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# MARIST NEWS

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## GENERAL HOUSE

# BROTHER LUIS DANIEL HERRERA MEZA APPOINTED SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE INSTITUTE

Brother Superior General and his Council have appointed Brother Luis Daniel Herrera Meza, from the Province of México Central, as Secretary General from October 2020. Brother Daniel Herrera will replace Brother Carlos Huidobro, of the Province of Cruz del Sur, as Secretary General from 2013.

### Brother Daniel Herrera gives a brief account of his life

I was born into a Christian family. My parents had 10 children. My father lived his Marist formation in the Juniorate, Postulancy and Novitiate and had to leave the Congregation for health reasons.

My primary schooling was at the Instituto Mexico de los Hermanos Maristas in Mexico City. I had the good fortune to have four Marist Brothers as my teachers.

I entered the Juniorate in Querétaro where I did my secondary studies and after the Postulancy and Novitiate I returned to the same place where I completed my studies to obtain the title of primary teacher.

Once I graduated, I spent ten years teaching primary and secondary school.

For another 3 years I experienced the life of mission in the mountains of Oaxaca, collaborating with the diocese to train catechists and promote social development. In this place we work as a community of 3 Brothers.

The superiors gave me the opportunity to study the Psychology

of Religious Life at the Gregorian University in Rome.

From then on, I dedicated my life to initial formation as well as to ongoing formation of Marist Brothers, a work that was interrupted only during my years as Director of the Mexico Institute in Toluca.

With pleasure and admiration I accepted Brother Ernesto's invitation to collaborate in the General Administration to respond to the call of the XXII General Chapter to favour a global family.



## general administration

■ Brother Fabien Bulaimu, from the Province of East Central Africa, has finished his studies in Psychology at the Gregorian University. On 16 July, he returns to the Province and will be formator in the novitiate of Save, in Rwanda.

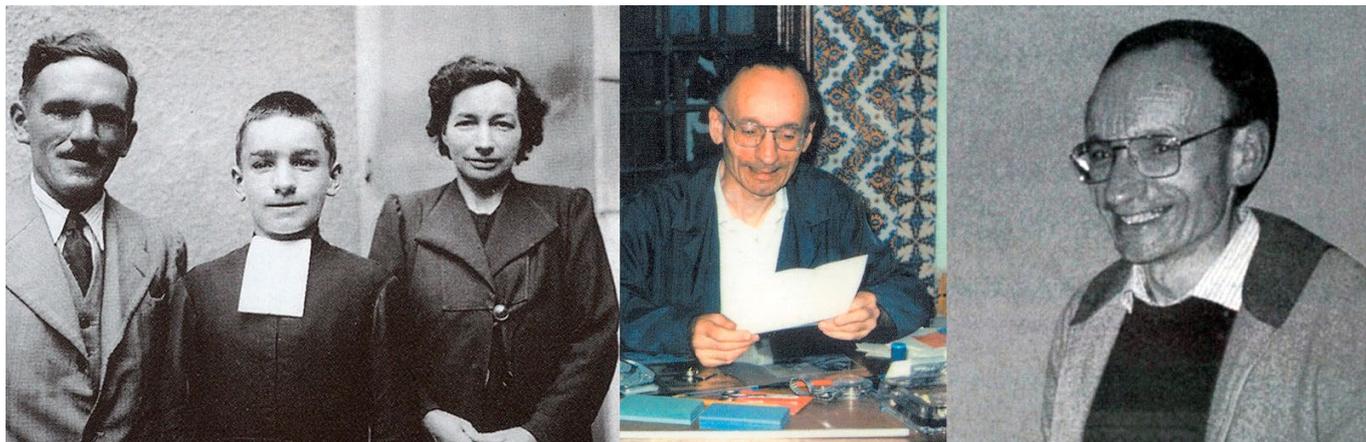
■ Brothers Jeff Crowe, Angel Medina and Valdicer Fachi completed today, July 15, the 10 weeks of accompaniment and on-line formation of the 8 candidates for the international communities of the LaValla200> project.

■ Most of the Brothers of the community remain at the General House during the traditional European holidays, due to

the restrictions to respond to the health crisis. Some Brothers managed to return to their countries, especially those in Spain.

■ On Tuesday, Brothers Ernesto Sánchez, Superior General, and Libardo Garzón, Econome General, together with Brother Benê Oliveira, Provincial of Brasil Centro-Sul, participated in a live broadcast on the YouTube channel Farol 1817 (<https://www.youtube.com/c/Farol1817/>), to access the lessons and opportunities of the Marist charism during and after the COVID-19 crisis.

# 90 YEARS OF BLESSED BROTHER HENRI VERGÈS



Born on July 15, 1930, Henri would celebrate his ninetieth birthday today.

The rapid completion of the cause for the beatification of the 19 martyrs of Algeria means that there are still brothers among us who knew him. It is a joy to be able to recall his memory for them and for the whole Marist Family. It seems to me that the most direct reminder is to let Henri speak by transcribing the letter written to his family, on the 1st September 1991, on the occasion of the funeral of his mother which he was unable to attend.

## “Dear Father, Sisters and Brothers,

Yesterday evening, at the beginning of a few days of prayer with friends in Medea, we celebrated a Mass full of Mother’s thoughts, regretting not having been able to be closer to you in this painful circumstance. It is a consolation for me to know that our brothers of the Toulouse community are present. First of all, I wish to express to you my fraternal gratitude for having been so affectionate to Mother, especially in these last years, for having accompanied her so closely in her suffering. I could, therefore, be less worried about my mission. A grace of unity in filial love, of constant fidelity that Mother has valued for us and for which I thank the Lord.

You must have spoken in these recent days about what she was for each one of us. I would also like to recall the place she held in my life, the deep imprint she left on me and which I have discovered more and more over the years:

- her sense of poverty drawn from a childhood of misery which she faced without bitterness, quite simply, in her never-ending work, in the horror of all waste, in a never-failing economy, a value that she knew how to communicate to us;
- a sense of cleanliness, so meticulous in her house that she could hardly bear to let herself be helped in the household which was only well done by her;
- a sense of beauty, rapturous in the presence of a little one, beautiful flowers, a beautiful text...

- and a sense of the good... even in the recipes she excelled in;
- sense of God, impulse of the heart, the life of her life, the constant murmur of her prayer, lost confidence in all circumstances, even in that never-ending worry that often transpired in her, spontaneous recourse to the Virgin Mary companion of her days...
- and a sense of others, of welcome, especially the most disadvantaged. You must have, like me, many testimonies of her tenderness for the poor with whom she seemed to be in communion of soul .

What did she experience afterwards during these long years of “silent confinement” which were very painful for her at the beginning when she felt herself sinking little by little into this state of obscure torpor... Mystery between her and God... Mystery of the suffering which is part of our fulfilment, certainly, but which we find so difficult to accept.

And now that she has accomplished everything, may Mother continue to walk with us, may she help us to live from her inheritance at its best. A beautiful life, a luminous wake, most human, that can inspire and animate our own journey. A mother who continues to give birth to us.

“The Lord worked wonders for me” of simplicity and love.  
Thank you Mother! » Henri

Brother Henri, thank you for sharing your delicate and deep love for your mother and all your family. May it be a light on our journey!

Brother Alain Delorme, in the name of all the brothers who knew Henri.

Saint Paul-3-Châteaux, July 2020

**GOLDEN JUBILEE AUSTRALIA**

Last Saturday evening (11 July 2020), the Brothers in the Northern Territory gathered at the Brothers' House in Alice Springs to celebrate the Golden Jubilees of Brothers Tony Caddy and Daniel Hollamby.

**PHILIPPINES**

After a long wait and some frustrated attempts, the Marist postulants who were in Manila, managed to embark for Davao, where they will continue their formation and preparation for the novitiate.

**USA**

A group of 25 young and old Marist Volunteers gathered at the MBCE for a Service Week. Each day they joined in morning prayer, midday prayer and an evening reflection. During the week they worked on numerous projects around the property. This was the first group at the MBCE since March and all guidelines of social distancing were followed successfully.

**MEXICO**

On the 1st July, a virtual meeting took place between the Councils of the two Marist Provinces of Mexico. During this meeting, the management strategies that have been implemented in both Provinces in the face of the COVID 19 pandemic were shared.

**BRAZIL**

**THE SUPERIOR GENERAL TOOK PART IN A TRANSMISSION OF LEARNING AND OPPORTUNITIES DURING THE COVID-19**

July 14th, Brothers Ernesto Sánchez, Superior General, Libardo Garzón, Bursar, and the Provincial of Brasil Centro-Sul, Brother Benê Oliveira, took part in a live transmission through the YouTube channel Farol 1817, to discuss the lessons and opportunities of the Marist Charism during

Above all, the objective is to talk about how the Marist Provinces, in their diversity, are dealing with the spread of the coronavirus and the need for social distance.

In addition, the proposal was to rethink the direction of Marist action beyond

this period of crisis. What adaptations will be necessary for the practice of the charism in the different regions affected by the pandemic? How can the Marist presence provide answers in this new period and bring hope to those most in need? How do we see the transformations

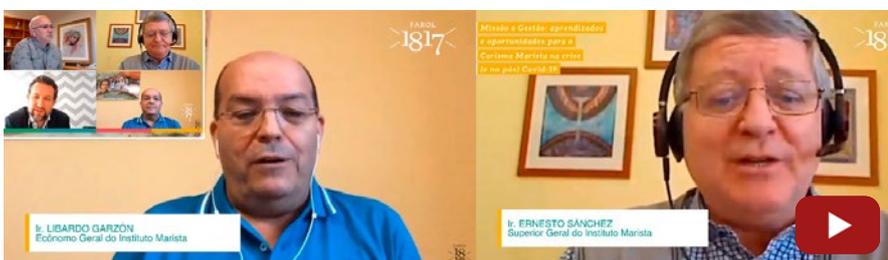


(and after) the Covid-19 crisis. The event was supported by the Province of Brasil Centro-Sul, the Institute of Science and Faith, the School of Humanities of PUCPR, UMBRASIL and the Marist Region América Sur.

experienced in the area of education and contact with children and young people?

The panel "Farol de Esperança" was created with the objective of bringing together experts from different areas and to treat important subjects in the current context, with a clear and accessible language. The community is also invited to participate in the talks, with their comments and questions.

Video <https://youtu.be/cNOJS2-tg-s>



GENERAL HOUSE

# LIVE ON MARIST VOCATION LIVED BY BROTHERS AND LAY PEOPLE

July 9th, the Marist Institute promoted a live broadcast, in Spanish, on the Marist vocation lived by Brothers and Lay people, followers of Champagnat. Brother Ángel Medina, of the Brothers' Today Secretariat, and Manu Gómez Cid, of the Bureau of the Laity, spoke about walking together, as Marists, as a global charismatic family.

The meeting was broadcast live on the Teams platform and now is available on the [Marist Institute's YouTube channel](#).

**Caminando juntos como maristas**  
**Laicos y hermanos viviendo el ideal de Champagnat**  
**Live sobre la vocación marista**  
**9 de julio**  
**19:00 (horario de Roma)**  
**H. Ángel Medina**  
 Director del Secretariado Hermanos Hoy  
**Manuel Gómez Cid**  
 Co-director del Secretariado de Laicos  
 Enlace para participar: <https://bit.ly/2YWk6AY>

BRAZIL

# BR. BENÊ DE OLIVEIRA APPOINTED FOR A SECOND TERM AS PROVINCIAL OF BRASIL CENTRO-SUL

The General Council has announced the appointment of Brother Antonio Benedito de Oliveira as Provincial of Brasil Centro-Sul.

Brother Benê will begin his second three-year term during the opening celebration of the Provincial Chapter, scheduled for December 9-12, 2020.

In his letter, sent on 26 June to the Brothers of the Province, Brother Ernesto Sánchez, Superior General, thanked the Brothers and laypeople for their generosity and their contribution to Marist life and mission in the Province.

**Br. Antonio Benedito de Oliveira**

was born on April 8, 1964, in Ituverava, São Paulo. He graduated in religious sciences (PUCPR); in education-pedagogy (Universidad Federal del Amazonas – Manaus, AM and Universidad Estatal de Ponta Grossa, PR); Postgraduate in methodology of science (CIES / Curitiba, PR) in social psychology (PUCSP) and in theology (PUCPR).

In addition to the love of teaching, (teacher of Portuguese language, literature, religious teaching, catechesis), he was formator (pre-postulate), pastoralist, director of schools (Pius XII, Santista, Glória and Archuidiocesano), director of the education sector and of pastoral (educational superintendent) of the Marist school units, acting in the ongoing formation of educators and pastoralists, leadership of reflection, planning and action teams of the Marist schools and social units of the Province.

In the PUCPR, he acted in the direction of internal relations (community pro-rectory). Currently, he is

active in the PMBCS as vice-provincial; director of the Consecrated Life and Laity Sector (SVCL) and of the Marist Memorial; researcher of the PHEM; director of the CMMC. For 16 years he has been a member of the provincial council, of the PMBCS board of directors, and of the Editora FTD.

He participated and is still active in other councils, committees, working groups, committees of the PMBCS, Umbrasil and Marist America (EAM).

In 2017 he was appointed as the new superior of the Brasil Centro-Sul Province (first term).



marist world

SPAIN: MARISTA UNIVERSITY CENTER, SALAMANCA

ITALY: LAVALLA200> COMMUNITY OF SIRACUSA

ASIA: RENEWAL OF RELIGIOUS VOWS IN VN



SPAIN: SEGOVIA

GENERAL HOUSE

PHILIPPINES - POSTULANCY OF DAVAO

GUATEMALA

BR. HIPÓLITO PÉREZ APPOINTED FOR A SECOND TERM AS PROVINCIAL OF CENTRAL AMERICA

The General Council has appointed Brother Hipólito Pérez Gómez as Provincial of Central America for a second three-year term, after having studied the results of the survey carried out in the Province. Brother Hipólito will begin his second term with the celebration of the Provincial Chapter, scheduled for December 6-11, 2020.

“Let us all continue to walk together and build the global Family, as the XXII General Chapter has asked us to do”, declared Brother Ernesto, Superior General, in his letter sent on the 5th July to the Brothers of the Province, present in Costa Rica, Cuba, Guatemala, Nicaragua, El Salvador and Puerto Rico.

**Br. Hipólito Pérez** born in 1965 in Dueñas (Palencia) in Spain. He began his journey in the Institute in the seminary of Miranda de Ebro. After the novitiate in Venta de Baños, he made the first profession in 1984. The same year he left for Central America. He completed his theological and professional studies in Guatemala. He worked in the different countries of the Province, as an educator, animator of pastoral work, formator as well as in the area of accompaniment of the life of the Brothers. From 2004 to 2007 he was a formator and master of novices in the Interprovincial Novitiate of Medellín, Colombia. He was also pro-

vincial of América Central between 2008 and 2013. Then, in 2015, he was appointed deputy director of the Brothers Today secretariat at the general administration. In 2017 he was appointed provincial of Central America (first term).



SPAIN

# SOLIDARITY CAMPAIGN “TOGETHER FOR YOUR RIGHTS” OF PROVINCE IBÉRICA

Three organisations that make up the platform of social works of the Iberian Province have organised a new solidarity initiative to help families during the COVID-19 crisis.

We are Ausartzen (Erandio-Bizkaia), Espiral (Fuenlabrada, Humanes and Lavapiés – Madrid) and Todo Avanza (Alcalá de Henares-Madrid), three sister bodies which have been working in a network for many years and which together make up the platform of Marist Social Works in Iberia. We want to share a new solidarity initiative to help many families during this crisis of the COVID-19.



## JUNT@S X SUS DERECHOS CAMPAÑA SOLIDARIA POR EL COVID-19

Generally, we carry out projects of an educational and social nature with children and families at risk of social exclusion, among other types of activity. Our dedication and effort with our families has made them trust us and confide in us the difficult situation they are going through. Their initial situation was already precarious, but the current crisis is aggravating their shortcomings. That is why our aim is to help compensate for the difficulties they are going through.

We will allocate this aid to 50 of our families (some of the most vulnerable) to help them cover the following expenses:

- Rent.
- Energy supplies.

- Food.
- Internet access: data/electronic media for school monitoring.

To obtain this aid, we have created a Solidarity Campaign through the Kukumiku Crowdfunding Solidarity platform. If you would like to collaborate with our initiative, go to <https://www.kukumiku.com/proyectos/juntos-por-sus-derechos/> and make a contribution to help us cover these needs.

All help counts, however small. Thank you for your collaboration and for sharing!



## AUSTRALIA

# THANKSGIVING CELEBRATION FOR 70 YEARS OF MARIST PRESENCE IN VALE DRUMMOYNE

A Thanksgiving Celebration of 70 years of Marist presence at the old Drummoyne house. Originally a scholasticate, then the official residence of 10 provincials, A Marist School headquarter and a Province Admin Centre...but most of all a home for many brothers.

After seventy years of ministry, the community at Drummoyne Sydney, is closing, and the house and property sold: Originally a scholasticate, then the official residence of 10 provincials, A Marist School headquarter and a Province Admin Centre...but most of all a home for many brothers.

On Saturday July 4th, in a simple liturgy and lunch, these visitors and their hosts were remembered. Down seventy years, more than 120 Brothers were members of this community. Their ministry has now concluded.



## History of the community at Drummoyne Sydney

In late 1950 was purchased a beautiful building constructed in the late 1890s, with the Parramatta River flowing past. The original intention was that the community would serve as the Scholasticate for the Provinces and Sydney and Melbourne. It did so, for a couple of years. During which time, the very first Solomon Islander Brothers studied there.

With the opening in 1958 of a large Scholasticate building at Dundas, another suburb of Sydney, the mission of the community shifted, and it became the Provincial House of the Province of Sydney. The first two Provincials were Hilary Conroy AG and Quentin Duffy VG. At a later period, it was the home of Charles Howard SG.

In the 1960s, with the rapid expansion of Marist Schools in the Province, support for schools was needed. A very

small team of Brothers had Drummoyne for their base as they visited the schools, demonstrating lessons and encouraging teachers. Overtime, additional space was constructed on the Drummoyne site. But by this century, the size of the team supporting community and ministry in the Province of Australia had well out-grown the space at Drummoyne. The Province Centre moved to Mascot, near Sydney Airport, as did the Provincial.

As the residence of the Provincial for decades, the community focused on providing for him a welcoming and supportive home.

Similarly, the community provided welcome and hospitality to many, many visitors from overseas. A whole range of Marists down the decades, were welcomed and celebrated in this community. There are many who retain dear memories of meals around the Drummoyne dining table.

# BR. ERNESTO, SUPERIOR GENERAL, SPEAKS ABOUT THE PLENARY SESSION OF THE GENERAL COUNCIL



Since March, the two communities at the General House have been in lockdown, but the atmosphere has been fraternal and creative. All members of the General Council have been home in Rome, and during the month of June, we held four weeks of plenary sessions.

We spent time reflecting, starting from what each of us has been feeling and learning, and discussing what we have been hearing from the Provinces and Districts. We believe that this is a time when there are probably more questions than answers. It is important to make room for discernment, without any pretence of wanting to resolve everything immediately. We have asked ourselves: How is this experience affecting the service of leadership and government of the General Council (and of the General Administration)? What does it mean for our accompaniment of the Administrative Units in the coming months? What is our role in this new situation? What areas of the Institute need

more attention? What aspects of the Strategic Plan have been impacted and what should we be giving greater focus to in the future? What does prophetic and servant leadership mean for us in this new context?

We have discussed these points as a Council and with the various Secretariats. We tried to do it in an atmosphere of prayer and discernment, convinced that this is not our work, but the work of God and Mary. This reflection is ongoing, and we will come back to it during the next plenary session in September. By October, we should be able to share the main points that we envision for our leadership in the coming years, hoping that the various situations of the pandemic will have become clearer by then.

Br. Ernesto Sánchez, Superior General  
Letter to the Provincials – 7 July 2020



## Institute of the Marist Brothers General House

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