



## COUNCIL OF THE UNION OF GENERAL SUPERIORS

### BROTHER ERNESTO SÁNCHEZ IS ELECTED FOR THE TRIENNIUM 2018-2021

The Assembly of the Union of General Superiors, which took place in Ariccia (Italy) from 21 to 23 November, proceeded to the election of the new Executive Council of the Union. Brother Ernesto Sánchez, Superior General, has been elected member of the Council.

The new Executive Council for the triennium 2018-2021 is made up of: Fr. Arturo Sosa (Jesuit, President of the USG), Fr. Michael Brehl (Redemptorist, Vice-president), Br. Ernesto Sánchez, Fr. Pedro Aguado (Escolapian), Fr. Mauro Lepori (Cistercian), Fr. Laurentius Tarpin (Canon Regular), Fr. Alejandro Moral (Augustinian, OSA), Fr. Ángel Fernández (Salesian), Fr. Tadese Gabresalasia (Combonian), Fr. Matthew Vattamattan (Claretian), Fr. Valdir José de Castro (Pauline) and Fr. Tomasz Mavric (Lazarist).

Founded in 1968, the USG brings together the General Superiors of the Orders and male Religious Congregations. The Union of General Superiors has as its objective the care of the Institutes consecrated to the service of the Church, with a more effective collaboration with these Institutes and the promotion of contacts with the Holy See and the ecclesiastical hierarchy.



Also, six counsellors are selected from the twelve members of this Council of the USG who, together with the President and the Vice-president, form a part of the "Council of the 16". This is a Council formed by eight Congregations of Religious (of the UISG) and eight Congregations of Religious (of the USG) that meet twice a year with the Congregation of the Vatican for the Institutes of Consecrated Life and the Societies of Apostolic Life (CIVCSVA). Brother Ernesto Sánchez has also been elected to this Council for three years.

## GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

- On Saturday, November 24, Brother Ernesto Sánchez, Superior General, along with several other Marist Brothers, participated in the annual "Tutti Fratelli" meeting of religious congregations of Brothers at the General House of the De La Salle Brothers.
- Brother Libardo Garzón, General

Bursar, visits the Province of Madagascar from 26 to 30 November.

- On 28 November, Brother Valdicer Fachi, director of the Department of Cmi, will participate in the Annual Assembly of the Project of Solidarity with Southern Sudan.
- From November 30 to December 3, Brothers Sylvain Ramandimbarisoa

and Óscar Martín Vicario, General Councilors, will visit the Province of Brasil Sul-Amazonia.

- Brothers Ken McDonald and João Carlos del Prado, General Councilors, visit some Marist communities in Colombia, in the Province of Norandina, from November 30 to December 3.

## EL ESCORIAL, END OF A VIRTUOUS CYCLE

### PERMANENT FORMATION IN THE MARIST INSTITUTE

Always the Marist Institute has tried, made an effort, for the formation of the Brothers, especially of those who were to lead processes. This is one of the strategies, which aims at the quality of the services rendered to children and young people and to the continuity of the Institution throughout time.

Who does not remember his "Second Novitiate"? To it went the Brothers who needed a time of formation and who had the possibility to be leaders in their Provinces. Then other names appeared Jesus Magister, Champagnat Center, 'Senderos' (Paths) Horizons and others. The places where these courses were given also changed throughout time: Hermitage, Saint Genis Laval, Grugliasco, Rome, Cochabamba, Nemi, Campinas and others.

At the end of the decade of the 60's, the Institute began to organize these experiences of permanent formation for the Brothers in the Center of Spirituality of El Escorial, Spain. We do not have concrete reliable or trustworthy information of how many courses were taught in that house, nor the number of Brothers who participated. However, they were many. According to Brother Floro, veteran of the Iberian Province, over one thousand Brothers benefited from this formation.

The program corresponded to the Brothers according to their age, to the function exercised in their Provinces, or by interest themes. For the large majority of the participants these were times of grace and of human and religious growth.

New times, new needs, new orientations arose, that have to be taken care of. In September 2018, The General Council opted to take the majority of these courses of permanent formation to the house of Manziana, Italy. A community of five Brothers is assigned to administer that house and to organize those programs. In this way, the Spirituality Center of El Escorial, at least for now, will no longer have those courses of permanent formation organized by the General Administration of the Institute. The house will be a center of formation of the Iberian Province.

#### Gratitude, Nostalgia and Hope

Brothers Antonio Peralta and I had to close the activities in El Escorial at the level of the Institute. In a conversation held while packing the materials to send to Manziana, we mentioned three words that express our sentiments, gratitude, nostalgia and hope.

Gratitude to God for the wonders carried out in so many Brothers who passed through El Escorial. Gratitude to the Iberian Province for having made available that excellent building to hold the courses. Gratitude to the Brothers Juanjo, Floro, Marino Hilario, Elias, Ebélio and many others who formed the local community throughout these years.



God alone knows the good they did. Gratitude to the Directing Teams and to the advisers of the courses in all their editions.

Nostalgia because the word "El Escorial" reminds one of permanent formation, pleasant time of rest and of learning, experience of internationality lived with other Marist Brothers. Now the cycle is closed. At this moment of farewell, we can sing with the poet: "The one who leaves carries with him the nostalgia of the one who remains, weeps with sorrow".

Hope in the future, which most certainly will be one of a good service to so many Marists of Champagnat, since beginning in 2019; the Laity, men and women, will also, be invited to participate to some of the future experiences. In the same way as God blessed those who passed through El Escorial, he will bless those who will pass through Manziana.

#### New cycle in permanent formation of the Marists of Champagnat

As the young of today say: "It was good as long as it lasted". We end the virtuous cycle in El Escorial and begin a new one in Manziana.

Grateful, with nostalgia and with much hope, the Brothers of the Community named by the General Council to begin this new time already met from November 4 to 10 to plan the future.

I must confess that I felt the presence of God among us. He, the Good Mother and Saint Marcelin will be with us in Manziana and with those who will be there enjoying a time of permanent formation. As it is said in Brazil, "The people are met around there!"

## STRUCTURES FOR THE MISSION

### MEETING OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE SPANISH MARIST CONFERENCE

"Juridical structures at the service of the mission" was the topic of the Assembly of Representatives of the Spanish Marist Conference (CME) which took place from 14 to 16 November, attended by members of the 5 European Provinces accompanied by Brother Luis Carlos Gutiérrez, the Vicar General.

The Assembly of Representatives of CME has an advisory capacity, and its mission is to reflect and to shed light on the decisions that later may be taken by the different organs of government of the Marist provinces.

The topic proposed on this occasion by the Meeting of Delegates was aided by a preparatory commission which together with the advice of FERE and of LEX has allowed it to contact a good group of professionals who, over the three days, helped the participants of the five provinces of the European Marists in their reflections.

The objective of this Assembly was to share and to reflect, starting with the challenges facing the Marist Institute in different environments: the characteristics of the Institute and its charism, the social reality and more especially the reality of each province, its mission and its viability, from governance to patrimony.



lives, in our present generations and in those of the future, and that the mission may continue developing with a heart like the one Champagnat wished, whether brothers or lay people who have to take the responsibility for guiding and reflecting as well as taking decisions on the mission situations".

The group opted for a route that would continue as "a global family" with the intention of being "co-creators" looking forward, as was pointed out in his closing words by Brother Luis Carlos "with a magnifying glass and with faith because we have a charismatic heart which is beautiful and we have people willing to walk that extra mile or kilometre". On that same subject Brother insisted that "the juridical structures are at the service of the mission... what is fundamental is to maintain the life, that the structures, whether simple or complex, must be good for our life and be good for the purpose for which we have been created as Marists."



In discussing a structure to develop the Marist mission, Brother Luis Carlos Gutiérrez underlined the fact that it is important to afford viability to two strong elements: "that the charism continues being nurtured and continue being part of all our

And finally, an invitation or challenge issued by the Vicar General, to the five participating provinces... "think extraterritorially, leaving our own provinces knowing that there is something out there and that we can contribute some initiatives."

MARIST WORLD



Mexico  
Bachillerato Basilio Rueda



Spain  
Granada: Marist Proyect Land of All



Lebanon  
Catechists of Champville and Jbail



Uruguay  
Maristas San Luis, Pando



Sri Lanka  
Marist International Novitiate



Australia  
Marist Youth Ministry - Sydney

COMMUNITY LAVALLA 200> OF SYRACUSE

IMMIGRANTS REMEMBER THE JOURNEY THAT HAS BROUGHT THEM TO EUROPE



into the territory. The center wishes to offer services to help them in their adaptation and integration into Italian society.

In the following video a group of young immigrants share how they feel to remember the journey that has brought them to European lands and their reactions to the memory of what they lived in Libya and the possibility of being returned to the Libyan reality.



The [centro CIAO](#) (Intercultural Center for Help and Guidance) of the Marist community of [Syracuse](#) (Lavalla200>) is an intercultural space for help and guidance particularly designed for young immigrants and refugees living in Syracuse and surrounding areas, in Italy.

It works in particular with minors from first and second reception centers and young adults who wish to integrate

## SAINT MARCELLIN CHAMPAGNAT, A CHALLENGE FOR TODAY'S WORLD

### MEETING OF THE ITALIAN MARISTS OF CHAMPAGNAT IN THE GENERAL HOUSE

On Saturday 10th and Sunday 11th of November, a group of more than 30 brothers and lay Marists, - from Rome, Genoa and Giugliano - gathered in the General House (Rome, Italy) to learn and to immerse themselves in the knowledge of a "little known" Saint Marcellin.

Brother Giorgio Diamanti, a member of the community of Notre Dame de l'Hermitage, France, passionately accompanied the participants in the rediscovery of some features of the Founder that the hagiographic approach of his first biographer, Brother Jean Baptist, had failed to highlight. How many discoveries, and new facts, how much real life we had the opportunity to savour through the reading of other testimonies, from his own letters, while hearing the results of research lately published on an historic level.

After sharing this research during the whole of Saturday, the group concluded in a special way by meeting



on the Sunday morning with Brother Ernesto, the present Superior General. Brother Ernesto helped us to appreciate the beauty and the novelty of our engagement, shared all over the world, with the "numerous Marists of Champagnat" which characterises, unequivocally, the history of the Institute in which we are called to live.

At the end of the meeting, each of

those present was "sent out", committed to take on the challenge of Marcellin today. This moment was highlighted during the Eucharist with the presentation by Brother Ernesto of the booklet of the calls of the Chapter.

And finally the fraternal meal during which the participants celebrated the birthday of Bro. Massimo Radicetti.

## LATEST DECEASED BROTHERS

**20/11/2018:** Terence Heinrich  
Prov. Australia - Australia, Randwick

**10/11/2018:** Luis Ruiz Corral  
Prov. Compostela - Spain, Valladolid

**10/11/2018:** Louis-Julien-Marie Richard  
Prov. L'Hermitage - France, Saint Genis-Laval

**10/11/2018:** Charles Hassenforder  
Prov. L'Hermitage - France, Saint Genis-Laval

**04/11/2018:** José Luis Rodríguez Alanís  
Prov. México Central - Mexico, Ciudad de México

**02/11/2018:** Paul Loir  
Prov. L'Hermitage - France, Saint Genis-Laval

**27/10/2018:** Claude Péladeau  
Prov. Canada - Canada, Château-Riche

**27/10/2018:** Jose Tayamora Torrecampo  
Prov. East Asia - Philippines, General Santos City

**21/10/2018:** Cyrus Callaghan  
Prov. Australia - Australia, Ashgrove

**20/10/2018:** Eugene Dwyer  
Prov. Australia - Australia, Campbelltown

**18/10/2018:** Enrique Lozano Amaral  
Prov. México Central - Mexico, Ciudad de México

**15/10/2018:** Raymond John Mulvogue  
Prov. Australia - United States, Spokane, Washington

**14/10/2018:** Antoni Rey Adua  
Prov. L'Hermitage - Spain, Les Avellanes

**14/10/2018:** Nelso Gonzatti  
Prov. Brasil Sul-Amazônia - Brazil, Santa Maria

**10/10/2018:** Martin Healy  
Prov. United States of America - United States, Bronx

**09/10/2018:** Israel Farneda  
Prov. Cruz del Sur - Argentina, Luján

**05/10/2018:** Onofre Castro Robles  
Prov. Compostela - Spain, León

**05/10/2018:** Paul Henry Blumenthal  
Prov. Australia - Australia, Daceyville, New South Wales

**03/10/2018:** César Cañón Cembranos  
Prov. Ibérica - Spain, Valladolid

**29/09/2018:** Eduardo Botero Arango  
Prov. Norandina - Colombia, Ibagué

## A LIGHT, WHICH ENLIGHTENS GRIEF

### THE MARTYRS OF THE CHURCH OF ALGERIA



Father Georgeon, Postulator general of the Cause of the martyrs of the Church of Algeria, in speaking of the 19 Christians who died violently during the years ninety in Algeria, affirms, "They have lived together with the smallest in the name of Christ, respecting the faith of others". This is why, "to render homage to the 19 Christian martyrs signifies to render homage to the memory of all those who gave their life in Algeria in the decade of 1990". The majority, of the almost two-hundred thousand persons murdered during the dark years of the Islamist terrorism, were normal and ordinary people, but also journalists, activists of human rights, intellectuals and Imams.

Today, instead of favoring a politics of reconciliation, marked by silence and the forgetfulness of so many names, we want to favor the



healing of the memory, so as not to run the risk to leave them confined in forgetfulness. This is the reason why the Beatification of the 19 Christian martyrs is favored. These lives have to bring a great light to enlighten including the much suffering experienced by the Algerian people. It is an opportunity to rediscover the true significance of the term "martyr", who is a witness – Father Thomas insists – These persons did not give their life for an idea, for a cause, but for Him. They did it with a profound love for the land where the Lord had sent them, Algeria, with attention and evangelical delicacy toward the people, especially toward the little and humble ones, as well as toward the young people. They did it respecting the faith of the others and with the desire to understand Islam".

"The Blood of Love - The martyrs of Algeria (1994-1996)" - PDF: [English](#) | [Español](#) | [Français](#) | [Português](#)

#### Br Henri Vergès, Marist martyr

Br Henri is one of the 19 martyrs of Algeria. He 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>.

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