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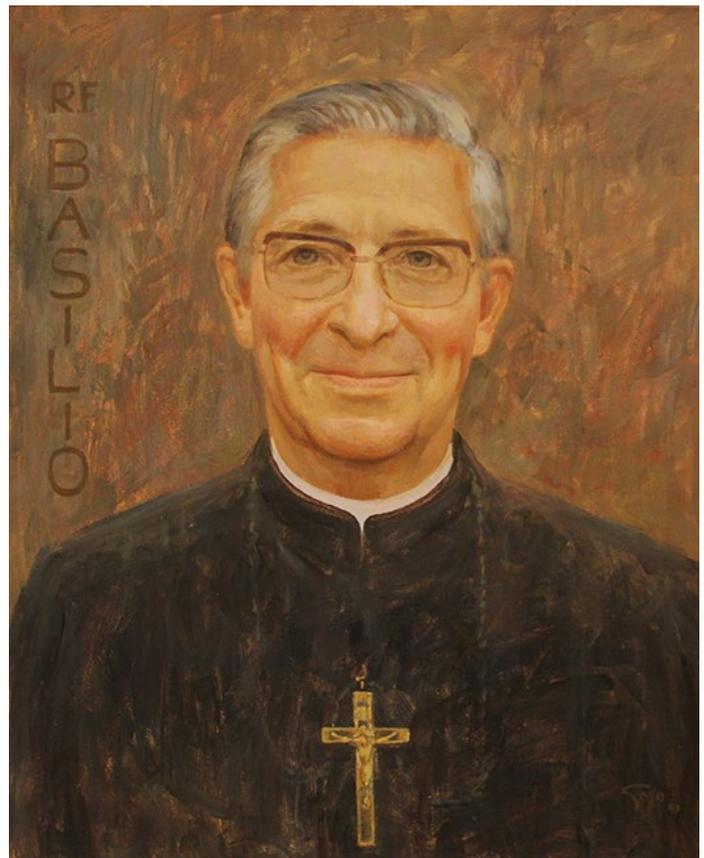
MARIST NEWS

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

BEGINNING OF THE PROCESS FOR THE CAUSE OF BROTHER BASILIO RUEDA IN THE VATICAN

The year 2019 ended with a gift from the Lord to the Institute. On December 20, the Congress of the Congregation for the Causes of the Saints was held in Rome, where the work of the main and supplementary processes carried out by the diocesan tribunal of Guadalajara (Mexico) was officially approved. The decree of validity which has just been published is dated December 20, 2019 and confirms the validity of the work of the diocesan tribunal of Guadalajara. In this way, the diocesan process of the Cause of Brother Basilio is concluded and the Roman process begins.

The decree opening the process for the cause of Brother Basilio was signed in Guadalajara on June 7, 2004 and the diocesan tribunal was constituted on June 19 of the same year in the Metropolitan Tabernacle of that city. For almost two years it heard the deposition of 42 witnesses. The Commissions of Theological Censors and of Historians, constituted in 2007, had to carry out a meticulous and protracted work of investigation of the published and unpublished writings of Brother Basilio, whose report they delivered to the tribunal in 2011. The minutes of the tribunal, which testify to all of the work done, were presented in Rome on April 20, 2016.



general administration

- On the 28th, Brothers Mark Omede and Carlos Alberto Rojas, directors of the Office of Education and Evangelisation, met in Xaudaró, Madrid, with some representatives of Marist institutions to advance the construction of the Global Network of Marist Schools.
- The International Commission for the Protection of Children and Young People is meeting at the General House from Tuesday to Friday. Participants in the meeting: Br. Ken McDonald (Chair), Br. Ben Consigli and Br. Fortune Chakasara, Africa (Southern Africa); Deb Swain, Oceania (Australia); Marcela Hormazabal, South America (Sta. Ma. de los Andes); Nancy Camilleri, Europe (West Central Europe); Qalista Sdohny, Asia (East Asia).

- On Friday the two formation programmes for community animators in Mexico (Americas) and Rwanda (Africa) will be concluded. During these final days, Brothers João Carlos do Prado and Óscar Martín, General Councillors, have participated with the groups of Mexico and Rwanda respectively.
- From 26th to 31st January, Brother Sylvain Ramandimbarisoa, General Councillor, visits the Marist communities in Pakistan.
- On February 1st, Brother Tony Leon, from the Brothers Today Secretariat, will meet with the community of Marist educators in Athens, Greece.

The Congregation for the Causes of the Saints, after having analysed the acts of the diocesan tribunal of Guadalajara, considered that some more testimonies should be provided from the clergy and from people who do not belong to the Marist Institute. For this, it was necessary to constitute a new tribunal which began its work in 2017 to hear twenty-one more witnesses. The minutes of the proceedings of this tribunal, known as the “supplementary process”, were presented to the Congregation for the Causes of the Saints on 9 October 2019.



The decree of validity which was published on December 20 confirms that the diocesan process carried out in Guadalajara is concluded. Now the Roman process begins, the first step of which will consist in the appointment of a Relator for the cause and the delivery to the Postulator of the volumes of the Public Copy of the acts of the tribunal of Guadalajara (Mexico) so that the Positio can be drawn up to demonstrate the sanctity of life and virtues as well as the reputation for sanctity of Brother Basilio. Thanks be to God.

Br. Antonio Martínez Estaún,
Postulator General

ITALY

LAVALLA200> SYRACUSE – CIAO CELEBRATES ITS FIRST ANNIVERSARY

The Intercultural Centre for Aid and Orientation (CIAO), an initiative of the international Marist community in Sicily, Italy, celebrated its first anniversary on January 28th.

It is an intercultural centre providing help and guidance for young immigrants/refugees living in and around Syracuse. It is intended above all for the children of the first and second reception centres and for the new arrivals who wish to be integrated into the territory. The centre aims to offer services that promote adaptation and integration into Italian society.

CIAO is an initiative of the Lavalla200> Syracuse community, which works in collaboration with various individuals and local bodies. Currently, the Marist community is made up of Br. Giorgio Banaudi (Mediterranea), Regina Biasibetti (Brazil Sul-Amazonia), Br. Ricky Gomez (Norandina) and Rosa Maria Schiaffino (Mediterranea).



SCHOOL ANNIVERSARIES

Several Marist schools around the world are celebrating important anniversaries in 2020. Among them, we can recall: in Australia, Colegio Marcellin de Bulleen is celebrating its 70th anniversary; in Spain, Colegio Marista Champagnat de León is celebrating 50 years; in Brazil, Colegio Marista de Natal is 90 years old.

ARCO NORTE

The Marist region, in order to increase the family spirit, has just launched its web page, whose address is <http://arconorte.org/>

PUCRS

An application developed by students of the Marist University of the Province of Brasil Sul-Amazônia encourages children to do something good. It is called "Passport of Goodness" and was developed by the students of the Software Engineering course of the Polytechnic School of the university.

Video: <https://youtu.be/PdzKrXOgRRU>

ND HERMITAGE

Last weekend, the 6th meeting of Marist Youth of France took place. Some 70 young people gathered in search of the ideal of Saint Marcellin Champagnat.

CÔTE D'IVOIRE

The Saint Marcellin Champagnat School in Bouaké is meeting on Saturday, January 11, to discuss the activities of the first quarter. It was attended by various commissions: Spirituality, cooperation, sport, faith and leisure, and communication.

CHILD RIGHTS IN THE INSTITUTE



In recent years the promotion of and advocacy for child rights has been a priority of the mission of the Institute. The calls of both the 21st and 22nd General Chapters include advocating for and promoting Child Rights. The two International Mission Assemblies supported this prominence placed on Child Rights and called for our ministries to be places based on the principals of these rights. This has meant a developing understand of child rights and how to advocate for them. It also means that in our ministries we have attempted to ensure that the rights of children are respected and promoted and protected.

In addition, FMSI has been granted Social Status before the United Nations in Geneva so that the Institution can advocate for Child Right through participating in the Universal Periodic Review.

Safeguarding Children and young people is an important part of respecting the rights of children. The General Administration has conducted two seminars on this area for leaders of the entire Institute: keeping children safe (2012) and Creating a safe environment for children (2016).

Abuse is the very antithesis of our Marist values

Another important step was the statement to survivors and victims of abuse from the 22nd General Chapter in 2017, "Abuse is the very antithesis of our Marist values, and undermines the very purpose of our Institute. Any abuse of children is a betrayal of the noble ideals of our founder, St Marcellin Champagnat."

The Institute continues this commitment to child rights and works to ensure that in all our ministries worldwide the rights of children are respected and promoted.



Br. Joseph Teston, from United States, turned 99 on Friday, January 24. When asked what the secret of his longevity was, he replied

“The continual support of the community”

marist world

COLOMBIA: INTERNATIONAL NOVITIATE "LA VALLA" – MEDELLÍN



US: BROTHER PATRICK MCNAMARA, PROVINCIAL, VISITS THE COMMUNITY HOUSE IN EL PASO



MEETING OF CONFERENCE OF THE SUPERIORS OF THE AFRICAN CONTINENT (CSAC) IN ENUGU (NIGERIA)



SRI LANKA: MARIS STELLA COLLEGE – NEGOMBO



RWANDA: AFRICAN MARIST COMMUNITY LEADERS



SYRIA: MEETING OF THE 101 VOLUNTEERS OF THE BLUE MARISTS (JANUARY 2020)

BRAZIL

UMBRASIL IS NOW 15 YEARS OLD, CELEBRATING THE MEMORY AND COMMITTING OURSELVES WITH THE FUTURE

In 2020, the Marist Union of Brazil will be 15 years old. To celebrate this date, a commemorative stamp has been created.

During these years, UMBRASIL has provided important achievements for the Marists of Brazil. Conquests that have strengthened the Institutional commitment with education, solidarity, common good and the promotion and defense of the rights of children, adolescents and young people, in this way being signs of hope in the world.

This is a special year of thanksgiving and commitment. We are

living a rite of transition; we go through an important event, the objective of which is to strengthen the sense of mission and of the values transmitted by Saint Marcellin Champagnat.



CAMEROON

THE SOCIOPOLITICAL CRISIS IN CAMEROON CHALLENGES BROTHERS TO LOOK BEYOND THE CLASSROOMS



The Marist Brothers in Cameroon have had a reputation for excellent quality education for more than half a century.

Most people know the Brothers for nothing else than committed educators and school managers. Even some Brothers feel lost or inadequate believing they have nothing more to offer than teach in the formal school setting. The current sociopolitical crisis rocking the two English Speaking regions of Cameroon has brought all educational programs of the Brothers to a complete standstill and schools shut down, challenging the Brothers, especially those of Tatum community to review their sense of brotherhood in the absence of formal schooling.

The three Brothers in Tatum Community during this academic year (2019 /2020) have challenged themselves to give another image of brotherhood through service to the local Christian community and young people in general. Instead of lamenting and waiting for school resumption that seems not to be happening, the Brothers have been collaborating with the parish pastoral team in the animation of the youth group, prayer and action groups, Small Christian Communities besides computer literacy classes for children in the community. The Advent and

Christmas seasons were particularly charged with organization of recollection for Christians in preparation for Christmas and celebration of Communion Service in collaboration with the Parish Priest. The traditional Christmas party with the children equally brought hundreds of them to the community where the Brothers were overwhelmed in their efforts to entertain them.

These activities have so far opened the doors of the community to request for counseling services especially at a time when many families and young people are deeply disoriented by the ongoing crisis. It is also an eye opener for what awaits us as youth ministers at the end of this crisis when our schools may be flooded with children whose family homes have been destroyed, parents killed or kidnapped / arrested and tortured, sexually abused pushing some into teenage motherhood. It is equally possible that some of our students who are no longer in schools have joined the ranks of drugged and armed separatist fighters who may resolve to come back and continue schooling.

Are we well-armed to give them the needed psycho-spiritual and moral guidance for proper reinsertion in the society?

MEXICO

REGIONAL TRAINING PROGRAMME FOR AMERICAS COMMUNITY ANIMATORS

From January 8 to 31, the Community Animators of the Americas are participating in the regional training programme, which is being held at the Marist House in Encarnación de Díaz, Jalisco, Mexico. This programme is an initiative of the Brothers Today Secretariat and is being carried out by the ongoing formation community of Manziana, in collaboration with the regions.

Fourteen Brothers and 24 lay Marists are participating in the meeting of the Americas, as well as the coordination team, made up of Brothers Ángel Medina (Secretariat of Brothers Today), Joaquim Sperandio (Manziana) and Jesús Hernández (México Occidental). Those taking part are from the provinces of Canada, the United States, México Central, México Occidental, América Central (Guatemala, El Salvador, Costa Rica), Norandina (Ecuador, Venezuela and Colombia), Cruz del Sur (Argentina) and Brasil Centro-Sul.

Brother Ernesto Sánchez, our Superior General, accompanied the animators from 19th to 21st January. While Brother João Carlos do Prado, General Councillor, will be present from 22nd to 28th January.

Among the common objectives that unite the participants, the

following stand out:

- To make the communities be homes of light and beacons of hope, where the leadership and encounters with each other, express and increase the sense of belonging in their journey as a global family.
- To follow the call to live centred in Christ, as an invitation to conversion of heart, and to respond to the particular needs of community animation in the regional context.
- To value and deepen Marist identity through the new constitutions and the Rule of Life: “Wherever you go”, where the role of community animators is deepened through reflection and fraternal dialogue.
- To recognize the value of the service of leadership and animation in order to be the face and hands of the tender mercy of God in today’s world through contemplative dialogue, recognizing the vocation of our communities to be beacons of hope and homes of light.
- To share places for dialogue with different speakers who promote reflection on the identity of the animators, and how they are perceived in the Marist community, in order to renew hearts or to opt for new fraternal strategies of meeting.
- To transmit the fruits obtained in order to respond to the call to which we have been sent.



PERU

EIGHT YEARS OF PRODUCTIVE EFFORTS IN THE HEART OF THE AMAZON



For eight consecutive years the Marists of Peru (Province of Santa María de los Andes) have travelled every January to the Peruvian Amazon to offer courses to the educators of the indigenous communities (Achuar, Kandozi, Awajun, Wampi, Shawi, Chapra, Quechua, Shiwilo, among others) and to support them in their personal and professional formation.

This month, forty-eight Brothers, teachers and students have arrived, and others have returned, to the Amazon to meet with the native teachers of Datem del Marañón. This initiative, “A Teacher for Datem”, is promoted by the Champagnat University in Lima.

“The volunteers of 2020 have not come motivated by compassion; we have come to learn from the WISDOM of these people: harmony with nature, honesty in acting, simplicity in sharing, sincere welcome to those who knock on their doors, gratitude for what they receive—these are values that stand out not only personally, but especially in the community of each ethnic group,” expressed Brother Bernardino Pascual, from Datem del Marañón.

At the end of January, 115 teachers from the different indigenous communities will have obtained their degree and more than 200 graduates will be able to continue their studies to obtain their degree in 2021 at the Champagnat University in Lima.

“As a Marist university, after 30 years we continue to believe in the meetings of sharing and distribution; of welcoming and collecting; of giving and receiving; of teaching and learning ‘with one heart and one spirit’, a desire that was part of the great dream of Marcellin Champagnat, the master of the great and the small”, added Brother Bernardino.

“A Teacher for Datem” is a project launched in 2012 by the Marcellin Champagnat University of Lima, Peru, with the collaboration of Marist volunteers who each year travel to the northeast of the country to train and advise native bilingual teachers according to the Plan of Study. *nativos bilingües según el Plan de Estudio.*

EL SALVADOR

A COMMUNITY OF REFERENCE FOR THE UNIVERSITY WORLD IS CREATED, CONSISTING OF BROTHERS AND LAY MARISTS

“A Community of Reference, formed by Brothers and Lay Marists, started its life on the 5th of January, in the Marist College of San Alfonso, in El Salvador. Brother Gregorio Linacero Melón, Solidarity Coordinator of the Central America Province and member of the International Mission Commission, explains what this community consists of and what its challenge is.

“The community that has just been created in the College of San Alfonso is classified as a ‘community of reference’, where there are brothers and laypeople intending to work together and rethink the presence of young university students, but who have as their goal youth ministry, especially oriented towards young people.

The community is made up of brothers and laypeople who are occupying the premises previously used by the community of brothers of San Alfonso College. Each of the Brothers has a different mission and work in different places. The young people are university students and some have some type of work. But their mission – brothers and laypeople – is to serve as support, to contribute to youth ministry, to evangelisation, especially through the Remar community and youth groups.

Two Marist Sisters, María Laura Soto and Daisy Contreras, are part of this community: Marist Brothers Luis Guardado, Juan Antonio Sandoval and Óscar Laso. The young lay university students Marcela Pira and Max Cubas and the Remar community. On the other hand,



Luisa Drummond (Guatemala), will be present only as a volunteer for one year.

This community faces a double challenge. On the one hand, they are starting a community of reference, which is something new, as it is the first time that it takes place with this in mind, because although we have had mixed communities with university students, they did not have the intention of “being a community of reference”. It was simply a mixed community.

And the second challenge is precisely to rethink our presence – with the young

university students -, the projection of how we should be as Marists, brothers and laypeople, with reference to this process of youth ministry, in the different stages of the university process. This is a new project.

The idea is that these eight people should live not only as a mixed community, but also as a community of reference. And in some way they will come together, be attentive to and coordinate certain provincial activities existing in the country. That is to say, they are a reference for the university world and they are in our youth group.”



Institute of the Marist Brothers General House

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<http://www.champagnat.org>

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