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MARIST NEWS

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

Marist presence in Pakistan, India and Sri Lanka

5TH PROVINCIAL CHAPTER OF THE SOUTH ASIA PROVINCE

The 5th Provincial Chapter of the South Asia Province, that took place in Sri Lanka, from 22 to 24 August 2019, was a wonderful success, brought about particularly by the openness of the Brothers, the contribution of Lay Marists, the skills of the facilitator Br Graham Neist (from Australia), the presence of Brothers Ernesto Sánchez (Superior General), Sylvain and Josep Maria (General Councillors), and the guiding hand of the Holy Spirit.

Marists in this part of the world face particular challenges, being small in number and working in Pakistan, India and Sri Lanka, where Catholics form a minority in primarily Muslim, Hindu and Buddhist cultures.

The word "passion" was experienced, particularly on the second day of the three-day process, when Lay Marists addressed the Chapter and shared some of their experiences,



general administration

■ The Plenary Session of the General Council began on September 2 and will end on September 20. During the first week, various topics will be discussed: evaluation of the latest visits to the provinces and regionalisation; evaluation of the last meeting of Provincials and preparation for the next one, in March 2020; analysis of the latest draft of the document on the Rule of Life, with the intention of giving approval at the end of this Plenary.

■ On Friday, the Superior General and his Council will dedicate the day to a time of community retreat in the city of Ariccia.

■ Brothers Luis Carlos Gutiérrez, Oscar Martín, Ben Consigli,

Libardo Garzón, Angel Medina, Carlos Alberto Rojas and Juan Miguel Anaya met on Monday and Tuesday to continue their discussion on an international legal structure for the Marist Mission.

■ Next weekend, the General House will welcome the Coptic community from Rome, with Christians from Ethiopia and Eritrea. The Pope of the Ethiopian Coptic Orthodox Church, Azenaw Hercuriyos, will attend the celebration of the Feast of Peace and Love, PAGUM.

■ Brother Tony Leon, Director of the Brothers Today Secretariat, from 2 to 7 September, is taking part in the Vocational School of the South American Region in Porto Alegre.

dreams and challenges for the Brothers. With their many work and family responsibilities they stretch themselves, feeling a passionate call to reach out to many in the local community – for example, those affected by the Easter bombings, particularly Marist students and family members who were injured or killed. With passion they continue to support Young Marist leaders, guiding their outreach activities with poor children and young people, and with ecological projects in our region. And with passion they called for greater involvement in the lives of the Brothers and vice versa.

The chapter took up these challenges, as well as some renewed emphases, by committing to appoint Teams of Brothers and Lay to work in Vocations Ministry, to work with a process to heal and unite, to energize new forms of Community life, and to form a 'Think Tank' to explore more creatively our response to the challenges we face now and into the future.

Chapter delegates took on the role of forming a “delegate’s network”, a web of Marists who will work to promote the actions and directions of the Chapter, with all members being a first point of contact for the new Council.

On the last day, members of the Council were elected, and



include Brothers Sunanda Alwis, Devasiri Fernando, Nicholas Fernando, and Lazar Sebastian.

The Provincial, Br Mervyn Perera, in his concluding address, assured those present of his commitment and love for all, and encouraged Brothers and Lay Marists to go forward with daring and hope together.

District of Melanesia

VISIT OF BROTHERS LIBARDO GARZÓN AND CARLOS ALBERTO ROJAS

From 5th to 16th August, Brothers Libardo Garzón, General Bursar, and Carlos Alberto Rojas, Director of the Secretariat for Education and Evangelization, visited the District of Melanesia, which includes New Caledonia, Papua New Guinea, the Solomon Islands and Vanuatu.

It was an opportunity for them to experience how the Marists do mission in this part of the Institute and mostly to know the realities of where the ministries are and look like. As they themselves experienced and saw with their own eyes that doing mission in Melanesia can be very difficult and very challenging, as you never know what will happen when you travel from one part of the District to the other.

Unfortunately, due to their tight schedule, they only visited three communities and ministries. In the Solomon Islands, they visited Laumanasa Community and St Joseph's Catholic Secondary School, in Tenaru. Then in Papua New Guinea, they visited Port Moresby Community where they attend the Extended District Council meeting. And in Bougainville they



visited the Brothers community and St Joseph's College Mabiri.

They really appreciated the warm welcome that they receive in the three areas that they visited. The hospitality of everyone, Brothers, Lay Marists and the students touched them very much.

GERMANY

On August 15, in Furth, five brothers celebrated the Jubilee of Marist religious life. They are Brothers Ehrenbert Steinkirchner, Heinrich Schamberger and Hans Seubert (65); Brothers Berthold Dinauer and Gebhard Jahn (60).

COMMUNICATION SOUTH AMERICA

Last week, at the Marcellin Champagnat Marist Centre in Curitiba, two meetings of communication teams were held. On August 28, the Regional Communication Team met to review the agenda of the teams of the Region and to define the strategies of diffusion of the regional activities. This was followed by the national meeting of Communication and Marketing of Marist Brazil.

MADAGASCAR

Andrianirina Radoniaina made his first profession at the Institute, in the parish of Sainte Trinité d'Ambohipeno in Antsirabe. The celebration was animated by the choir and the students of the Collège Saint Joseph d'Antsirabe, and was attended by the family, the Marist Brothers and the SMSM Sisters.

MEXICO

In August, 33 teachers of various subjects from 9 works in the Central Mexico Province participated in the Interior Education Workshop. The theme aims to follow the call of the General Chapter to grow in interiority and to develop the "Spirituality of Heart".

BELGIUM

The community of Genval participated in a retreat on the Rule of Life from 29 to 31 August, animated by Brother Roberto Di Troia, with the participation of lay people.

The global family is growing in Africa

ALMOST 500 BROTHERS HAVE COMMITTED THEIR LIVES TO THE MARIST VOCATION



Brothers Óscar Martin and Ken McDonald, link General Councillors for the African Region, completed, some months ago, their "contact visits" to the five administrative units of Africa and Madagascar.

During their stay in each place, the Councillors spoke with the leaders and Provincial Councillors and visited the houses of formation in West Africa, Nigeria, Southern Africa, Madagascar and East Central Africa.

Speaking of the challenges facing Marists in Africa, Br Oscar said that "they are growing well as a region,

with the five administrative units developing closer ties. At the state, this was through formation; now it is through mission, as well, and small steps regarding Marist laypeople and other areas. So, Africa is moving ahead as a region in ways that we are envisaging for the whole Institute, that is to build a global family."

Br Ken added, "We found that each province had a great deal of life, a great deal of energy. And obviously was bringing that life and energy to Marist life and mission."

In the accompanying video (use tools for subtitles) Brothers Oscar and Ken discuss the challenges of the Region of Africa and the commitment of the General Council to walk with them on their Marist journey.



marist world

Brazil: Brothers Inacio Etges and Roque Ari Salet celebrated jubilee of Marist religious life



Argentina
Volunteers in Misión Nueva Pompeya



Germany: Furth: Brothers celebrate the jubilee of 60 and 65 years of Marist religious life



Sri Lanka
Br. Ernesto with novices in Tudella



Canada
Preparation of the Laypeople Assembly (AMD)



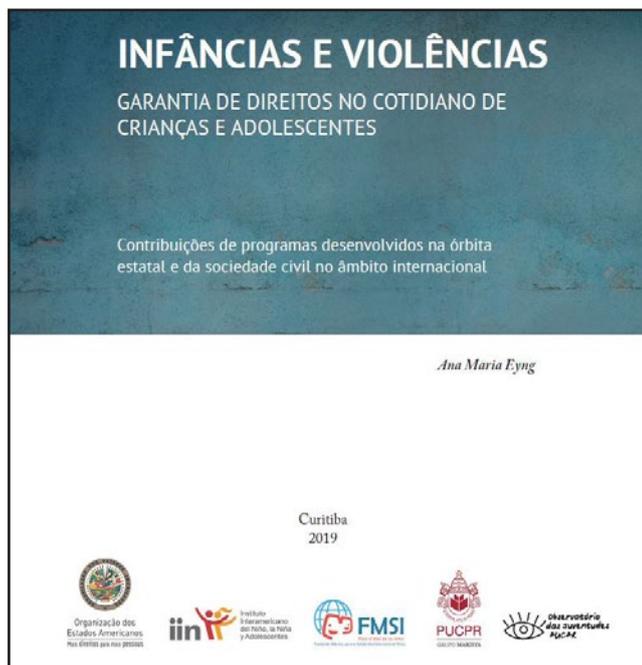
Spain: Community #Fratelli of Melilla - Brothers of La Salle and Marist Brothers

Children and violence in Latin America

PUBLICATION ENSURING THE RIGHTS IN THE DAILY LIVES OF CHILDREN AND ADOLESCENTS

In 2016, the Marist Foundation for International Solidarity (FMSI), an NGO of the Marist Institute, signed an agreement of collaboration with the Inter-American Children's Institute (IIN). Within this framework, it was decided that it was necessary to develop research on the initiatives to eradicate violence against children in the Americas, with the collaboration of the Pontifical Catholic University of Paraná (PUCPR).

The final report on this research process, based on the analysis of programmes developed in different countries of the Americas, was



presented recently.

The proposed research has defined as criteria the scope of the programmes in the different countries of the Americas, covering three regions: North America, Central America and South America. For empirical research in the region, Brazil, Mexico, Guatemala and Chile were considered.

The [full version can be read here in Portuguese](#) and the abstracts in [English](#) | [Español](#) | [Português](#).

Province of Madagascar

PERPETUAL PROFESSION OF BR JEAN BAPTISTE

Brother Jean Baptiste RAKOTOMAHEFA from the Madagascar Province made perpetual profession on Sunday, August 25 at Sacred Heart Church, Ambohimandroso-Gara, in his native region. Bishop José Alfredo Caires de NOBRIEGA, Bishop of the Diocese of Mananjary, presided over the Eucharist. To mark his union with the Lord, Jean Baptiste chose the biblical verse "Lord, you know all things, you know that I love you" (John 21:17). The beautiful liturgy, animated by the church choir, some brothers and students of St. Joseph's College of Antsirabe, expressed the joy of his gift and consecration to the Lord.

During his homily, the bishop emphasized the importance of the Marist charism and its contribution to the life and mission of the universal Church. He compared vocation to a garden that draws its beauty from the uniqueness of the color and fragrance of each flower.

After Mass, guests gathered in the parish hall for a shared meal.

Brother Jean Baptiste comes from a large traditionally Christian family. In fact, his uncle is a Marist Brother and the family



counts other religious, priests and nuns. He did his novitiate in Save, Rwanda and his scholasticate at MIC, Nairobi. He has been a member of the Betroka community (a hill town in southwest Madagascar) for three years now. He serves as bursar and devotes part of his time to teaching as well as leading the Madagascar Marist Youth group (JMM).

East Asia Province

FINAL VOWS OF BR. MOSES CHO

On August 31, Saturday, Br. Moses Cho Min Kyu from the East Asia Province made his final profession at the Mookdong Church (South Korea). The theme of the celebration was "When I awake, I am still with you." It was attended by a good number of Brothers, friends and the family of Br. Moses.

The Mass and ceremony of the profession was enthusiastically prepared by the parishioners with the support and active collaboration of the Parish Priest and the Salesian Sisters who work in that parish.

Bishop Koo Yobi, in charge of the Consecrated life of Korean Catholic Church and works for the Archdiocese of Seoul, was the main presider.



The Mookdong Church is the parish where Br. Moses grew and worked for 15 years before he joined the Marist Brothers.

September - October 2019

CALENDAR OF THE GENERAL COUNCIL AND DIRECTORS OF THE SECRETARIATS AND DEPARTMENTS

31 August - 1 September: CMMF training meeting, Porto Alegre, Brazil - Raúl Amaya, director of the Secretariat of the Laity

1 September - 31 October: "AMANE-CER" programme for Brothers of the Third Age (Spanish and Portuguese language) - General House.

2 - 7 September: Vocation school in the América Sur region, Porto Alegre, Brazil - Raúl Amaya, director of the Secretariat of the Laity, and Br. Tony Leon, director of the Brothers Today Secretariat.

2 - 20 September: Plenary session of the General Council.

02 - 03 September: Meeting of the team dealing with the international legal structure for a Marist mission, General House

3 September: Meeting with Korean lay leaders to prepare the agenda for the animation of the Marist laity, Seoul - Agnes Reyes, Co-director of the Secretariat of the Laity.

5 September: USG committee meeting, Rome, Italy - Br. Ernesto Sánchez, Superior General.

8 September - 5 October: Intercongregational programme "Tutti Fratelli" for Community Animators, Rome - Br. Tony Leon, director of the Brothers Today Secretariat.

9 - 13 September: Collaborative week of the directors of secretariats and departments with the General Council.

13 September: Fratelli Project Council meeting, Rome - Br. Óscar Martín, General Councillor and Br. Valdicer Fachi, director of Cmi.

13 - 14 September: Lavalla200> Training Programme, Manziana - Br. João Carlos do Prado and Agnes Reyes.

16 - 17 September: Intercongregational programme for community animators "Tutti Fratelli", Rome - Br. Óscar Martín, General Councillor.

16 - 17 September: Preparation meeting of the Global Leadership Training programme for Marist youth, Rome - Br. Carlos A. Rojas, Director of the Secretariat of Education and Evangelization.

18 September: Meeting of the General Councils of the Marist Brothers and the de La Salle Brothers, in the La Salle General House.

23 - 24 September: FMSI - Board meeting, General House - Br. Ken McDonald, General Councillor and Br. Libardo Garzón, Econome General.

23 - 26 September: Regional Council of America Sur in Asunción, Paraguay - Brothers Sylvain Ramandimbarisoa and Óscar Martín, General Councillors.

26 September: Conclusion of the formation of the candidates for international communities in l'Hermitage, France - Br. Ernesto Sánchez, Superior General.

26 - 28 September: Meeting with the Brothers of the "Amanecer" Programme, General House - Br. Josep Maria Soteras, General Councillor.

27-30 September: Meeting with the Brazil Sul-Amazonia Province - Br. Óscar Martín, General Councillor.

30 September: Meeting with the Brothers of the "Amanecer" Programme, General House - Br. Ernesto Sánchez, Superior General.

1 October: Meeting with the Brothers of the Horizontes Programme, in Manziana - Br. Ernesto Sánchez, Superior General.

1 October: Participation in the meeting of the Interprovincial Team of Educational Reflection of the Spanish

Marist Conference in Madrid - Br. Carlos A. Rojas, director of the Secretariat of Education and Evangelization.

1 - 04 October: Meeting of the Bedford Fund, in Canada - Br. Libardo Garzón, Econome General.

02-03 October: Retreat on the Rule of Life with the Brothers of the Horizons programme in Manziana - Br. Josep M. Soteras, General Councillor.

03 - 05 October: Meeting of community superiors of the Mediterranean Province, in Rome - Br. Luis Carlos Gutiérrez, Vicar General, and Ben Consigli, General Councillor.

04 - 05 October: Meeting of the Education Commission USG / UISG and Education Coordinators of Religious Communities, in Rome - Brothers Carlos Alberto Rojas and Mark Omede, directors of the Secretariat of Education and Evangelization.

03 - 09 October: Meeting of the Enlarged Bureau of Laity, in Philippines - Brothers Sylvain Ramandimbarisoa and João Carlos do Prado, General Councillors; Raúl Amaya, Pep Buetas and Agnes Reyes, Secretariat of the Laity.

7 - 10 October: Meeting of the International Brothers Today Commission, in the General House - Brothers Óscar Martín, General Councillor, and Tony Leon and Ángel Medina, directors of the Brothers Today Secretariat.

9 - 11 October: Meeting of provincial economies of Arco Norte, in Canada - Br. Libardo Garzón, Econome General.

9 - 13 October: Joint Training Course, in Philippines, General Santos - Agnes Reyes and Pep Buetas, Co-directors of Secretariat of the Laity.

11 - 12 October: Meeting of the team of Manziana trainers - Brothers Óscar

Martín, General Councillor, and Ángel Medina of the Secretariat Brothers Today.

11 – 17 October: Accompaniment of the Australian Marist pilgrims at Notre Dame de L'Hermitage - Br. Tony Leon, director of the Brothers Today Secretariat.

12 – 15 October: Visit to the Davao postulancy in Philippines - Br. Sylvain Ramandimbarisoa, General Councillor.

12 – 17 October: Visit to the Province of the United States - Brothers Ken McDonald and João Carlos do Prado, General Councillors.

14 October - 8 December: Training programme for Brothers of the Third Age (English language), in Manziانا, Italy.

15 – 18 October: Meeting of provincial economies of America Sur region, in Buenos Aires, Argentina - Br. Libardo Garzón, Econome General.

19 – 22 October: Meeting with the Brothers of the Third Age in Manziانا - Br. Tony Leon, director of the Brothers Today Secretariat.

21 – 25 October: Regional Assembly of the Provincial Councils of Arco Norte, in New Jersey, USA - Brothers Luis Carlos Gutiérrez, Vicar General, and Ken McDonald and João Carlos do Prado, General Councillors.

22-26 October: Visit to the Laval-la200> community of Atlantis, South Africa - Br. Óscar Martín, General Councillor.

24 – 25 October: Contact visit to MIC, Nairobi - Br. Ernesto Sánchez, Superi-

or General.

26 October: Meeting of provincials of the Arco Norte region, in New York, USA - Brothers Luis Carlos Gutiérrez, Vicar General, Ken McDonald and João Carlos do Prado, General Councillors

26-28 October: Biblical meeting with the Brothers of the Dawn Programme, for Brothers of the Third Age, in the General House - Br. Josep M. Soteras, General Councillor.

28 – 31 October: Provincial Chapter of Southern Africa, in Malawi - Brothers Ernesto Sánchez, Superior General, Óscar Martín, General Councillor, and Mark Omede, Secretariat of Education and Evangelization.

29 October: Presentation of the book "Romper el silencio" at the Spanish embassy before the Holy See.

Italy: In Mary's way

RETREAT OF BROTHERS AND LAY PEOPLE

To save some days for a retreat during a holiday season is quite normal for us. Doing this together brothers and lay is becoming quite usual. As in previous years, a group of Italian Marists of Champagnat decided to gather in a peaceful place for 5 days, from 24 to 28 August, in order to reflect, to pray, to share and to dream together. This time, the place selected has been a country inn near Polino, a village in the mountains, 1200 m of altitude, in the Umbria region bordering Lazio, two hours by car from Rome. The mildness of the weather, the greenery of the forest and the surrounding silence have played in our favour.



The main topic proposed was "In Mary's way". Therefore, we have developed a series of aspects trying to reconnect Mary with our present reality: historical insights, present challenges, "bringing her from the high pedestal" to make her a close companion and finally the encouraging challenge of being the Marial face of the Church.

There have been some inputs on those topics; also, different workshops aiming at discovering the true face of Mary through Marian images, songs and prayers. Truly, it is Jesus who is at the centre of our lives; but, as Marists, to reach this goal we have been given a beautiful way, Mary.

The Province of Canada celebrates!

50 YEARS PROFESSION OF BROTHERS RÉAL SAUVAGEAU AND YVAN DESHARNAIS

Carrying on with the feast of the Assumption, patron saint of the Institute, some 175 confreres, friends, lay Marists and family members of the two Jubilarians, gathered on Saturday 17 August at Marcellin Champagnat High School to join in celebrating the "100 years of dedication and service" of these two worthy confreres, Brothers Réal and Yvan.

"The Brothers will turn their hands to anything" said Marcellin: the two Jubilarians have put into practice and continue to put into practice this wish of our founder, each one in his own field. REAL: he is the teacher, the organizer of youth teams, community, animation committees, formation in Haiti for six years and is currently in the novitiate of Sri Lanka (as part of Lavalla>200), and at the same time he is working to complete a doctoral thesis in pastoral care... YVAN: he is the builder, the man of a thousand manual talents, the builder, the "raised

cassock and dirty hands" in the manner of Champagnat, 40-year's stability in the maintenance of the Provincial House and ÉSMC, interrupted by two internships in Africa to respond to emergencies. He is now working at the Foyer Champagnat in Château-Richer.



Thus, Yvan and Réal have given us the opportunity to meet Brothers, parents and Marist friends, in the same fraternity and in the presence of the Lord, for a meaningful Eucharistic celebration led by Father Guy Guindon, a Sulpician priest, friend and teacher of Brother Réal, by the Most Reverend Alain Faubert, former student and cooperator in Haiti, auxiliary bishop of Montreal, and by Father Raymond-Marie Moreau, a Marist Father; the liturgy was provided by Mr. Pierre Rancourt and a team of highly talented

musicians and singers of great quality. This liturgical highlight was planned by Brother Bernard Beaudin: the souvenir booklet of the celebration allowed for valuable participation by the assembly. The celebration continued "around the same table" where the exchanges showed the great unity at the heart of this thanksgiving ceremony.

Some may ask : "When will the next gathering take place?" In the words of Abraham, we respond, in faith: "God will provide ..."

After the celebration, the Marists, brothers and lay people, were invited to visit the new house acquired by the Province for the animation of the young people of ÉSMC and the region. Jonathan Drouin and his wife, Marie-Pier, who are in charge of this new project, welcomed a large number of visitors, a sign that this initiative is attracting a great deal of interest from our lay Marists.

Welcome Br. Angel Diego
Brother Angel Diego García Otaola of the Province of Mediterránea arrived at the General House on Monday. He will be the first Director of the new Secretariat of Solidarity.



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