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# MARIST NEWS

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## GENERAL HOUSE

# SECRETARIAT BROTHERS TODAY MET VOCATION ANIMATORS

**T**he Brothers Today Secretariat convened the Vocation Animators of the whole Institute on October 26, 2021. The online meeting was intended to:

- Share with them vision of the Year of Marist Vocations as the Brothers Today Secretariat has developed it;

- Listen to their comments, suggestions and recommendations.
- Begin the process of forming a Network of Vocation Ministers in the Institute.

The first part of the meeting was a short introduction of each one. Afterwards, the Secretariat Brothers Today pre-

## general administration

■ On November 8th, Brothers Beto Rojas and Mark Omede, directors of the Secretariat of Education and Evangelisation, participated virtually in the meeting of the Marist Youth Ministry with the South America Region.

■ On 9 November, Brothers Ben Consigli, General Councillor, Mark Omede, Deputy Director of the Secretariat for Education and Evangelisation, and two other members of the Commission for the revision of the document "Marist Educational Mission" met virtually with the working team to revise the Mission document (In the Footsteps of Marcellin Champagnat).

■ On November 9, Brothers Angel Medina and Lindley Sionosa of the Brothers Today Secretariat met at the General House with Brothers João Carlos do Prado and Óscar Martín, General Councillors, to discuss the progress of the Secretariat.

■ On Tuesday, Andrea Rossi, Director of the Marist International Solidarity Foundation (FMSI) met with Mísean Cara CEO, at the De La Salle Brothers House.

■ From 9 to 11 November, Andrea Rossi and Francesco Mastroiosa of the Marist Foundation for International Solidarity (FMSI) are in Germany to meet with the Marist Brothers of the city of Furth and the Diocese of Stuttgart.

■ On 9 November, Raúl Amaya Rivera, director of the Bureau of the Laity and Ana Saborío, of the Extended Bureau of the Laity, are meeting online with the Regional Laity Formation Team of Arco Norte.

■ On 8 and 10 November, members of FMSI, the Solidarity Secretariat and seven delegates from the Provinces of Mediterránea and Compostela took part in a training session on "Child Rights Advocacy Mechanism at the United Nations".

■ On 8 and 12 November, Br Angel Diego of the Solidarity Secretariat - together with his partners, the International Catholic Centre of Geneva (CCIG), Edmund Rice International (ERI) and the Dominicans - took part in the preparatory meeting for the "Parallel Event" at the United Nations on Papua New Guinea.

■ On 10 November, the Secretariat of the Laity, the Enlarged Secretariat of the Laity, the facilitators and representatives of the provinces of Ibérica, Santa María de los Andes and Norandina meet virtually to discuss the current experiences of Charismatic Bonding in the Institute.

■ On November 10th, Brother Beto Rojas, Director of the Secretariat for Education and Evangelisation, participated online in the opening ceremony of the AIMEL (International Assembly on the Educational Mission De La Salle Brothers).

■ On the same day, Brothers Angel Diego and Francis Lukong of the Solidarity Secretariat met with a representative of Bolivia (Mauricio) and a representative of the International Catholic Centre of Geneva (Benedetta) to prepare the Bolivia Project.



sented the plan for the Year of Marist Vocations. This was followed by the sharing in breakout groups. The echoes of which were heard in the plenary later. 26 brothers and lay Marists were able to attend the

meeting. Br. Óscar Martin and Br. João Carlos do Prado, General Councilors, were also present, while simultaneous translation was provided by Br. Luis Sobrado.

GENERAL HOUSE

# DOROTEA CINANNI APPOINTED DIRECTOR OF THE GENERAL ADMINISTRATION ARCHIVES

The General Council has appointed Dorotea Cinanni as the new director of the General Archives Department of the General House. She took up her new post on 2 November. Dorotea replaces Br Colin Chalmers, of the Province of West Central Europe, Director of the Archives since 2014.



**Dorotea Cinanni**

She obtained a Diploma at the School of Archivonomy, Paleography and Diplomacy at the State Archives in Rome and a Diploma in Mediation for Interculturality and Social Cohesion in Europe. She began her professional activity collaborating in various projects for the organi-

sation and archiving of the documentary heritage of public bodies and historical institutions such as the State Archive of Rome and the Ministry of Health.

She has been working at the General House of the Marist Brothers since 2009, where she has begun the organisation

and digitisation of the historical archives and is in charge of the ordinary archives of the General Administration within the General Secretariat department.

She is involved in various volunteer activities in the city of Rome, helping to make our world a better place.

## CHILE

## VIRTUAL EXHIBITION A MARIST “CHILEAN” IN AFRICA

The Marist Museum of Chile, as part of the Department of Archives and Patrimony of the Province of Santa María de los Andes, has been working since the beginning of September on research, compilation and historical reconstruction, with the aim of creating the first exhibition in virtual situation, dedicated to the Marist cultural charismatic patrimony.

The theme selected to begin this journey through the new technological means of dissemination, entertainment and education, was the commemoration of the 25th anniversary of the assassination of the Marist Brothers: Servando Mayor, Julio Rodríguez, Miguel Ángel Isla and Fernando de la Fuente, in the Congo (DRC) (now the Democratic Republic of Congo). They were assassinated on 31 October 1996 in the refugee camp of Nyamirangwe.

The museum team has taken as its basis the text of the book by Brother Agustin Carazo, “Saint for others... Evocation of Brother Fernando de la Fuente, the ‘Chilean’ killed in the Democratic Republic of the Congo”, with its images, information and stories, transforming it into a virtual exhibition that allows the visitor to be immersed in a fully interactive 3D area.

### Virtual exhibition

The result of this effort of adaptation and creativity led to



the digital montage called A Marist “Chilean” in Africa. The first is the life of Fernando de la Fuente from his early years of formation to his offer to go as a missionary to Africa in 1995. The second is the conflict in Zaire since the beginning of the 1990s. In this context, we find the participation of the group of Marist missionaries, made up of Servando, Miguel Ángel, Julio and Fernando. Through the letters and drawings of the latter, the visitor will know at first hand the daily life of a missionary in a refugee camp, anticipating every moment of October 1996, the tragic outcome of this story. Finally, the exhibition focuses on official information from the Congregation, especially videos, which allow visitors to delve into the panorama experienced by the Marist Brothers between 1995 and 1996.

To visit the virtual exhibition A Marist “Chilean” in Africa, [click on this link](#)

**Br. François, first Superior General of the Marist Institute**

## 33. NEW HOUSES OF FORMATION

Brother François will be concerned with the formation of his Brothers. In addition to the novitiates at L'Hermitage and Vauban, created in the time of Father Champagnat, and those at St-Paul-Trois-Châteaux and Viviers, the fruit of the union with other congregations, he opened a novitiate at St-Pol-sur-Ternoise. After opening the novitiate at St-Pol-sur-Ternoise, he then moved the novitiate of Viviers to Bégude, and that of Vauban to Hautefort and the novitiate of L'Hermitage to Saint-Genis.

Already from the time of Father Champagnat, a structure of studies had been set up so that the brothers could obtain the Diploma which qualified them for teaching. During the holidays, classes and courses were held at the Hermitage for the young brothers to prepare for the examination and for a refresher course for all the teaching brothers. Little by little, these courses grew and formed what would later be called the scholasticate. In 1847, these courses were held at Grange-Payre, and when this house was sold, they returned to the Hermitage.

Other episodes

# ASSEMBLY OF BROTHERS AND LAITY OF THE PROVINCE



From Saturday 30 October to Monday 1 November, the Contigo Assembly of the **Marist Province of Ibérica** took place. The meeting brought together more than sixty people (brothers, laypeople, directors of educational centres and teachers) in Lardero with the objective of responding to the signs of the times that challenge us.

After three days of personal reflection and sharing through a process of search and discovery, the Assembly has defined a series of calls for the future of the Province around five major areas: charismatic family, spirituality, mission, charism and evangelisation. These calls will inspire the guidelines to be decided at the VII Provincial Chapter, to be held in December of this year.

“With you” has been the inspirational motto during these days. Brother Ernesto Sánchez, in his circular “**Homes of Light**”, reminds us that “The General Chapter, in proposing to us ‘to be beacons of hope in this troubled world’, did not refer only to a personal invitation, but above all to a call addressed to the community: to be light as a global charismatic family. May each community, each fraternity, each family, as a group, show itself to be that lighthouse that offers light and gives hope to all who look to it”.

## Looking, feeling and listening to the situation

During the first day, the main objective was to look, feel and listen to the situation around us. Through experiential workshops, the participants had to bring all their senses into play to allow themselves to be caught by a situation that often passes us by

silently. And with the same force, other situations that open a door to hope: associations fighting for human rights, young people organised to stop climate change, the blue Marists in Syria or so many committed and anonymous people who reflect the loving face of the God who is also present in history. In the afternoon dynamics, the situation was illuminated from the Marist point of view, and the participants benefited from the reflections of Brother Ernesto Sánchez, Superior General, of Raúl Amaya, co-ordinator of the Bureau of the Laity, and of Luis Carlos Gutiérrez, Vicar General.

## What is the situation telling us?

On the second day, we wished to focus our gaze on discovering together what the situation is telling us here and now. Through dynamics of personal discernment and reflection in pairs and in groups, we allowed the calls of the XXII General Chapter (2017) to resonate in us in the form of scenarios: global charismatic family; to be the face and hands of God’s mercy; to be bridge builders; to walk with the most vulnerable children and young people; and to respond to the new emerging realities of the 21st century. In these five scenarios we have been able to sense what the God of Jesus is calling us as Marists of Champanat in our Iberian Province.

And finally, the third and last day was dedicated to prioritising the calls that have arisen during these days, and to begin a first approach to actions and concretisations that can respond to them. These calls that have emerged from the reflection and dialogue of the Assembly will inspire the guidelines that will be decided at the VII Provincial Chapter.

## GENERAL HOUSE

# CHAMPAGNAT GLOBAL: A NEW BEGINNING FOR THE MARIST EDUCATION MISSION

The week 25th to 29th of October 2021 marked the historic events on the launch of the **Marist Global Network of Schools**. More than 400 Marists of Champagnat comprising of the General Council, some provincials and regional leaders, Marist schools' system leaders or education coordinators, educators, present and former students, parents, and others gathered online via zoom. The technical sessions centered on the areas of opportunities discovered during the presummit of the launch formed the locus of discussion. Different participants had opportunities to further develop the twenty-four topics in an atmosphere of friendship and Marist family spirit.

Another mind-blowing event was the video episodes that x-rayed the Marist mission all over the world. The creativity and the inclusion of all the continent of the world bore witness to our global family.

All Marists are invited too to continue to visit the works done throughout the week of the launch of the Network and to deepen their experiences with others who were not opportune to follow from their respective schools and countries.

## To continue the dreams of Saint Marcellin Champagnat

The Superior General, Brother Ernesto Sánchez, in his opening address reminded the participants and all Marist of Champagnat the importance of the Network in uniting all the schools to continue the dreams of Saint Marcellin Champagnat. He continued to call on all involved in Marist education to see this as a new invitation to strengthen the journey together as a global family as invited by the last General Chapter.

There were testimonies to the experiences lived throughout the week. Representatives of the various Regions or continent expressed the joy of been part of the history and the greater collaboration, exchange, connection, solidarity, social transformation, and the cooperation that will result from the Network.

## Platform Agorá

Brother Carlos Alberto Rojas, the Director of the Secretariat for



Education and Evangelization, in his closing remarks invited all the participants and the entire Marist Schools Community to commit themselves to the project by logging onto the Champagnat Global platform and registering on the "Agorá" to continue the reflection and the development of the 24 topics that serves as the areas of opportunities. He reminded all the opportunities available through the platform to create new groups and topics by following the instructions provided on the platform.

The **Marist Global Network of Schools** project is a dream come true. Your local Marist action could be shared with the regions and even with the global team that may result in something greater for the benefit of the whole Institute, hence, don't keep it to yourself, province, or region alone, share with the global body as a contribution to the building together of the network for the common good.

From now on, you are a bigger part of the network, don't wait to be invited, show your feeling of belonging through your participation in the online network activities.

## Thanks

The Secretariat for Education and Evangelization is grateful to all who work round the clock to make the events realizable and a huge success. Thanks to **IDEIA Institute** that facilitated the whole process of dialogue through the various meetings and summits with the Appreciative Inquiry methodology. In the same vain, thanks to Fluir Eventos that prepared the three (3) video-episodes, and to the Marist publishing houses (**Edelvives**, **FTD** and **Gram**) for the support and creative ideas that made the project possible.

BRASIL SUL-AMAZÔNIA

# PROVINCE HOLDS MARIST MISSION ASSEMBLY



The first Marist Mission Assembly of the Province of Brasil Sul-Amazônia, held from 26 to 29 October, brought together more than 130 participants, brothers and laypeople. The aim was to reflect on the future of the institution and to propose priorities for the next cycle of management, which will be inaugurated with the Provincial Chapter to be held from 23rd to 26th November, with the installation of Brother Deivis Alexandre Fischer as Provincial for the next three years, appointed by the General Council.

Following four days of reflection, discussion and exchanges, the representatives drew up a manifesto letter summarising all the proposals and handed it over to the preparatory commission of the Third Provincial Chapter.

“We are working on a project that is not ours, but God’s, and God expects us to be his collaborators. The mission is set

out, we are called to collaborate in promoting life, caring for our common home and being prophets of hope with audacity, discernment, co-responsibility and a common purpose”, said Br. Ignacio Etges, the current Provincial, as he began the work of the Assembly.

The Assembly programme included four formation panels on the following themes:

- The Marist Mission in the world: advances, challenges and possibilities.
- The scenario of the Church in the world, according to the pontificate of Pope Francis.
- The role of young people in the Marist mission.
- The Marist Mission in the Province of Brasil Sul-Amazônia.
- The panels were led by speakers who presented important data and information on each of the themes.



## marist world

SPAIN: INAUGURATION OF A SQUARE DEDICATED TO SAN MARCELINO IN CORDOBA



UNITED STATES: MARIST YOUTH USA – EUGENE, OR



SOUTH AFRICA: ST DAVID'S MARIST SCHOOL, INANDA



AUSTRALIA: CHURCHLANDS COMMUNITY



CHILE: SECTORAL MEETING OF THE MARIST STUDENT CENTER (ESEM)



ECUADOR: ANNUAL RETREAT OF THE BROTHERS – LOJA

### Different visions and voices of Marist Mission

The Marist Mission Provincial Assembly began months before the October event. Since the month of August, all the areas of action of the institution had time for listening with their collaborators / and interlocutors; and the Marist Brothers and directors also responded to the evaluation survey for the Triennium 2019-2021. The results of these participations were analysed by the Preparatory Commission of the Assembly and compiled in a report with the contribution of the researchers of the "Observatório Juventudes PUCRS/Rede Marista". The highlights of the two surveys were: social dimension; synergy; joint action of laypeople and brothers; culture and art; evangelisation in practice; protagonism; people management; Amazon Region; and health.

In order to analyse all this data and to continue with the reflections proposed in the formation panels, the representatives present at the Assembly were divided into 17 working groups. The themes developed in the forums are based on the above-mentioned letter, delivered during the closing Mass of the Assembly, to Br. Onorino Moresco, coordinator of the Preparatory Commission of the Third Provincial Chapter.



**From 8 to 20 November, the General Council is holding plenary sessions at the General House. During the first week, the brothers reflect on the synodal process of the Church, the Action Plan on Laudato Si' and the preparation of the General Conference. They also updated information on various projects currently underway in the Institute, joined in the accompaniment of various Administrative Units and studied the Statutes of International Civil Entities with a view to their approval.**

ARCO NORTE

# REGION PROMOTES MEETING ON BEST PRACTICES IN RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Around 120 people participated in the online Regional Meeting on Best Practices in Religious Education, organized on October 16 by the Evangelization team of Arco Norte Region. Professors of religion and catechesis attended from the provinces of the United States, Central Mexico, Occidental Mexico, Central America, Norandina and Canada.

The objective of this meeting was to create ties between all the Marists of Arco Norte on the subject of catechesis and religious education in schools, as well as to help teachers improve and animate, in community, the experience and mission of accompanying the faith of children and young people.

**During the meeting, there were different presentations of best practices that, throughout the region, teachers have brought to their classrooms:**

Alberto Rodríguez, from the USA, spoke about the online tool called Ed-puzzle that allows you to edit videos for a more dynamic and interactive class.

Primitivo Villegas, from Occidental Mexico, presented the “Teacher training program in the Human-Christian area”. This program has as methodologies the dialogue focused on life experiences, a learning community and a flipped classroom scheme.

Jonhy Castillo and Ana Paola Frayle, from Central Mexico, spoke about the “Virtual Meeting”.

Constanza Naranjo, from Norandina, presented “National and Zonal Marist Encounters of Schools of Religious Education”,

where meeting spaces are fostered between students from Marist institutions in Colombia. The methodology used was based on speakers, forums, reports, life communities and guided visits.

Nohemy Cuéllar, from Central America, spoke about the Genial-ly platforms, a software that allows interactive content through the creation of images, infographics, presentations, microsities, catalogs, maps, among others, which can be equipped with interactive effects and animations to use in classes and have more interaction with students. She also presented Nearpod, a tool that allows the creation of a guided presentation that incorporates a multimodal content and interacts with the audience/students through activities that allow synchronous or asynchronous work. Another tool is Quizizz and the use of google sites to generate a microsite to interact even more closely with the students.

Juan Ignacio Fuentes, from Cruz del Sur (Argentina), invited us to reflect on how those who dedicate themselves to faith education feel about their here and now, within the context of the pandemic that still continues, what their heart tells them and why it is important that they also have a moment of interiority, to be able to reimagine education in the post-pandemic faith.

Finally, Br. Daniel Martin, coordinator of the regional evangelization team, thanked the la participación de todos los asistentes – including speakers and attendees- and said: “We take today a lot of work that we can do together, rethink the image and importance of a post-pandemic God and dream of forming common themes for our communities, with dialogue on spiritual and emotional intelligence”.



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