



Year **XIV** - Number **693** | **8 SEPTEMBER 2021**

MARIST NEWS

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

GENERAL HOUSE

THE GENERAL COUNCIL MEETS WITH THE SECRETARIATS AND DEPARTMENTS OF THE GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

In June and September, during the plenary sessions, the General Council traditionally sets aside a week for direct dialogue with the secretariats and departments assisting in the animation of the Institute. The meeting, which began on Monday and will end on 11 September, has as its theme “reconnecting and strengthening our passion”. 27 brothers and lay people will be gathered, some in person and some virtually.

The spirit of the meeting is described by Brother Luis Carlos, Vicar General: “The Collaborative Week is a time we dedicate to support each other in the global animation of the Institute, to promote the Strategic Plan of Animation and Government, to facilitate productive dialogues, to walk in a coordinated way, to create synergies and to join our faith, vocation and life”.

The general objective of the meeting is to get to know, join in dialogue on the current situation of the Institute and the animation projects of the General Administration.



Among the specific objectives are:

- Reconnecting with the situation and intuitions of the Institute during this “asymmetrical” Post-Pandemic period.
- Visualising the development of the Strategic Plan and recognising the key itinerary for the period 2021-2025.
- -Advancing in the synergy and integration of the areas.
- Identifying, as a community, the ecclesial and social moment that we perceive in the world, and which calls for mission and religious life and laity.
- -Encouraging the areas, Secretariats and Links Councillors in their common projects to create the necessary areas for dialogue and interaction.
- Gathering, at a first reading, the visions on the regional proposals from the General Administration.
- Reflecting on leadership: lessons learned, challenges and successes.
- Continuing the training on the culture of protection of minors.
- Celebrating our faith as an animating community of the Institute.
- Celebrating Mary as a disciple on the journey, an inspirer of responses and service.

Deepening interpersonal relationships and offering areas for community living.



Season of Creation | 1 September – 4 October

The Season of Creation is the annual Christian celebration of prayer and action for our common home. Together, the ecumenical family around the world unites to pray and protect God’s creation.

“To care for our common home, we all have to become ecologically literate and review our consumption habits. An ethic of care needs to be developed. (...) This topic of ecology and the care of our common home could figure in important decisions about structures, constructions, and the use of our resources ...; we can have a positive influence in the lives of so many people, families, children and young people whose daily decisions are transforming the world. This would mean following through on ecology training, using our education and youth ministry structures.”
 (Br. Ernesto Sánchez, Homes of Light)



General Councils of the 4 branches of the Marist Family - Manziana, May 2021

THE HERMITAGE

Last week, the directors of the Marist schools of Catalonia met in a meeting promoted by the Marist Life Team, in which Brother Pere Ferre, Provincial, also participated. Among the objectives of the meeting were: planning together, caring for Marist life, building community and the Marist network.

MOZAMBIQUE

Mr. Benjamin Floria (Lawyer), Brothers Geraldo Medida and Jaime Barbosa, from the Province of Compostela, travelled from Maputo to the Marist College of Nivava to promote, defend and make known the Rights of the Child and the Safeguarding of Children. The workshop was attended by 266 students, 11 teachers and 14 members of the School Council. Participants were eager to learn from the facilitators.

5 SEPTEMBER: AMAZON DAY

“Being in the Amazon at a time when all eyes are on it is a great opportunity, but also a great challenge. To collaborate with the awakening of a new awareness and to help in the formation of people, especially young people, is important so that they perceive the importance of the Amazon for their lives and that of the new generations” (Br. Ronilton Santos, Marist Community of Labrea).

CENTRAL AMERICA

On September 5th, Brother Zósimo Pérez Mañueco died in Guatemala City, the oldest Brother in the Institute at 102 years of age. He served the Brothers as Provincial of “Cuba-Central America” from 1961 to 1969 and as Provincial Treasurer from 1969 to 1990.

COLOMBIA**MEETING OF DIRECTORS OF MARIST SCHOOLS**

The directors of the 15 Marist schools of Colombia, Province of Norandina, met in person from the 18th to the 20th of August in the premises of the provincial administration, with the aim of reflecting on the situation of the educational institutions at this time when classroom activity has been reactivated.

At the opening of the meeting, Brother Orlando Escobar, Provincial Animator, invited them to continue to be beacons of light in the midst of their communities, after the changes brought about by the pandemic crisis, and thus to continue the legacy of Saint Marcellin Champagnat.

The day began with an exchange of experiences about the development of educational projects in specific areas such as Religious Education, Mathematics, English and others.

While maintaining strict bio-security measures, the directors joined various working groups, sharing personal experiences of the last few months, as well as the change implied in the execution of

academic activities by means of virtual education.

The teachers expressed their delight at this opportunity to meet again after two years, all in an atmosphere of fraternity and Marist unity: “It is an opportunity to celebrate life, it is an experience which has always been very significant for us because it enriches our work, day after day, in the educational institutions”, commented Diana Lozano, director of the Colegio Soledad Torres Acosta situated in Bogota.

On the third day of the meeting, Brother Leonardo Yepes, National Education Coordinator, presented the “Inspiring Guidelines for the Educational Mission in the Province of Norandina”, a document that seeks to provide pedagogical guidelines and to serve as a reference for the necessary adjustments in the different educational projects.

Finally, with these inspiring guidelines, Brother Leonardo invited the educators participating in this meeting to respond to the needs of children and young people by combining three key concepts: Evangelisation, Solidarity and Education.

GENERAL HOUSE

MARIST GLOBAL NETWORK OF SCHOOLS: THE NETWORK THAT IS BEING WOVEN

The **Marist Global Network of Schools** project has been one of the responses to the call of the XXII General Chapter, which is being led by the General Council, through the Secretariat of Education and Evangelisation.

From the outset, we wanted to develop the initiative in a collaborative way and that is the reason why we are following a very participative process in which the network is being woven from the contribution of all those involved in the Marist educational community. At the moment, the essential elements, for the global network, that can be highlighted from the dreams projected by those who have participated in the first co-creative phase are:

- It is woven by being faithful to its essence, fraternal, evangelising, putting the person at the centre, especially the most vulnerable.
- It reaffirms its commitment to the Global Pact for Education, listening to the voice of children, adolescents and young people and seeing the family as the first and indispensable subject of education.
- It appreciates diversity in unity, modelling unity in the midst of diversity, leaving no one behind, facing crises in a different way, regionally, globally, not only provincially.
- It is built from participation, dialogue, sharing, solidarity, involving all the actors of education. (Teachers, children, families...).
- It generates new opportunities from a shared leadership of Brothers and lay people. Vigorous, inspiring, innovative.
- It allows us to be connected, to share, to grow and to learn. It is a network that is close, connected, global, technological, innovative, with impact and that reaches those who do not have internet.
- It is based on and builds relationships, establishing alliances with important entities in relation to education, sharing resources, fostering the exchange of teachers and students between our institutions.
- It has an impact on society and its communities, transcending borders, spreading life, Marist spirit and solidarity. Building educational excellence offered in all schools, regardless of their level.



The Network is being woven together, and little by little, the future phases will continue to help us to give concrete form to the aspirations that are being projected.

For the moment, with everyone's contributions, several areas of opportunity have emerged:

educational quality – connection – exchange – innovation – technology – evangelisation – social transformation.

These areas will help us to group together many proposals for action that are emerging from the collaborative work, in order to then determine their viability.

The **Marist Global Network of Schools** is a project of the General Council in response to the calls of the 22nd General Chapter which called for us to be a global family. It will be a place of promotion for the Marist mission that is carried out in more than 600 schools in 80 countries. On behalf of the General Council, the Secretariat for Education and Evangelisation, in collaboration with the network of Marist publishers, is organising the launch of the network, which will take place from 25-29 October 2021. **Further information about the network can be found here.**

Book your presence at the launch meeting in October: sign up for the event on FaceBook: <https://fb.me/e/ZUqAxJ1I>

marista world

BANGLADESH: FEEDING PROGRAM – ST. MARCELLIN SCHOOL AT GIASNAGOR

MOZAMBIQUE: MARISTS IN NIVAVA

EL SALVADOR: COMMUNITY OF TALNIQUE



PHILIPPINES: NOTRE DAME OF KIDAPAWAN COLLEGE

MALAWI: MTENDERE NOVITIATE

LAVALLA - FRANCE

Br. François, first Superior General of the Marist Institute

24. UNION OF THE BROTHERS OF SAINT-PAUL AND VIVIERS

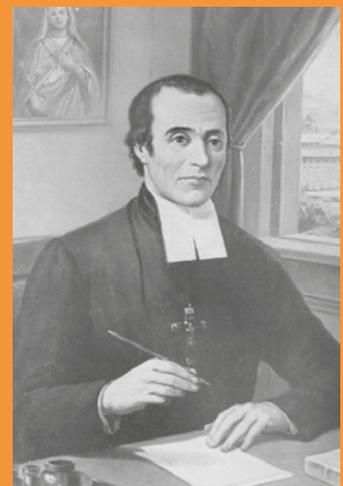
Contact between the Marist Brothers and the Brothers of Christian Instruction of Valence, known as the Brothers of Saint-Paul-Trois-Châteaux, led by Mgr Mazelier, became closer. It should be remembered that this small Congregation had received, at a favourable time, legal recognition from the French government. This situation protected it from military service, which at that time was six, seven or eight years. The Marist Brothers had been able to take advantage of this privilege by going to teach in Bishop Mazelier's schools when the time came for their military service. Now there was an opportunity to form a complete union between the two groups.

The Brothers of Saint-Paul numbered about forty, distributed in the communities. They founded the following establishments: Châteaufort-d'Isère, Le Puy-Saint-Martin, Saint-André-de-Roquepertuis, Saint-Paul-les-Romans, Montelier, Rochegude, Barjac, Rivière, Séhon-Saint-Henri, Saint-Paul-Trois-Châteaux, Eyragues, Courthézon, Tulette and Chaumont.

The agreement of union was signed in 1842, and included in the union the same Superior General, Father Colin, and Director General, Brother François; the creation of self-governing provinces, the preservation of the novitiate of Saint-Paul-Trois-Châteaux and that the new society would take the name of Brother of Mary of Christian Instruction.

In 1844, the Marist Brothers merged with the Brothers of Christian Instruction of Viviers on similar terms to the one concluded with the Brothers of Saint-Paul. From that time on, it could be said that the members of the new congregation would have a field of apostolate spread over the departments of the Drôme, Isère, Hautes-Alpes, Ardèche, Haute-Loire and the Loire and could more or less legally avoid the 6-8 years of military service.

Other episodes



SOUTH AFRICA

MARIST FROM PHILIPPINE JOINS THE COMMUNITY LAVALLA200> OF ATLANTIS

Having completed her preparation and discernment “online” to join the Lavalla200> initiative, Maria Liezel Igoy, a lay Marist from the Philippines (East Asia Province) arrived in South Africa to join the Atlantis community, where Br Tony Clark (Australia), Mariana Morofies, Denise Hernandez (Mexico) and Br Paul Bhatti (Pakistan) were waiting for her. A Missioning Liturgy & Rite was held last August 16, 2021, to celebrate Ms. Igoy’s mission in Atlantis, Cape Town, South Africa. Ms. Maria Liezel Narciso Igoy was a high school teacher in Marist School, Marikina.

“As a volunteer, you will make a difference in the lives of the people you will live with and also grow as an individual with your Marist province in South Africa,” said Br. Dominador Santiago, Superior of East Asia Province, in his dedication message as he also extended his gratitude to Br. Edgar Ceriales, Marist Volunteer Coordinator for East Asia Province and Br. Jeff Crowe, in charge of the formation for the candidates of LaValla200> and also for preparing Ms. Igoy in the mission despite the challenges in this time of pandemic.

Br. Allan De Castro, Chair of Mission Commission of East Asia Province, emphasized Ms. Igoy’s communion with the Marist Brothers and Marist lay Mission Partners as being co-responsible with them in the Marist Mission in Cape Town, South Africa, especially to the young people and the youth on the margins. On the other hand, Mr. John Benjamin Balatbat, School Prin-



cipal of Marist Marikina, said that “she a Marist educator and instructional leader who shows quietude, internal centeredness, and goal-oriented-ness. She possesses a quiet strength that enables her to stay calm in the face of challenges and to not be easily fazed by setbacks or failures. I am quite positive she will do well in her mission in South Africa”.

Upon hearing the news, prayers and good will to bringing assistance to the young people and the youth on the margins, in places where the mission may not always be easy were sent across the virtual platform by Marists of the province.

From all the prayers, wishes, and warm messages, Ma’am Liz Igoy responded, “My heart is filled with all those preparations, messages, and presentations. I am grateful for all the love, support, faith, joy, and family spirit that I received.”

BRASIL CENTRO-NORTE

THE PROVINCE PROMOTES ACCESS TO UNIVERSITY FOR YOUNG PEOPLE IN NEED

On August 21st, a solidarity project called “Approve Marist in Solidarity” was launched, which will accompany, until the end of the year, thirty disadvantaged young people from Rio de Janeiro on their way to university. The Provincial Project is supported by the Marist College of St. Joseph and the parish of St. Camillus de Lellis.

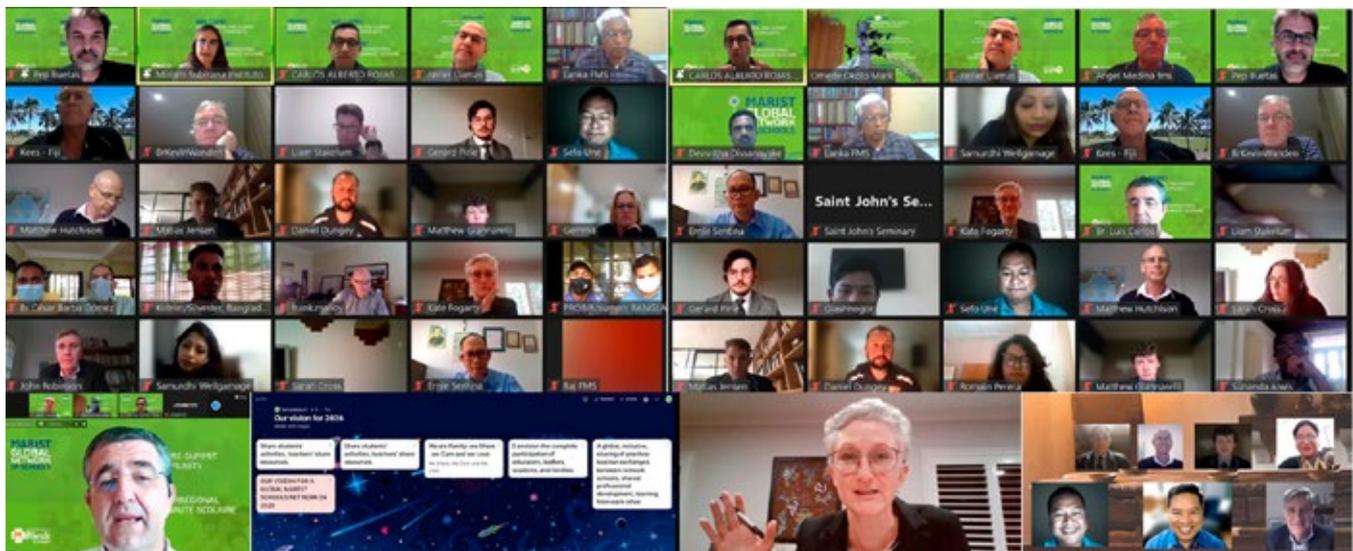
The thirty young people will have classes from Monday to Thursday, starting at 6.30 p.m., covering all subjects. The teachers are volunteers from the Marist College.

The project aims to reinforce the training of the young people so that they can access the public university next year.



CHAMPAGNAT GLOBAL

MARIST GLOBAL NETWORK OF SCHOOLS: PRESUMMIT FOR ASIA AND OCEANIA



About 75 Marist school system leaders, school principals, teachers, parents, old students, and the current students gather online on the 26th of August 2021 during the Pre-Summit on the Marist Global Network of Schools.

The Pre-summit which is interregional had the Asia and Oceania regions in dreaming and creating the processes leading to the actualization of the schools' network. This was the first among the three pre summits planned to take place between the months of August and October. This also is the second stage in the cocreation reflection towards the official launch of the network (workshops, pre-summits, and summits). The participants (school system leaders, school principals, teachers, parents, old students, and the current students) shared their aspirations and hopes turning them into concrete proposals leading to a guideline of action in the practical development of the Network.

Marist family spirit was visible throughout the sessions and to continue fostering the spirit of co-design which was started with the education coordinators in the first workshops, we continue to build on the methodology of appreciative inquiry that encourages dialogue and encounter in the design of the proposals. Miriam Subirana, founder of the Institute for dialogues and appreciative inquiry and Pep Buetas, professionals in the methodology, continued the facilitation of the presummit, whose main objective was to fall in love and spread the dream and co creation of the Marist Global Network of Schools.



Arising from the discussion and reflection and in summary, the elements that were considered a priority to make the network are:

- That the Network provide Internet access and technology.
- That the Network structure and leadership provide ways to connect nationally and internationally.
- That a digital Platform be put in place to facilitate interaction and interconnectivity among Marist schools.
- That it becomes a forum for Connection of people and Exchange of resources and ideas.
- That it should promote sharing among all, favour Inclusion and women's equality
- That proper Communication and publicity be put in place to promote the project.
- That training be organised for educators and the system leaders from time to time.

The official launch of the Global Network will take place in the last week of October with series of activities that will involve all Marist of Champagnat. Be prepared to join the team and be part of the epoch-making event in the life of the Marist Education Mission.

Read more about the Marist Global Network of Schools

SRI LANKA

FORMATION ONLINE FOR YOUNG BROTHERS POST-PROFESSION PROMOTED BY TUDELLA NOVITIATE

Lockdowns around the world have brought many a deep loneliness, frustration, and some have been brought to the brink of despair. But Zoom and other platforms have offered a way forward for many in

our Marist world, including our young Brothers in Temporary Vows.

We realised here in Tudella that our 11 young Brothers post-profession weren't going anywhere soon, so, as well as teaching our Novices online, we decided to set up a similar online course structure for these Brothers, plus we've invited other young Brothers around the world to join in any sessions they wish.

Supplemented by theology programs offered by online Universities and by IFRS in Manila (where the brothers were supposed to go for their post-Novitiate formation), we seem to be making the best of things under trying circumstances.



So far, we've benefitted from short courses offered by the following below.

Tudella Short Courses [numbers refer to how many 90-minute sessions conducted]:

- Br Chinthana Nonis, on "Youth Engagement & Child Protection" [2]
- Archbishop Mark Coleridge, for a three-day online Retreat, [4]
- Br Jeff Crowe, "Cross-Cultural life and mission" [5]
- Br Sean Sammon, "Human Sexuality & Celibate Chastity" [6]
- Br David Hall, "Mary: Ever Ancient, Ever New" [2]

- Br Tony Leon, "Being Vulnerable" & "Mentoring" [2]

Upcoming Workshops include:

- Br Rod Thomson, "Vocational Accompaniment" [2]
- Br Ray Arthur, "Marist Patrimony" [15 to be run for the rest of the year]
- Mr Tony Clarke, "the Universal Call to Holiness" [1]
- Mr Nathan Ahearn, "Guarding spaces for young people" [1]
- Mr Ryan Gato, "Marist Retreats" [1]
- Br Michael Sexton, "Community" [2]

Br. Rod Thomson – Novitiate of Tudela



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