



FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT: March 21, 2021

GOSPEL – JOHN 12:20-33

Reflection by Br. Henry Chaya, FSC

In this Sunday's gospel, Jesus tells us that a grain of wheat must first "die" before it can bear any fruit. He further tells us we must hate our life in this world if we are to enjoy the benefits of the glorified life Christ won for us through his cross. This is quite a challenge, to say the least!

I do not think Jesus means we must literally die before we enjoy the glory of God's kingdom. No, I believe we are meant to enjoy God's kingdom here on earth. However, for that to happen we need to overcome our fears and biases which prevent us from going where the Holy Spirit wants to lead us.

UPDATES:

WE WELCOME BR. PACO AND LY NGUYEN FROM VIETNAM TO OUR NOVITIATE IN TAMONTAKA.

Br. Pepito Mahong, FMS



Br. Paco is the Novice Master of the Marist International Novitiate in Tudella, Sri Lanka. He got stranded in Manila due to the lockdown. With him is another incoming novice, Ly, from Vietnam. The other incoming novices are in East Timor (8), Vietnam (2), Bangladesh (2) and Solomon Islands (1). With Br Paco as the novice master of these 14 young men, a Brother in the countries mentioned above has been appointed to help him and for a more personal formation with them. As soon as travel ban in these countries is lifted, they will all fly to Sri Lanka and continue their novitiate formation.

They will be entering the novitiate on March 25, Feast of the Annunciation, and Ly is one of them.

The Postulants from Davao are coming to Tamontaka on April 13, 2024 for their Novitiate. They are from East Timor (9), Vietnam (3) and India (2). Br. Wency Paterno, Br. Ted Fernandez, Br. Paco and Br. Pepito will be there to welcome them. Their habit-taking will be on April 19.

March 16, 1521... and... 500 years later, the Novitiate community went to Penong's on Sinsuat Avenue in Cotabato City to celebrate the beginning of Christianity in the country with Br. Paco as our guest and representative from Spain. It was also the despedida for Br. Jepoy. It has become then a celebration and expression of gratitude to Br. Paco and Br. Jepoy.

MARAMING SALAMAT PO!!!

UPDATES FROM THE NOVITIATE AND SAMOA

Br. Melchor Nowelle P. Solinap, Jr, nFMS

Talofa Lava!!!

Mabuhay!!!

The Marist Brothers in Samoa begun the formation year in early January 2021. After a long wait, Br. Anitelea Fidow, who graduated from MAPAC last year, is now finally home. He arrived in Samoa last December 2020. He first underwent a two-week quarantine and spent the holidays with his family. He joined the Mulivai community by 2nd week of January. Br. Ani's main ministry is vocations promotion; he continues his studies at the University of South Pacific. Another change happened: the house in Sinamoga is now rented by the Marist Fathers. The Brothers of the former Sinamoga community transferred to St. Joseph's College Alafua community. This was deliberated on during the country meetings last year.

The current members of the Mulivai community for the year 2021 are:

1. Br. Christopher Maney, FMS - Community leader
2. Br. Siaoase Ioane, FMS – Community Bursar & Principal of Marist Brothers' Primary School
3. Br. Anitelea Fidow – Vocation Promoter
4. Br. Melchor Nowelle P. Solinap Jr. – Novice

The Members of the Alafua community for the year 2021 are:

1. Br. Afaese Afaese – Community leader, Acting Principal of St. Joseph's College, Novice Master & Country Leader.
2. Br. Iulio Suasei – Community Bursar
3. Br. Sefo Une

Last March 11, the Alumni of Marist Brothers' High School in Fiji paid a visit to Mulivai Community to thank the brothers. It began with an Ava ceremony, a Fijian tradition, followed by dinner. The alumni who visited the community are living and working in Samoa for a long time now. They were also joined by family members. The visit was initiated by Mr. Adrian Fidow, eldest brother of Br. Anitelea, who is an alumnus of St. Joseph's College.

February 15 was the start of my Pastoral Experience as part of my second year Novitiate program. It takes place in Mapuifagalele; in samoan language, it means home for the elders or rest homes.

It was founded in 1970 and is under the administration of the Little Sisters of the Poor. Mapuifagalele is in the village of Vailele, Apia, Samoa. I go there thrice a week from Monday to Wednesday from 8:30 AM to 1 PM. Every Thursdays of the eight-weeks experience is spent in Marist Brothers' Primary School where I teach remedial reading. It is an experience for myself to do Pastoral care and to deepen my faith and my understanding of religious life.



Marist Brothers Mulivai Community and the Alumni of Marist Brothers' High School in Fiji together with their families.



Br. Ani and I, on his arrival in the Mulivai community



Marist Brothers' High School Alumni (the man wearing the purple shirt is Mr. Adrian Fidow)

Home for the elders the place of my Pastoral Experience (photo credit samoaobserver.com)



EAST ASIA LAUNCHES PROCESS OF INTERNATIONAL FORUM ON LAY MARIST VOCATION

By: Ms. Agnes Reyes

Around 130 brothers and lay across the East Asia Province gathered for the launching of the process of the International Forum on the Lay Marist Vocation held last March 19, 7:00 P.M. Joining the East Asia Champagnat Marists were brothers from Bangladesh, Vietnam, and Rome, as well as laity leaders from Madagascar and a CMMF member from Doha, Qatar. Part of the event was the sharing of Br. Sylvain, General Councilor, on Joseph as Patron of the Marists and how significant this day is in relation to the launching of the forum. Luiz da Rosa, Director of the Communications Department in Rome shared about communication links to foster global connections.

The International Forum with its theme “Welcoming, nurturing, living and sharing our vocation” with the subtitle “Your sons and daughters will prophesy” (Joel 3:2) aims at allowing the laity with its varied experience of Marist life to be in a process of dialogue and discernment to seek answers to a series of questions being asked by lay Marists from different parts of the world. The results and the agreements or consensus will help the laity to take concrete steps to live the lay vocation in a more conscious and committed way during the coming years.



INTERNATIONAL FORUM ON THE LAY MARIST VOCATION

WELCOMING, NURTURING, LIVING AND SHARING OUR VOCATION.
"YOUR SONS AND DAUGHTERS WILL PROPHECY" (JOEL 3,1)





THE ARCHIVIST'S CORNER (#23)

Br. Romulo L. Porras, FMS

CONTRACT BETWEEN THE BISHOP OF JOLO AND THE MARIST BROTHERS¹



KNOW ALL YE WHOSE PRESENTS THESE COMETH:

The Most Reverent FRANCIS JOSEPH MCSORLEY, OMI, D.D., Titular Bishop of Sozusa in Palaestiana, Vicar Apostolic of Jolo in the Philippines, administering the temporal possessions of his diocese and providing for the religious education of his whole flock; in recognition of these duties and in the exercise of his powers of jurisdiction, has consented, agree and covenanted with the MARIST BROTHERS OF THE SCHOOLS IN THE PHILIPPINES, a religious non-stock educational corporation existing under the laws of the “Republic of the Philippines, represented herein by the Reverend Brother MAURUS JAMES JOSEPH DOHERTY, FMS, as Provincial Visitor in the Philippines, on the transfer, of the administration, disciplinary and academic supervision and control of the NOTRE DAME OF JOLO HIGH SCHOOL within the Diocese of Jolo, in accordance with the stipulations and covenants, to wit: -

1. Notwithstanding the provisions of existing agreement, if any, for the academic school year 1959-1960 the MARIST BROTHERS OF THE SCHOOLS IN THE PHILIPPINES (MARIST BROTHERS) shall take over the direction, supervision, known as the NOTRE DAME OF JOLO HIGH SCHOOL. The school after the transfer shall then be under the direct supervision and control of a Brother Director who upon his assumption as such shall have under his control the finances of the school.

2. Upon the effectivity of this Agreement, the employment and/or dismissal of teachers for the academic school year 1959-1960 shall be the prerogative of the Brother Director which will be exercised only upon previous consultation with Rector of the College and the Superior of the Presentation Sisters. Provided; that should there be need for the services of a Brother to teach in the College, the latter shall first secure the prior permission of the Provincial Visitor of the MARIST BROTHERS.
3. The construction and erection in a site chosen by, of a Boys Department High School and a Brothers' Residence both in accordance with the plans and specifications of, the MARIST BROTHERS shall be undertaken by the Bishop at his own expense including the furnishings of the Brothers' Residence which shall be patterned after the Bishop's House, both of which shall become the properties of the MARIST BROTHERS together with all the equipment, and personal properties found therein.
4. Notwithstanding the provisions of Paragraph 1 hereof, upon the advent of the academic school year 1959-1960, the MARIST BROTHERS retaining the full and complete ownership of the school and Brothers' Residence, with its equipment and furnishing, shall take over EXCLUSIVELY the administration, supervision and control of the NOTRE DAME OF JOLO BOYS' DEPARTMENT HIGH SCHOOL.

THIS AGREEMENT shall govern and prescribe the relationships between the Reverend Parties herein during the transitory period from the academic school year 1959 to 1961 when the drawing of a new agreement shall be undertaken reiterating therein the provision regarding the ownership of the school, equipment and the like, the Brothers' Residence as provided by the Bishop and the registration in the name of the MARIST BROTHERS of the title of the land on which the school and residence are erected. PROVIDED; new agreement will not in any manner render the efficaciousness of this Agreement which is binding and valid until superseded.

DONE IN THE DIOCESE OF JOLO, Philippines, this 2nd day of February, of the year of our Lord, 1959.

Signed:

THE MOST REVEREND FRANCIS J. MCSORLEY, OMI, DD
TITULAR BISHOP OF SOZUSA IN PALAESTINA
VICAR APOSTOLIC IN JOLO

ACCEPTED WITH REVERENCE: -

THE MARIST BROTHERS OF THE SCHOOLS IN THE PHILIPPINES

By:

REVEREND BROTHER MAURUS JAMES JOSEPH DOHERTY, FMS
Provincial Visitor

¹This is the original contract made in 1959 found in the Document 10, page 627 of Br. Paul J. Meuten, fms similar with the ones formulated between the Bishop of Cotabato and the Marist Brothers in Cotabato, Lagao, Marbel and Kidapawan. I'm trying to find out if there was an updated version superseding the above contract since in reality, the Marist Brothers are only administrators of the school and do not own it.

INFORMATION:

- The prayers for our retreat are being prepared. They will be sent to you on March 26, via email. I would like to ask the Community Leaders to print them and give each member a copy. Our Lay Marists can either print them or just use the soft copy.
- The Renewal of Vows will be done on April 5. Our scholastics and temporary professed Brothers around General Santos City will have their renewal in the Aspirancy House chapel, at 5:00 PM. For those who will not be able to come, they will do it in their respective communities. It is possible to change the date according to the convenience of the community and of the Brother/s concerned.
- Brothers, Jeffrey Guino-o, Fred Salubre, and Mark Roberth Laurea, will undergo executive check-up at the General Santos Doctors' Hospital this week.
- Brother Bernard Yamaguchi will move to Marist Kobe community on March 24.
- Below is the link for our online retreat.

An Invitation to
EAST ASIA PROVINCE
Marists
of Champagnat

HOLY WEEK RETREAT
29th March to 3rd April 2021

Daily session via Zoom is at 2:30 PM
Philippine time (3:30 PM Korea and Japan
Time, 8:30 AM, Rome Time).

Meeting ID: 852 0913 7347
Passcode: 955536

Homes of Light
CARING FOR LIFE.
GENERATING
NEW LIFE.

Br. Ernesto Sanchez, FMS
Superior General
RETREAT MASTER

Birthday Greetings to:



March 21

Br. Noel T. Fernandez



March 21

Br. John Vianney Kim (Chang-woon)



March 21

Br. Simon Hur (Duck-Hyun)



March 23

Br. Domingo Lee (Yong-chul)



March 28

Br. Augustine Lee (Hae-dong)

Death Anniversaries:

March 21, 1986 – Carlo Kim Heung Soo died in Seoul, Korea.

March 21, 1991 – Br. Marie Valentin died in Penang, Malaysia.

March 21, 1967 – Br. Luc died in Tianjing.

March 22, 1944 – Br. Basile died in Beijing.

March 23, 1953 – Frances Welmilage, a junior died in Beijing.

March 24, 1975 – Br. Andre Joseph died in Beijing.

March 24, 1975 – Br. Edward Muss -Jacobus) died in Germany.

March 25, 1918 – Br. Charles in WW.I died in France.

March 25, 1927 – Br. Archangelus died in Shanghai.

March 25, 1968 – Br. Joseph Francois died in Xianxian.

March 25, 1988 – Br. Joche Boniface died in Shanghai.

March 26, 1921 – Br. Daniel Antonin died in Beijing.

March 26, 1955 – Br. Louis Emilian died in St. Genis-Laval.

March 27, 2020 – Br. Maurice Chang Fu Yang died in Hong Kong.

March 28, 1960 – Br. Felix Prosper died in Malaysia.

Prayers please...

- ✚ For all the departed and dearly missed Brothers, Affiliated Members, Family Members, Benefactors and friends.
- ✚ For our sick Brothers, relatives, friends, benefactors, students, alumni, members of the Marist Family
- ✚ For those who are in pain and trouble.
- ✚ For our Parents, Brothers and Sisters.
- ✚ For all the children around the world.
- ✚ For our Brothers working in other countries.
- ✚ For deepening our faith and devotion with God.
- ✚ For more vocation to the religious life.
- ✚ For the vocation of young Brothers in the Formation.
- ✚ For those who are in need and in trouble.
- ✚ For our schools / universities, students, teachers, administrators and alumni.
- ✚ For the blessings of those affected by the pandemic, that may God continue to provide their needs.
- ✚ For all the birthday celebrants for the month of March.
- ✚ For more blessings from God.
- ✚ For our own personal intentions.

