



# News Bits

## Updates

### KOREA-JAPAN SECTOR

Life continues and the time for vacations and festivities passes by. Brs. Alfredo and Anselmo Kim had the opportunity of visiting their families and countries. At the end of last year, Br. Alfredo left Korea for Mexico to spend some time with his family, and almost at the same time Br. Anselmo finally could travel from his mission country to Korea to spend the long awaited (because of the Covid 19 pandemic) vacation with family and friends.



Although they were unable to meet at that time, it was funny, but totally unplanned that they were able to see each other at the airport in Incheon on the day in which both returned from their working breaks back to their respective mission countries. Br. Alfredo arrived early on Friday, Feb. 18<sup>th</sup> at the Incheon airport just in time to be able to encounter Br. Anselmo as he was about to check-in for his flight back to Vietnam. In the photo, Br. Domingo captured the brief moment in which the Brothers were talking for the few minutes they had the opportunity to see each other.

While the Brothers mentioned above were enjoying their stay in their respective countries of origin, life continued for everybody else.



In the following photos we can observe several moments of the ordinary life of the Brothers in Seoul. You can see Br. Paul Won accompanied by a fellow citizen picketing, as every Friday morning, in one of the streets of downtown Seoul, in defense of and to increase the awareness of the problems and abuses we all do to our “common home”.

While Br. Paul and friends silently raise their voice and presence to help us become aware of the problems of nature, Br. Pio with his children at home learn not only to enjoy and thank God for the gifts He offers to us through the blessings of the seasons but also profit the opportunity to develop their artistic skills making a family of ducks with the snow that has just fallen on the area of our house in Seoul.



But not only children learn to develop their sense of beauty and creativity, also Br. Anthony, at the office of the Education Center regularly teaches guitar skills to a couple of ladies who week after week spend some time in the middle of their busy schedules to learn how to play the guitar, and enjoy signing together while learning the instrument.

Another of the weekly activities of the Brs in Seoul, is the study group that Br. Paul has with some ladies that help him in the correction and proof reading of the translation from English into the Korean language he has been doing of the book "Truly our Sister". While they review and discuss how to better express the content of the book, they enjoy sharing the reflections and thoughts that the book suggest to them while reading it.



## Updates from Down Under

Moving to another community is part of life and is normal to most of the Brothers across the globe. Towards the end of last year, it was clear to me that I would be moving on to a new community of Brothers. Cleaning up, packing, unpacking, and setting up the space was somewhat physically, psychologically, and emotionally challenging. Mt. Druitt Lavalla200>



Community so far holds the record of my longest stay in a community. Naturally, connections and attachments were formed and developed. I certainly felt a typical response to such movement. Mounty County, as the locals call the place affectionately, was my first home away from my country.



On 24 January, I moved from Western Sydney suburb to an Inner-west suburb called Burwood. Brothers Fabricio and Lawrie drove me to my new community. Brothers Joa and Tony prepared a sumptuous dinner for the five of us. Since then, Burwood community formed the community, Brothers Joa Fabbro and Tony Leon. We all have different involvements and activities. We share domestic responsibilities such as cleaning, gardening, and cooking.

My stay in Burwood community is indefinite. The hope is to complete my study either at the end of this year or early next year, while working part-time in one of the Marist Schools in Sydney area. So far, I am waiting for the confirmation from the Catholic Education Office's confirmation for my appointment to a school. Meanwhile, I am enjoying life and all that it offers. May we all have the blessings we need to enjoy life despite the reverberating challenges at present. Ciao for now!



#Br. Noynoy

## MARIST ASPIRANTS' WEEK-END ENCOUNTER

Last February 19-20, the aspirants had their weekend program of prayer and reflection, nature trekking and tree-planting. All these are part of their human formation sessions with the intention of accompanying the development of their full potentials.



The event was made meaningful by the sharing of two former brothers-in-formation who left the congregation and who now have families of their own.

Mr. Angelo Angelo, gave a testimony about how Marist shaped his trust and total surrender to God's Providence. Mr. Danny Sabino, meanwhile, affirmed that being Marist is a gift that continues even beyond being a religious. They both told inspiring stories about imbibing Marcellin's love of work and unswerving trust in God.



Rosela, the wife of Angelo, and their daughter Cassey also shared how they witnessed God's loving hand at work on Angelo who to this day still battles heart ailment. Cassey posed these challenging questions to the aspirants: *"Did you ever have an experience of giving up on God? What is your motivation in entering brotherhood?"*. Young at her age, her voice triggered deep reflections among the Marist aspirants during their hike to the hilltop. In the evening, after the sharing of experiences, the aspirants were given orientation on the process of the

International Forum on the Vocation of Lay Marist. The information was meant to provide them with the awareness of the global initiatives intended to deepen lay marist vocation.

Br. Danny Sevilla and Br. Jeff Guino-o joined the group during the fellowship night. The next morning, the aspirants did the tree planting on the grounds of Supremo Ridge with Br. George Valle. The Aspirancy Fourviere Community is grateful to Rey and Danny Sabino for the accommodation and for the welcome of the Marist family to their beautiful place, Supremo Ridge, the venue of the week-end aspirants' encounter.



## ORIENTATION ON THE INTERNATIONAL FORUM ON THE LAY MARIST VOCATION

(Notre Dame of Marbel University, IBED-Senior High School Personnel)

Notre Dame of Marbel University sees the importance of offering Marist formation to all personnel. In tune with its thrust of providing Marist formation to its constituents, Mrs. Leann Rosali, the Senior High School Principal, coordinated with the NDMU Human Resource Personnel Officer, Ms. Elma Rafil, the conduct of a series of formation programs for implementation throughout the year.

During the initial gathering of personnel for the Marist formation session last February 18, the theme for the International Forum on the Lay Marist Vocation was shared. Ms. Agnes Reyes, Laity Desk Coordinator, provided them with the information not only about the forum but also of the other initiatives conceived for the development of Marist lay life in the East Asia Province. During the sharing and reflection, a number who were first timers in the Marist environment expressed interest to discover Marist life more as they continue their work in the Institution.



## *When the Spirit sings, the dance of Mission begins*

### **Two (2) Lay Marists Join Lavalla>200 Formation and Preparation Program 2022**



Ms. Kimberly A. Camiring

International Communities for a New Beginning is an initiative of the Marist Institute open to Brothers and Marist Laypeople who feel called to dedicate a period of their lives to go beyond their geographical and cultural borders. It is characterized by sharing life in mixed Marist communities, global availability, internationality and inter-cultural living and mission, responding boldly to emerging needs.

After a series of conversation with the candidates and their respective families by the Coordinator of Province Volunteering and endorsed by the Provincial of East Asia Province, Miss Kimberly A. Camiring from Notre Dame of Marbel University – IBED and Miss Arianne Jane V. Ylarde from Notre Dame of Dadiangas University commit themselves to join the Lavalla200> communities' preparation program.



Ms. Arianne Jane V. Ylarde

The purpose of the Program is to help them discern their motivation for international and intercultural life and mission; gain a deeper appreciation of cultural diversity and understand the personal challenges to be faced in living cross-culturally; and develop new competencies, practical skills and a spirituality for intercultural living.

Arianne and Khim will report to Rome on or before June 7, 2022 to comply with the 10-day quarantine requirement of Italy. Their discernment process will start on June 18, 2022 up to July 23, 2022. Their schedule is as follows:

June 17 – 22, 2022: General House, Rome

June 22, 2022 – July 16, 2022: Manziana, Rome

July 17 - 23, 2022: L'Hermitage, France

After their Preparation Program, Khim and Arianne may be sent either to one of the Lavalla200> communities (Atlantis, South Africa; Holguín, Cuba; Moinesti, Romania; Mount Druitt, Australia; Siracusa, Italy; Tabatinga, Brazil) or to one of the special projects of the Institute, such as MDA (Marist District of Asia), the Fratelli Project in Lebanon, Solidarity with South Sudan and others.



*Conversation with the family of Arianne*

*Conversation with the family of Khim*



## Updates from Marist Education Council, Philippines Sector

*Alma S. Hordista, MEC Secretariat*

The Marist Education Council (MEC) headed by Bro. Allan DE Castro, FMS continued to implement programs and activities for the wholistic development of students at all levels. The challenges brought about by the pandemic of Covid 19 have not stopped the schools in creating new ways of delivering the services it used to offer during the pre-pandemic period. The schools actively participated in the activities of the MEC committees chaired by:

Campus Ministry-Religious Education - Ms. Marjorie Raneses  
Marist Charism - Bro. Paterno Corpus  
Pastoral Care - Mr. Rabindranath Porsuelo  
Academics - Tertiary, Dr. Joan Palma/ Basic Ed, Mr. James Ferrer  
Student Services - Ms. Marites Garlitos  
Administration - Dr. Andres Magallanes

The CM-RE committee in each school conducted the regular activities online like recollections, prayers, formation talks, masses and parents' orientations on different issues. The main direction of the CM-RE plan is towards the conversion of all Marist school into a Laudato Si school. Initiatives were done by each school. To mention a few, NDDU have formally organized EcoMarista in partnership with Living Laudato Si Philippines. All schools reviewed their curriculum to ensure that the Laudate Si principles are integrated in the lessons. Online formation of teachers and parents with the theme, "Throw away the throw away culture" was conducted. The activities of these committees were coordinated with the Pastoral Care Committee.

Here are the sample of the Pastoral care committee Activities:

NDMU conducted livelihood projects at Brgy. Takonel, Lake Sebu, South Cotabato and Hygiene awareness session to pupils of Salkan Elem School. Brgy. Paraiso, Koronadal City.



NDKC held Organic Agriculture Seminar workshop at Lao Integrated farm.



NDDU conducted Online catechism class, and tutorials to grade 6 pupils of Lanton Elementary School.



Mangroves planting, cleaning, and fencing of the Minanga Mangrove Park at Buayan, Gen. to grade 6 pupils of Lanton Elementary School.





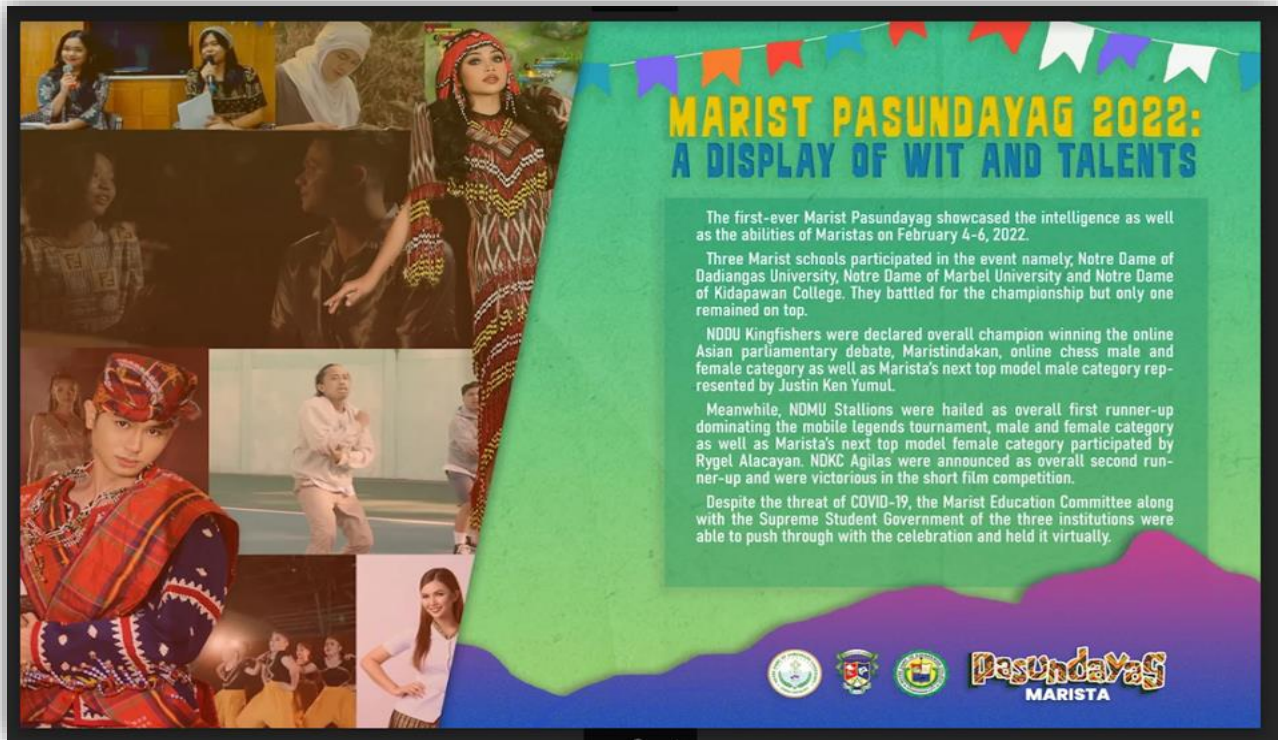
NDC visited the adopted school and community at Kiga, Upi, Maguindanao.



Pediatric Vaccination (5-11 Y/O) in Marist School Marikina



Lastly, the Students' Services Committee sponsored the Pasundayag Marista on Feb.4-8,2022. This is an online activity participated by the college students. The students were given the opportunity to show case their talents.



## *Birthday Greetings to:*



February 22  
Br. George E. Valle



February 23  
Mrs. Romana Yecyec  
(Affiliated member)



February 24  
Br. Moses Cho (Min-Kyu)



February 28  
Br. Michael Park (Sung-won)

# THE ARCHIVIST'S CORNER

## #70

Br. Romulo L. Porras, FMS



*The following article is reprinted from the research paper done by Br. Niño Pizarro and Br. Demosthenes Calabria. This Research Paper entitled 60 Years of Marist Presence in the Philippines (1948-2008) was part of the requirements of the Patrimony Course in Rome in 2008. This section is found in pages 119-121.*

## The Philippine Marist Brothers' Contribution to the Institute

As of this writing, the Marist Brothers are celebrating 60 years of presence in the Philippines. The former Philippine Province, now a Sector of East Asia Province, is a clear manifestation of the good seed sown by the Missionary Brothers and the first Filipino brothers. Today in the Philippine islands there exist eleven communities of the Marist Brothers including Marist Asia Pacific Center and excluding the Mission Ad Gentes Brothers in Davao. We have six schools to administer in which two are in a University status and one is in a College status, one foundation for the street children and two mission areas. In the Sector, the total number of Brothers is fifty-three including the seven Scholastics at Marist Asia Pacific Center.

Since the name of our Congregation bears also the type of work that we mostly engage, I should say that one of the contributions made by the Filipino Marist Brothers to the Institute is their commitment *"to make Jesus Christ known and loved"* and to form young ones to become *"good Christians and virtuous citizens"*. We are expressing this commitment through our presence in the school as classroom teachers and administrators, through the way we live in a community, and our desire to be missionaries and to reach out to others outside school setting. We are educators and the Brothers do not forget it. It runs through our veins. To be in the classroom is a privilege and it has never been a tiring work for us. In our respective communities in the Philippines, we live in simplicity and show our care for our Brothers. Our hospitality is evident. Our warm acceptance of others manifests our Filipino culture as person-oriented community. Many of our Brothers in the Philippines are willing to work in mission areas like in Palawan and China. At the moment, we have a Brother who has been in China for years. We also sent two Brothers to Mission ad Gentes program.

The organization of Champagnat Movement of the Marist Family in the Philippines has been a good initiative in the Sector to affirm and acknowledge the efforts of our lay Marists who are also living Marcellin's Spirituality.

We are also proud to say that in the past we have Bro. Renato Cruz who was first appointed by the Superior General to become one of the General Councilors, and he was sent by the Superior General as delegate to the Philippine Province to act as a Provincial while maintaining his role as a General Councilor. After a couple years, he became a full-time Provincial of the Philippine Province.

I think it is also worth mentioning the young ones who were guided by the Brothers in our Formation houses but did not persevere. They left the Congregation, but they still carry with them the values that they learned from the Brothers. # # #

## *Death Anniversaries:*

February 21, 1942 – Br. Antonin, Pioneer & Provincial died in Tianjin, China  
February 21, 1993 – Br. Geraisme died in Hong Kong.  
February 22, 1938 – Br. Xavier died in Beijing.  
February 23, 1935 – Br. Emile Etienne died in Beijing.  
February 23, 1942 – Br. Diogene, 6<sup>th</sup> S.G. 1920-1942 died in France.  
February 24, 1972 – Br. Claudius Reneson died in Hermitage.  
February 24, 1960 – Br. Joche Andre died in China  
February 25, 1906 – Bros. Joseph Amphien, Leon, Luis Marice, Marius I,  
Prosper Victor died in Nanchang, China  
February 26, 1971 – Br. Gonzales died in Bourg de Peage.



*Let us pray...*

- ✚ For our sick Brothers, relatives, friends, benefactors, students, alumni, members of the Marist Family
- ✚ For our Brothers working in other countries.
- ✚ For deepening our faith and devotion with God.
- ✚ For more vocation to the religious life.
- ✚ For peace and unity.
- ✚ 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 this fourth week of February.
- ✚ For the intentions of the Brothers, our family members, friends, benefactors, and affiliates.