



UPDATES

Marbel Community Koronadal City, Philippines

“Our life spreads light when it is given in service. The secret of joy is living to serve.” This is a quotation from Pope Francis that would summarize our experiences here in Marbel Community. Each Brother is doing his best with his God-given talents to fulfill what God asked Him to do in his ministry.



“Our life spreads light when it is given in service. The secret of joy is living to serve.” This is a quotation from Pope Francis that would summarize our experiences here in Marbel Community. Each Brother is doing his best with his God-given talents to fulfill what God asked Him to do in his ministry.



I will begin with Br. Wilfredo Lubrico, the Community Leader and the President of Notre Dame of Marbel University. He makes sure that he gives equal priorities to his responsibilities both in the community and in the school. As a Community Leader, he treats everyone equally; as a President, he always decides what is best for the school community.



Next, Br. Roy Deita, the Campus Ministry of Religious Education in-charge. He is the one who supervise the planning and organization of the different religious activities of the school.



Then, Br. Adrian Mana-ay, the community bursar and at the same time a teacher of Senior High School at NMDU-IBED. He is handling both grades 11 and 12, teaching religion and philosophy subjects.



Together with Br. Adrian teaching in NDMU-IBED, is Br. Ralph Jude Daylusan, He is assigned to teach religion subjects both in grades 8 and 9. Br. Ralph is the youngest member of the community. He sometimes helps in driving and in marketing.



Next is Br Rene Reyes, our community secretary. Aside from that, he ensures the beautification and cleanliness of the house. Br. Rene spends part of his time at NDMU farm in Tupi. He tries to help the indigenous people living near the area. He maintains a garden and a seminar house for the use of students or teachers who go there for recollections and seminars.



Lastly, Br. Mark Iwu, who is currently studying Master's in Teaching English as Second Language at NDMU. Br. Mark belongs to the Administrative Unit of Nigeria. He is now in his second year of stay in Marbel.

As a part of our community life plan activities, we invite our teachers to have dinner with us and to share our laughter and joy on one table. We believe that by this simple activity, we are strengthening our relationship with our mission partners.

We also actively participate in the different activities of the school such as the blessing of the new building of the Senior High School while at the same time celebrating the birthday of our Good Mother. The presence of the Brothers, especially their support and assistance, was felt during this time.



#Br. Ralph Jude P. Daylusan, FMS

From the Laity Desk

(By: Ms. Agnes Reyes)

Bonded in Love for Mary, Our Lady of the Rosary



Last October 7, sixteen (16) laypersons gathered in via Zoom from 8:00 P.M. - 9:30 P.M. for a time to celebrate the Feast of Our Lady of the Most Holy Rosary. Coming from different areas in Marikina, Marbel and General Santos City, the Champagnat lay Marists, bonded as one family in their great love for Mary. The time was spent sharing on how praying the rosary deepened their personal relationship with Jesus and Mary. Decades of the rosary were meaningfully prayed in each break-out group. The sharing concluded with a deep sense of value to the devotion of the rosary; the next gathering as one Marist family is looked forward to. For all, it was a moment of grace, receiving blessings from Mary, our Lady of the Rosary.

COVID -19 Solidarity Movement



Koronadal City; while DXCP is the hub in General Santos City.

The Champagnat Marists involved in the core team are Agnes Reyes, Mr. Al Quillope, Elaine Labiao, Elma Rafil and Br. Danny Sevilla. Nurses Mrs. Maritess Amido, Kristellle Mari Diesto and Atty. Noel Ben shared their expertise on specific concerns. Fr. Angelo Buenavides, Fr. Ramil Nerio and Danny Sabino are in the leadership team, animating and providing the direction of the Movement.



Br. Lindley Sionosa also joins the Zoom meetings.—Recently, Fr. Leo Acierto joined the core team.

On October 9, snack packs were distributed to almost a hundred individuals in the different quarantine and isolation centers. Each pack had a message of encouragement and support and contact numbers for the recipients to call or send an SMS to. The Movement is a ministry of compassion which involves “walking with people in the midst of their pain” and helping them through it.

Champagnat Marists are taking an active role in in the initiative of the Diocese of Marbel to reach out to those afflicted by the Covid-19 virus. The SOLIDARITY MOVEMENT, a network of volunteers from non-government and Church organizations, aims to create a culture of concern by connecting with those who are infected and are staying in the quarantine and isolation centers. The Marist Hope Center of NDMU is serving as base in

Koronadal City; while DXCP is the hub in General Santos City.



Attachments:

- **The first attachment is the Constitutions of the Marist Brothers. Below is a letter of Br. Ernesto presenting to us our New Constitutions as approved by the Holy See.**

Dear Brothers,

I am very pleased to present to you the text of our *Constitutions*, approved by the Holy See on June 6, 2020, the feast of our Founder, St. Marcellin Champagnat.

Together, we have made an important and decisive journey to arrive at the present text. In 2009, the XXI General Chapter invited us to carry out a profound revision of our *Constitutions and Statutes*, with

the intention of achieving the *conversion of heart* needed to be of service in a new world and of facilitating *the revitalizing of our vocation* as brothers.

From 2013 onwards, we held conversations using the study guide, “*Stories of the Journey, Told Around the Fire*“, and made proposals for modifications to the text. In 2017, the XXII General Chapter dedicated several days to the study and approval of the proposal presented by the previously appointed commission.

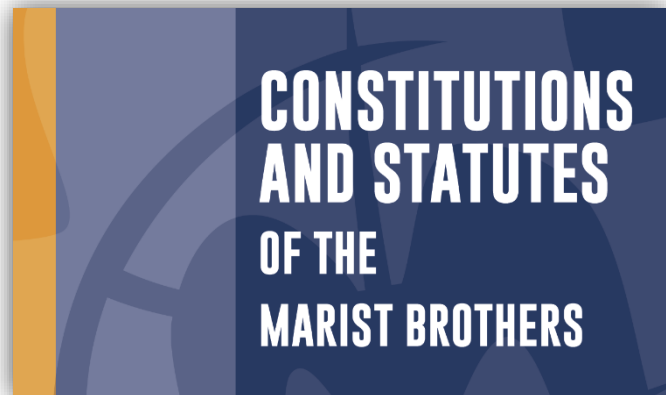
Along the way, the idea emerged of having the document [*Wherever you go: Rule of Life of the Marist Brothers*](#). This was accepted and approved by the same General Chapter as a text that blends with and complements the *Constitutions and Statutes*.

Article 12 defines the sense of this vital document for us in a clear and motivating way:

Our Constitutions, approved by the Holy See, guide us in our way of living as brothers in the Church, and in carrying out the mind and heart of our Founder. We look upon them as the Gospel interpreted for us, and a sure guide in accomplishing God’s will. By our religious profession, we have committed ourselves to live by them. Attentive to the richness and the calls that lie within, we frequently read them in a spirit of prayer and discernment. Approved by the Holy See, their authentic interpreter, the Constitutions can only be modified with its authorization.



making our way together with lay Marists and with so many other people committed to our life and mission.



It is clear that it is important to read and meditate on them frequently, to allow ourselves to be confronted by them with an open and well-disposed heart and to strive daily to make them alive in each of us, each community and Marist work. We are heirs and bearers of a valuable charism which we wish to live in a meaningful way in today’s world,

Today, we present the approved text in a digital format, in the four official languages of the Institute. I indicated in my [letter of July 3](#) that we would speak of the next steps in the text's application once we were able to get it published for all. **The new Constitutions and Statutes will officially come into force on November 1, 2020.** The printed version will be sent in early 2021 and will include references and notes.

I again express my gratitude to all of you for your involvement in the process and to all the teams that have worked on the revision and renewal of *our Constitutions, Statutes and Rule of Life* over the past few years.

May Mary, our Good Mother, be our constant source of inspiration. May we live as her children, bearers of her name. By her side, let's continue on our way towards Jesus.

Fraternally,

Br. Ernesto Sánchez Barba, *Superior General*
Rome, October 7, 2020

- **The second (A letter to Marist Education Coordinators and Schools Leaders) and third (Instrumentum Laboris) attachments are from Br Alberto Rojas. You can find his letter below inviting us to be involved in the Project to be presented by Pope Francis on October 15.**

Dear Marists of Champagnat,

Fraternal greetings from the Secretariat of Education and Evangelization of the Institute. We hope you all are doing well.

Next Thursday, October 15, 2020, at 2.30 p.m. (Rome), Pope Francis will once again address the issue of education, which is central to his teaching and dialogue with the world. He will do so with a video message, a summary of his deepest belief: "educating is an act of hope". At the end of the Message, Pope Francis will invite all good people to join the **Global Compact on Education**, a Compact to promote change at a global level so that education becomes a promoter of brotherhood, justice, peace and with a sense of urgency in this time marked by the pandemic.

In the letters, we are sending (original in English) you find an invitation for us to join this initiative and once again renew our commitment to the education of children and young people in each of the contexts where we are. Additionally, we are also including the **INSTRUMENTUM LABORIS** that will help us to better understand the entire process and ideas about the Global Compact on Education.

May Mary, our Good Mother, continue to intercede for us and for our mission that is hers as well.

With blessings and affection,

Bro. Carlos Alberto Rojas
Secretariat for Education and Evangelization.

- The fourth attachment is the Encyclical Letter “FRATELLI TUTTI” of the Holy Father Francis on “The Fraternity and Social Friendship.”
- The fifth attachment is a 7-page summary of the Encyclical “FRATELLI TUTTI” contributed by [DOROTHY CUMMINGS MCLEAN](#) and [JOHN-HENRY WESTEN](#) in the LifeSiteNews.

Information:

- China Sector community leaders’ meeting on October 11.
- Mapac Board meeting on October 14.
- October 17, Marist Laity Leaders’ Formation meeting. The purpose of which is to organize a network of facilitators for Asia.



ARCHIVIST'S CORNER

Br. Romulo Porras, FMS (# 2)

Br. Louis Omer was the Provincial of the US Province during the establishment of the Philippine mission. The following were the early mission areas in the Philippines:

1948 – Notre Dame of Cotabato Boys’ Department, founded by the OMI in 1945.

1950 – Notre Dame of Marbel Boys’ Department, founded by the OMI in 1946.

1952 – Notre Dame of Lagao Boys’ Department, founded by the OMI in 1947.

During the period 1948-1952, 13 American Marists came to the Philippines:

1948: Br. Maurus James Doherty
 Br. Humbert Damian Teston
 Br. Herbert Daniel Dumont
 Br. Peter Leonard Thommen

1950: Br. Regis Xavier Creegan
 Br. Anthony Bernard Richardson
 Br. Edmund Conrad Paradis

1951: Br. Denis Colman Buckley

1952: Br. Thomas Edward Hennessy
 Br. Denis Herman Luizzo
 Br. Felix Eugene Gilligan
 Br. Godwin Anselm O’ Keefe
 Br. Louis Omer Duprez

Source: *A Compilation of Essays, Folder 1, by Br. Paul J. Meuten, fms, 2014.*

Birthday Greetings to:



October 12
Br. Anselmo Kim
(Dong-ryeul)



October 14
Br. Laurence Park
(Kwang-joon)



October 15
Br. Rommel C. Ocasionos



Prayers please...



- ✚ For healing and comfort of those who were tested positive for COVID-19, and of those who have been diagnosed with other illnesses.
- ✚ For the repose of the souls of all who died recently especially of Mr. Estampa. He was a former Physical Plant Director of Notre Dame of Cotabato.
- ✚ For all the missionaries around the world.
- ✚ For more vocation to the religious life.
- ✚ For our schools / universities, students, teachers, administrators, and alumni.
- ✚ For the employees who lost their jobs due to pandemic, that may God continue to provide their needs.
- ✚ For all the birthday celebrants for this second week of October.
- ✚ For the intentions of our family members, friends, benefactors, and affiliates.
- ✚ For the good health and safety of all the Marist Brothers in the world.
- ✚ For the Church.
- ✚ For the Life and Salvation of the world.
- ✚ For the Local Communities.