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# MARIST NEWS

MARISTS OF CHAMPAGNAT | GENERAL HOUSE | ROME | WWW.CHAMPAGNAT.ORG

240 Marist educators took part in the formation offered by the Gregorian

## EVALUATION MEETING OF THE E-LEARNING COURSE FOR THE PREVENTION OF SEXUAL ABUSE

From 1 to 4 June, a meeting was held in Alcalá de Henares (Spain) to evaluate the agreement between the Marist Institute and the Center for the Protection of Children, CCP, of the Pontifical Gregorian University in Rome. The Marist Foundation for International Solidarity (FMSI) [signed this agreement in 2017](#) with the aim of implementing training courses for the prevention of sexual abuse in universities and other Marist institutions.

To date, in addition to those trained at the Gregorian itself, 240 Marist educators from 12 countries have participated in this training. Brothers and laypeople from Spain, Portugal, Romania, Greece, France, Hungary, China, Lebanon, Bangladesh, Vietnam, Brazil and Chile have followed the training given by [Cardenal Cisneros University Centre](#) (Spain), Pontifical Catholic University of Paraná-PUCPR (Brazil) and the Marist Sector of Chile.

In order to evaluate the development of this course, between March and May 2019 a survey was carried out among the participants. In addition to this survey, the meeting at the beginning of the month brought together those responsible for the implementation of this Gregorian course in the Marist Sector: Inmaculada Maillo (Europe - Asia), Bárbara Pimpão (Brazil) and



Marcela Hormazábal (Chile). Álvaro Sepúlveda, of the Child Rights Unit of [FMSI](#), was present as facilitator of the meeting.

The positive evaluation of this experience is a good basis for its extension to other Provinces of the Marist Institute. The Marist University of Mérida (Mexico) and the University Notre Dame de Marbel (Philippines) will soon participate in this project.

The meeting was also an opportunity to meet Brother Gabriel Villa-Rey-

al, responsible for the Policy of Child Rights of the Province of I'Hermitage and member of the European Team for the Child Rights. Videoconferences were also held with other Marist Provinces interested in the course. There was also the opportunity to get to know the initiatives already under way in the Marist world: the campaign of the "Guardians of Rights" and the recognition given by UNICEF to the schools of the Province of Iberica; the campaign "Defend yourself" and the National Guidelines for the Promotion and Protection of the Rights of the Child in Brazil; the "Never Again" Forum" and Youth Council of the Marist Sector of Chile.

As part of the program, the publication "Breaking the Silence" was launched in Madrid, a book that brings together testimonies of Marist people committed to the protection of children.

## general administration

■ This week, the General Council dedicates its time to promoting the integration and collaboration between the secretaries and departments of the General Administration. In the course of this whole week, meetings will be held with the Counsellors involving the three areas of the flowchart of the General House (Marist Life, Marist Mission and Services), to evaluate the putting in place of the Strategic Plan

and to align the actions of the following months.

■ From the 13th to the 16th of June, Brothers Ben Consigli and João Carlos del Prado, general counsellors, will take part in the meeting of the Province of West Central Europe, in Guardamar, Spain. Firstly, they will meet with the Provincial Council and then with the Provincial Assembly.

Vietnam: New Horizons for Disadvantaged Youth

# ENGLISH SKILLS & LEADERSHIP TRAINING FOR 7,000 CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE IN QUOC OAI

The Marist International Solidarity Foundation ([FMSI](#)) and Australian Marist Solidarity ([AMS](#)) are working in partnership to co-fund a transformative project in Vietnam: New Horizons for Disadvantaged Youth. That project, administered by a partnership between the Marist Brothers and local implementers, provides English skills and leadership training to disadvantaged youth.

In the growing semi-urban region around the capital city Hanoi, there is a strong need to support the teaching of English and nurturing leadership skills which are crucial for the development of the younger generation. Knowledge of the English language is an advantageous skill within Vietnam and contributes to the success of youth in pursuing further studies, obtaining jobs, and contributing to society. In general, English learning is encouraged within the Vietnamese schooling system, however, schools often lack the resources to effectively deliver English lessons.

The New Horizons for Disadvantaged Youth project seeks to improve English language and employability skills to over 7,000 children and young people in two primary schools and eight secondary schools. This project has been expanded in recent years due to increasing demand and the success of previous years.

With the active co-operation of the young people themselves, this project seeks creative ways to:

Develop their self-esteem and inner capacity to give direction to their lives.

Educate them to be agents of social change, for greater justice towards all citizens in their own society, and for more awareness of the interdependence of nations.

Equip them with English language skills that can improve their future and open new pathways.

If you would like to donate to that project, please visit the sites of [FMSI](#) and [AMS](#).



## CHAMPAGNAT 2019

The feast day of Champagnat was celebrated, last week, in different ways throughout the Marist institutions. Through the social networks, there were celebrated with vigour and fervour: communities of Brothers, lay fraternities, Marist schools, groups and associations celebrating the founder's day with special meetings, initiatives, prayers and fellowship. Some images of this day can be seen in Facebook and also in this video-tape: <https://youtu.be/o1G1mqNQhYc>

## EL SALVADOR

On Saturday June 8th the first meeting took place of the Marist life in the country. This is an initiative of the vocational pastoral directed towards mature youths between 19 and 30 years of age. With this, are offered hints for the construction of the project of life from a vocational perspective and wealth of the Marist charism.

## CHILE

The Marist lay men and women of Champagnat in the city of Rancagua gathered to celebrate the Feast of Pentecost, with the aim of strengthening the mission under the same Spirit that gave strength and dynamism to the Marist foundational charism. It was a form of giving testimony of community life which is developing in the community of la Villa Hermano Fernando de la Fuente.

## UNITED STATES

A student of the University of Detroit Mercy shared a reflection recently (<https://youtu.be/fRNrHZJU80c>) about the time he passed doing voluntary work in El Paso, Texas in The "Encounter Project". This is an intercongregational and collaborative project in the area of the United States and Mexico which includes the Jesuits, the Marist Brothers, the Sisters of San Francisco of the Sagrada Familia, lay people and the Instituto Fronterizo Esperanza (Hope Border Institute).

Facilitating the process of integration of immigrant children

# MARISTS OF BRAZIL PROMOTES A PROJECT TO HELP TO THE MOST VULNERABLE



The Marists of Brazil, joined with the Consolata Parish and the Institute of Migration and Human Rights to create "Project of Migrant Children and Human Rights", aided by the Marist Union of Brazil, the Province of Brazil Sul-Amazonia, the Marist Centre for the Defence of the Children and Avesol. The initiative is a response to the migratory phenomenon - almost 75 thousand Venezuelan have requested the regularisation of the situation in Roraima, between 2015 and 2018 -, but, mainly, it is a way of protecting the children who are most vulnerable in the migration process.

The project wishes to facilitate the process of child integration in the local community, and is in response to the analysis carried out by institutions that look after the needs of the children who take part, direct or indirectly, in the actions of Parish Consolata.

As part of the project, the promoters of this initiative carried out a professional formation, on the 16th and 17th of May,

48 hours of actual formation and 64h of distance learning, directed towards educators and volunteers.

The volunteers will assist every day in the welcome space and will act evaluate the identities of the assisted children.

The days of formation were very important in finding out the limits of the educators, there notions of inherent topics of the legislation, and how the work of an educator goes beyond mere attention to the child.

Hellenic Cecília, pedagogue of the Marist Centre of Defence of the Child, says that the Project Children in Movement and Human rights aspires to assisting migrant and Brazilian children, especially, the street children, in the area of the Parish Consolata". And she adds, also: "We worry about the children who arrived accompanied by their mothers to present the documentation. And this space of informal education, will be able to improve the life of these children ".

## marist world

Argentina: Educational Centers Management Team of Cruz del Sur



Spain  
Grupos Maristas de Encuentro of Navalmoral



Australia: Raúl Amaya, Bureau of the Laity, with the Lavalla200> community Mount Druitt



Mexico: Valladolid Marist University, pilgrimage to the Temple of Our Lady of Fatima, Morelia



Côte d'Ivoire  
Celebration of 50 years of Marist presence



Brazil  
PUCRS promotes the reception of immigrants

L'Hermitage Province

## FOUR DAY PROVINCIAL FORUM

**A** hundred people from the whole Province shared their experiences and aspirations in Notre-Dame de l'Hermitage, from the 13th to the 16th of May.

In the course of the event, the participants reflected and put forward a series of proposals to define the future of the Province. After some time for dialogue, reflection and exchange of experiences a series of recommendations were suggested for the provincial Chapter which will take place, from the 18th to the 22nd of July, in l'Hermitage Notre-Dame.

Other topics dealt with in the forum were the Marist charism, the defence of the rights of children, the accompaniment of the work of the Brothers and lay people, the participation of young people in the Institute and also leadership.

In the meeting - which was an opportunity to share experiences of Marist life and the mission - there was also some discussion about Marist activities which are developing, as, for example the "Marist Camps" initiative (dialogue on the concerns, the needs, the hopes of the local Marist situation) which has already organized 50 meetings, since it began, in October 2018. Equally it carried out an evaluation of the importance of the 52

workshops (proposals of experiences at local and national level, linking them with the calls of the XXII General Chapter), involving more than a thousand people. In the same way, it pointed out the results of these advances, a process which is ongoing. Next stop: the Provincial Chapter.

In this website can be found other details of the four days of the Provincial Forum: <http://www.maristes.cat/noticies/forum-provincial-2019-cap-al-capitol-provincial>



From the Chungju Community in Korea

## A HOUSE FOR MENTALLY CHALLENGED CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE WISHING TO LEARN A TRADE

The 22nd General Chapter calls us to accompany the marginalized children and youth of the world, and this is what the Marist Community in Chungju, South Korea has been doing for thirty years. Br. Alfredo Herrera, of the Province of East Asia, explains how they are helping children who are mentally challenged or abandoned, as well as some of the unemployed youth in Chungju:



**O**ur community has been in Chungju for more than 30 years. We built a house for children and adolescents who were at risk for a variety of reasons—being orphaned or abandoned, minor violations of the law.... It was a welcoming center, offering classes leading to academic certificates as well as training in a trade such as carpentry, craftsmanship and others, which functioned then and now as a welfare facility, and was funded with the help of the city of Seoul and private donations.

Since the house in Seoul where the children lived wasn't suitable, the city government assisted with funds for the construction of the present center near Chungju. Casa Marista was here for some 15 years, but we noticed that more of the children sent to us were suffering from mental retardation. So beginning in 2004 the house became a residence for children with mental deficiencies. At the beginning of 2017 the name was changed to BUEN HOG-AR ("Good Home", "Ch'am Choun Chib"), whose residents were young people with severe mental deficiencies. Br. Laurencio Park is the director and Br. Paul Won is in charge of maintenance. In addition there are 34 other personnel, including cooks, a nurse, office staff, therapists, a driver, etc., dedicated to the care of the 30 residents.

Also on the Chungju property, in addition to the residence, is the TALLER MARISTA (Marist Sheltered Workshop). This workshop, which has been here since the beginning of our ministry, is intended to introduce the children to different trades. Its purpose has evolved in accordance with the changing capabilities of the residents, becoming over the last 15 years a center of work/employment where the graduates of the residence can earn a living in a setting designed for them. Thus the qualifier "sheltered" in the center's name. They work on tasks that are within the range of their mental abilities. So the goal of the Workshop is not only to prepare the students for a trade, but also to foster habits appropriate to the work, so those who are able can find employment in other factories or institutions that are willing to employ them. For some of them, the Taller Marista has become a professional workplace. Presently, their work in the taller, under the guidance of Mr. Ju Bom Kim and Br. Moisés Cho, is the manufacture of cardboard boxes, visitor's books and folders made with various types of paper. There are some 33 students between those who are in temporary training and those who are permanent employees of the workshop. In addition, there are 8 adult employees, including Br. Moisés and the director.

New Provincial Strategic Plan

# THE MARISTS OF MEDITERRÁNEA RESTATE THEIR NETWORK WITH EIGHT ACTION SCENARIOS



The Technical Commission of the Marists of Mediterránea met together last month, in May, to review the format and content of the new Provincial Strategic Plan which will cover the next six years of its activity (2019-2024) in Lebanon, Syria, Italy and Spain.

From the beginning of the course 2018-2019, the technical Commission has worked with those responsible for different provincial teams - all of the educational works, social work, vocation groups, communities of Brothers, areas of Solidarity, areas of sport, Provincial Teams for Education, Guidance, TIC, Communication, etc. - to draw up the new Marist document.

After several meetings in Castillo de Maimón (Córdoba) the members of the Committee established the eight scenarios for the strategic lines of the province and they have included and prioritized their projects and initiatives within each one of the scenarios: "We are in a Safe Environment", we are "Creativity", we are "From Within", we are "A Network", we are "Family", we are "Earth", we are "Mediterranean" and we are "Diversity."

One of the challenges of this process is "to distinguish the educational, religious and social atmosphere which will be served by our institution in years to come; also, to predict the response that our educational works, social works, commu-

nities and Brothers (etc.) will provide for the Marist families and all those people around us. Finally, to carry out all of this without losing sight of the essence of the Marists: evangelising, making the dream of Marcellin Champagnat a reality and doing it in the style of Mary", as can be seen in the web page of the province of Mediterránea.

With the finished project, it is expected that the provincial Council will revise and approve the proposal of the Technical Commission, so that it can be applied at the start of the next school year.

Members of the Technical Commission are: Miguel Ángel Sanchiz, in charge of provincial Administration and Quality; Rafael García Porras, delegate for Human Resources; Bartolomé Gil, delegate for Education; Carmen Pilar Cosano, in charge of provincial Guidelines; Javi Castillo, delegate for Youth Ministry; Fernando Domínguez, provincial delegate for Solidarity; and Brothers Aureliano García, member of the Provincial Council, Carlos Mario McEwen, member of the Council of Marist Educational Works (COEM) and Brother Chano Guzmán, coordinator of COEM.

For more information please visit the [web page Maristas Mediterránea](#).

Marist Youth Mission Conference 2019

# MORE THAN 150 YOUNG PEOPLE FROM THE UNITED STATES, CANADA AND MEXICO GATHERED IN NEW YORK

**M**ore than 150 young people from the Provinces of the United States, Canada and Mexico Occidental attended the 2019 Marist Youth Mission Conference from 24 to 27 May at Esopus (New York).

Students came to the gathering from parishes and Marist schools in the United States, two schools in Canada, and a delegation from the Province of Mexico Occidental. Also present were other Marists, Brothers and lay adults, as well as 2 Marist Missionary Sisters.

Br Owen Ormsby and Matt Fallon were responsible for the opening and welcoming ceremony, as well as explaining the activity program and the house rules.

On the first day, the young Marists met around various worktables to share their experiences as students.

At the end of the day, the group gathered in the gym for an evening prayer, entitled, "Mary, Undoer of Knots", led by Mrs Maureen Hagan, director of Young Adult ministry for the Province of the United States.

On the weekend, the young people heard presentations from Ed Kennedy, director of open-air adventure activities of the Marist Centre and Valerio Savino, a lay Marist and director of Our Lady of Mt Carmel School in the Bronx, and discussed these in small groups.

The third main conference presentation was a round table where young people spoke about their connection with the Marist world and how they are living as Marists. At the final



gathering, Sarah Kolkmeyer, from the Marist High School of Chicago, invited participants to put what they had learnt at Esopus into practice.

Over the four days of the gathering, the young people shared moments of morning and evening prayer, and took part in workshops and group entertainment, music, dance, games and bonfire activities.

Before the conference ended, a number of Brothers of the Province of the United States joined the young people for the Mass celebrated by Fr. Richard LaMorte. After the liturgy, Br Patrick McNamara, Provincial of the Brothers of USA Province, thanked Br Owen Ormsby for his work as executive director of the Marist Brothers Centre at Esopus over the last six years.

## The Marist Brothers Centre, Esopus

Each year, around 4,000 young people come to the Marist Brothers Centre at Esopus. The centre is a refuge for young people looking to develop and nourish their spiritual lives. As well, the centre is the site for a short camp of 9 weeks for those in need. The Marist centre brings to life two dreams of St Marcellin Champagnat: being present among young people and helping the marginalised in society.



Peru: Province of Santa María de los Andes

# MEETING OF PROVINCIAL COMMISSIONS



From the 20th until the 24th of May there took place in Lima, Peru, the Meeting of the Commissions for Vocations, Solidarity, Spirituality and the Laity, with representatives of the three Sectors from the Province of Santa María de los Andes (Chile, Bolivia and Peru).

The event, which took place in the Residencia Champagnat, had as its main objectives:

- to recognize and celebrate the service carried out in the Province as an expression of the charism which unites the three countries;
- to clarify the guidelines in the Area

of Evangelisation of the Province for the period 2019 until 2025;

- to discuss common and interrelated projects such as provincial Commissions for the period 2019 at 2025;
- to promote or define the parameters of each commission in the light of those constructed for the Area of Evangelism of the Province of Santa María de los Andes.

During the meeting discussions took place on the work carried out in each of the commissions, and work experiences, related learning, action areas and achievements obtained in each one of the commissions were shared.

At the meeting, the strategic planning of the Institute was revised, for the Region of South America and the strategic lines of the Province. And also, a discussion on the vocational dimension.

The action plan in the Area of Evangelisation of the Province was also planned for the period 2019 until 2025.

Before bringing the meeting to a close, those taking part investigated ideas and projects with an eye to promoting the Provincial Commissions for the period 2019 until 2025, in the Area of Evangelisation of the Province.



## Institute of the Marist Brothers General House

Piazzale Marcellino Champagnat, 2 - Rome, Italy - [comunica@fms.it](mailto:comunica@fms.it)

### Website

<http://www.champagnat.org>

### YouTube

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

### Facebook

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

### Twitter

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