are interested in Cmi, many past volunteers with their parents and friends and supporters of Cmi and the Marists were coming to the commemoration. Representatives of public life, such as the mayor of the city and the mentors of incoming volunteers, as well as the principal and teachers of the Marist College attended the celebration.

Maristenkolleg Mindelheim provided the schoolhouse for this day. After the celebration of a thanksgiving mass, the incoming volunteers planted a tree as a symbol of hope and growth. The first possibility of exchange was given at a short welcome drink at Maristenkolleg hall.

Immediately thereafter, the guests were asked to participate in a panel discussion on the deep meaning of

volunteering abroad.

Brothers João Carlos and Valdicer gave us their reflections from the Marist point of view, while Mr. Max Engels provided insight into a socio-political perspective.

Afterwards the participants enjoyed the dinner together and had enough time to talk to many guests of the celebration. The past volunteers were very happy to meet again and to have time for each other.

Ms Nancy Camilleri enriched the evening with a short sketch, presented by incoming and past outgoing volunteers. This sketch showed, in a loving and funny way, how tricky German language could be for learners.

Since August 2013, 29 young graduates from German Marist Schools were sent for a voluntary mission service to other Marist projects all over the world. The young people live and work for 9 months in a Marist receiving community.

Looking at the last 5 years it was desire for us to pause and to say "thank you" together with many people who are significant for Cmi Germany and the Marists in Germany.

MARIST WORLD



East Timor
Marist vocational meeting



Nicaragua
Meeting of Marist Fraternities



Uruguay: Communication team of the
Province of Cruz del Sur



Spain: Assembly of Representatives
of CME in Xaudaró



South Africa
Three2Six Project



Canada
Forum Mariste

WITNESSING TO THE GOD OF LOVE

MEXICO: GATHERING OF THE MARISTS OF CHAMPAGNAT

A gathering of the Marist Family of Mexico took place over the days of 1 to 3 November in Guadalajara, with representatives of 17 Fraternities of the Champagnat Movement of the Marist Family and Brothers of the two Marist Provinces in the country.

The theme of the gathering was “Witnessing to the God of Love”, taking up the second call of the XXII General Chapter: To be the face and hands of your tender mercy.

In a video message that he sent to the group, Br Ernesto recalled the call of the General Chapter “to cultivate a spirituality of the heart” that integrates our lives, and “to be witnesses in an increasingly fragmented world”.

The invitation was for all the participants to meet God within so as to be



capable of being faithful witnesses to His love in the various places where Marist life and mission happens.

Also, the National Team of the Marist

Family was elected, made up of Flora Martínez, Gabriela Hermosillo, Rosa Ma. López, Araceli Rendón, Julieta Bustamante, Patricia Ríos, Ma. Esther Laborde y Antonio Buenfil.

AMÉRICA SUR

4TH MEETING OF THE NETWORK OF MEMORIAL CENTRES

From 5th to 9th of November, in the Centre of Marist Spirituality - CEM, in Santiago (Chile), the 4th Meeting of the Network of Marist Memorial Centres in the Region of América del Sur took place, involving 23 participants from Brazil, Chile, Argentina, Peru and Bolivia.

Organized by UMBRASIL and the Province of Santa María de los Andes, who hosted the event, the meeting had as its main object to prepare a period of formation for the coordinators, technicians and collaborators who work in the Marist Centres, both conceptually and from a technical perspective.

Employing the form of a spoken presentation, Brother Alberto Aparicio, (Executive Secretary of the Region America del Sur) - via Skype -, Brother Patricio Pine, (Provincial of Santa María de los Andes) and Marcos Rogério de Souza (Manager of the Pergamum System), initiated the event by addressing the consolidation of the Network of Marist memorial centres in the Region of America del Sur followed by its growth in the global context of the Institute.



The meeting was an opportunity to recognise the road already travelled in each Province concerning the administration of documents and materials which we already have: Files, Libraries, Museums.

The use of training workshops dealing with the Pergamum System gave excellent opportunities to discover Marist terms, good opportunities to get to know and to share experiences and initiatives concerning the preservation of files of the Marist Provinces in the America del Sur Region. Equally they helped in the formation and knowledge of techniques used by each of the participants.

We were all able to take part in technical, guided visits, to the National Archive of Chile and the Marist Patrimonial Historical Archive of Chile, where a discussion was held on the Marist Cultural Charismatic Patrimony - pedagogic Proposal CEPAM SMA - Virtual CEPAM, to be supervised by Brother Patricio Pine and Francisco Flores.

Taking part in his second meeting, Gustavo Balbinot describes the experience with great enthusiasm: "For me, to take part in the 4th Meeting of Centres is the importance of preserving a history that is sacred, vibrant and alive. Yes, because the present in which we are living becomes a memory when it is lived with love and enthusiasm. I am happy with all that has taken place and I am filled with enthusiasm that we are crossing the frontiers of the Region of America del Sur, so that this project, according to the wishes of the Institute, ends up being 'global.'"

Although the meeting has ended, the shared work continues. It is an honour to be able to qualify and widen the preservation of the goods which are of historical, spiritual and cultural value to the Institute, offering them to the Marist Family, to the Church and to Society.

LES AVELLANES

MEETING OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS

During the week from November 5 to nine, in the Monestir de les Avellanes (Catalonia) was celebrated the half-yearly meeting of the International Council of Economic Affairs (CIAE) of the Marist Institute.

Together with the Brother General Bursar, Libardo Garzón, the members of the CIAE met Adrienne Egberg (Southern Africa), Bernard Kenna (Australia), Br. Xavier Giné (Hermitage), Br. Alfonso Fernandez (Iberian) Br. Jorge Gaio (South-Central Brazil) and Br. Andrew Chan Chou San (East Asia). Luca Olivari and Everson Oliveira also participated as invited guests. The participants in the encounter are carrying out a joint financial analysis of the life of the Administrative Units and developing the strategic planning of the Institute in order to attain a global structure as unified as possible, also in the financial field.



LIFE AND MISSION IN EUROPE

MEETING OF THE MARIST EUROPEAN CONFERENCE

The 25th meeting of the Marist European Conference (CEM) was held in Barcelona, on the 6th of November 2018. Various topics were discussed. Here are four of them.

The European Network of Communities

The CEM approved the 4 principles of the project known as "The Network of Marist Communities in Europe."

1. we feel the need for a new and enriching vision which will encourage us to move forward towards "a global family which will generate and nurture our Marist life and mission in all its diversity".
2. we feel called to the creation and animation of communities, centred on our brotherhood which cultivates a spirituality based on meeting with God and with others. In this way, we respond concretely to the emergent needs challenging us as Christians and Marists in our dealings with the local church and other institutions.
3. as a network, we share synergies, people, mission, life, communication..., based on a global readiness to offer a more hope-filled vision of our Marist future in Europe,
4. as Marists of Champagnat, we build communities which are beacons imbuing us with passion in the creation of a family lifestyle open to all in response to the calls of the XXII General Chapter.

News from the European Teams

The CEM allotted time to listen to the European Teams: the European Council of the Mission (the steps taken towards the formation of the European teams), the communication team (protection of data and a manual for the management of communications) and the team for the protection of children (collaboration between the Gregorian University and the Cardinal Cisneros University Centre).

The new International Communities

This topic was discussed at the previous meeting of the CEM, in Freising. At the moment there are two International Communities in the European Region. One is the Com-

munity of Syracuse which this year welcomed two new resources: Rosa and Regina. These have a very clear and specific apostolate: the mission of welcoming immigrants arriving from Africa. The other International Community, in Moinesti, Romania, continues its work while experiencing both hopes and difficulties. They study the work Project with minors and collaborate with the parish, being clear that their mission goes beyond the boundary of the Catholic parish: they are at the service of the local community and mainly of those children from other religious faiths.

Presentation of the Strategic Plan provided by the General Administration

Present at this meeting were Brothers Luis Carlos Gutiérrez, Vicar General, and Ben Consigli, Councillor General, link persons for the European Region. Their role, among others, was the presentation to the CEM of the Strategic Plan of the General Administration. The projects presented are all inspired by the calls of the Chapter and are the result of consultation involving all the Administrative Units of the Institute.



Institute of the Marist Brothers - General House

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