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MARIST NEWS

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GENERAL HOUSE

GENERAL COUNCIL MEETS THE SECRETARIATS AND DEPARTMENTS OF THE GENERAL ADMINISTRATION



The General Council, during its plenary session in February, traditionally organizes a week during which it meets with the directors of the Secretariats and Departments of the General Administration, providing a time of reflection that seeks to create synergy for the animation of the life and mission of the Marist Institute.

During this week, from 7 till 11 February, the council proposes reflections especially on the Synod of Bishops on Synodality and ecology. It also takes time to prepare for the General Conference that will take place in March. The secretariats and departments also have time to work in their respective areas with the link councilors, lining up the activities planned for the coming months.

The daily activities begin at 8:30 with a time of prayer and end in the afternoon with a meditation and the celebration of the Eucharist.

Those are the objectives of the meeting during the week:

- To reflect on and contribute to the Synod process proposed by the UISG/USG.

- To deepen, as Marist branches, the Laudato Si' proposal for an integral ecology.
- Prepare cooperatively the input to the General Conference from the Secretariats and Areas.
- Foster the necessary spaces for dialogue and interaction between the Areas, Secretariats and Link Councils on their common projects.
- Celebrate our faith as a community of animation in the Institute.
- Deepen interpersonal relationships and offer spaces for community living.



AMÉRICA SUR REGION

SIX NOVICES BEGIN THEIR NOVITIATE IN COCHABAMBA

On February 2, the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord and World Day for Consecrated Life, six novices from the provinces of Brazil began their formation stage at the Novitiate of Cochabamba (Bolivia). The five provincials of the South America Region, who met in the city from January 31 to February 5, participated in the celebration of the official entrance of the novices.

The new novices are: Daniel (Brasil Centro-Sul), Thiago, José Francisco (Brasil Sul-Amazônia) Levy, Agostinho, Hiury (Brasil Centro-Norte). Another 10 novices, who have started their second year, complete the group of those who are being formed in the Region's novitiate.

The Champagnat Novitiate of the South America Region, in Cochabamba, is an international formation house where young men begin their path of consecrated life. They belong to the provinces of Brasil Centro-Norte, Brasil Centro-Sul, Brasil Sul-Amazonia, Cruz del Sur (Argentina, Uruguay, Paraguay) and Santa María de los Andes (Bolivia, Chile, Perú).



The Brothers of the Novitiate Formation Team are: Rubens Falqueto, Master (Brasil Centro-Norte), Otávio Sarturi (Brasil Centro-Sul) and Guillermo Mautino (Cruz del Sur).

According to the Marist Initial Formation Plan of the Region, Cochabamba novitiate carries out the following programs: human development, fraternal life, Marist style, Marist and apostolic spirituality and global availability.

Photos | YouTube

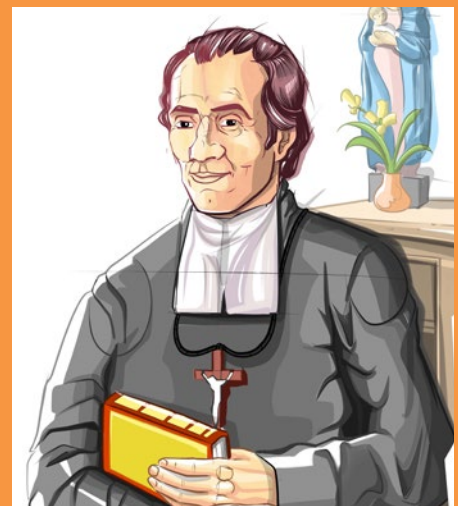
Br. François first Superior General of the Marist Institute

45. SILENCE AND INTERIOR LIFE

François, as he was thought in his time, had the deep conviction that the Rule, perfectly observed, was the best way to live the Gospel, in other words, to be a saint. For him, silence was an essential part of the Rule, and he translated it into concrete acts such as close quietly a door, not speaking or at least lowering his voice when it was necessary to do so and showing prudence and discretion. To live in this way required a profound understanding of oneself.

His intention was clear: to create an atmosphere of silence, making it easier for everyone to live in the presence of God.

Other episodes



MÉXICO OCCIDENTAL

The province has updated the document on child protection protocols. Led by Br. Enrique Escobar, the Provincial Policies for Child Protection team is now developing a project to present and accompany this new update on the subject to all the worksites in the province.

PHILIPPINES

A new legacy unfolds as Notre Dame of Marbel University –Integrated Basic Education Department held the blessing of the newly built Gymnasium and JHS Canteen on February 2, at the NDMU-IBED Campus. The blessing rite kicked off with the University President Br. Paterno S. Corpus delivering his message. In attendance during the event was Br. Dominador Santiago, Provincial of the East Asia Province.

AUSTRALIA

COVID has caused major disruption for the international Lavalla200> community at Mt Druitt. However, after a delay of 18 months the Spanish couple, Ruben & Silvia, from Compostela, replacing Argie and Rodrigo, from México Occidental, will arrive on 17 February. They will be welcomed by Brothers Lawrie and Fabricio.

BRASIL CENTRO-NORTE

Six young men have entered the formation house in Vila Velha and another is being followed by the community of Aparecida de Goiânia. For approximately one year they are having a vocational discernment experience. After this time, they will decide whether to continue their vocational journey in the postulancy at Fortaleza to become Marist Brothers.

NORANDINA PROVINCE

ASSEMBLY OF MARIST LIFE AND MISSION COORDINATORS OF NORANDINA



Between January 24 and 28 the Assembly of Coordinators of Marist Life and Mission (Norandina Province) was realized in Cali, Colombia. More than 20 participants gathered at Champagnat Meeting House.

For five days, the participants reflected together on the calls and lines of action of the VII Provincial Chapter held in June 2021, and because of this study, the different provincial animation areas built the triennial and annual planning of the provincial projects that will allow the action lines of the provincial calls to become operational.

Another of the activities carried out was the preparation of the schedule of provincial activities for the triennium, which will be disseminated by mission councils.

During the opening of the assembly was carried out an activity of presentation and sharing of faith and life in the

Marist experience. In this context, Br. Ernesto Sánchez Barba, Superior General, invited in his message to build bridges of solidarity and be beacons of hope among children and young people.

On the last day, Br. Luis Carlos Gutiérrez, Vicar General, virtually led the training entitled “Identity of the Marist Leader”, where he highlighted the characteristics and steps that a leader must have in the different areas of the life, among these he emphasized empathy, active listening, foresight, among others. At the end, he recalled the commitment in relation to the growth of people and communities.

The formative space finished with the Eucharist of missioning where each one of the provincial animation areas presented a sign that represents the work that is going to be carried out in the present triennium.



CHILD PROTECTION

THE PROVINCE L'HERMITAGE CERTIFIED BY KEEPING CHILDREN SAFE

The Marist schools and social works of the Province L'Hermitage have received the Keeping Children Safe (KCS) certification which accredits the Institution as a network that offers safe spaces for children and young people and respects their rights. In total, in the whole Province we have certified all the educational works, a total of 44 between schools and social works.



To certify schools and social works with KCS means to apply the international standards of this prestigious independent international non-profit organization in the defense and protection of children. The KCS standards value the commitment of people working with children and youth to ensure that their organizations fulfill their responsibilities under the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child to protect children from all forms of abuse, neglect, exploitation and violence.

These globally recognized standards are based on having policies that express institutional commitment, identifying the responsibilities of all staff in an institution, establishing quality protection procedures that provide for safe environments, sensitizing and training adults, working towards the empowerment of children and young people, and periodically reviewing protection measures.

Marists involved in a change of Institutional culture

The Marists have long been fully involved in a change of institutional culture, free and convinced, which leads us to work tirelessly in the process of prevention and protection of the rights of children and young people at all levels of our educational works. In fact, since 2011 we have been developing and

implementing protocols for the prevention and protection of children in all stages of schools and social works, and working on protection with specific teaching materials from Pre-school-3 years to High School.

Marists of Catalunya

In Catalunya, the Maristas are collaborating with other organizations that have objectives similar to theirs. Among others, Marists have participated in the drafting of the standard of the Spanish Association for Standardization (UNE) taking part in a work group named Prevention of violence against minors and people in vulnerable situations and they have been part of the team of experts who have created a guide to implement a child protection policy for all primary and secondary schools in Spain.

With this networking the Marists intend to contribute to the change of mentality and organizational culture of what is understood as "safeguarding policy", that is, everything that favors that the rights of children and young people are not only respected, but that the boys and girls themselves are recognized as subjects of rights and protagonists, with their participation, of the implementation of any policy of prevention, promotion and protection of their inalienable rights.

marist world

UNITED STATES: RETREAT FOR STAFF MEMBERS FROM AROUND THE USA PROVINCE AT THE MBCE



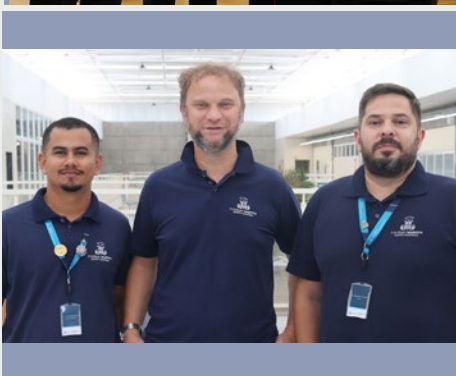
HUNGARY: SZENT PÁL MARISTA ÁLTALÁNOS ISKOLA WITH THE ARCHBISHOP OF EGER



ROMANIA: CENTRUL DE ZI MARI TI – BACAU



COLOMBIA: NOVICES DU MEXIQUE À MEDELLIN



BRAZIL: BROTHERS OF COLÉGIO MARISTA SANTO ANTONIO, SINOP



ITALY: LAVALLA200> SIRACUSA

SECRETARIAT OF BROTHERS TODAY MEETING OF VOCATION MINISTRY ANIMATORS

The Secretariat of Brothers Today organized the second online meeting of animators, coordinators and directors of vocation ministry on January 31 to continue the conversation in preparation for the Year of Marist Vocations.



About 32 brothers and lay men and women were present in the said meeting. Br. Ernesto Sanchez gave a brief but very inspiring message early on. Also present were Br. Óscar Martín and Br. Sylvain Ramandimbarisoa from the General Council, and Agnes Reyes of the Secretariat of the Laity.

Luiz da Rosa of the Communications Department gave a brief presentation about the Year of Marist Vocations (YMV) section on the website. The Brothers Today Secretariat then proceeded to give more explanation about the YMV Guidelines for the



Administrative Units which was published on January 2.

There was also time for the participants to go into breakout groups to share ideas, to listen to and learn from one another. Towards, the end, the Secretariat of Brothers Today laid out some aspects with which the vocations animators were invited to collaborate.

SECRETARIAT OF SOLIDARITY

2ND ASSEMBLY OF THE MARIST INTERNATIONAL SOLIDARITY NETWORK

The opening meeting of the 2nd Assembly of the Marist International Solidarity Network took place on February 1, 2022. In December the regional meetings were initiated leading up to this first meeting. The meeting has been online.

The first assembly was held in January 2018. In October 2020, the Secretariat of Solidarity of the Institute took up the reflection about the Network, how to adapt it to the Solidarity Secretariat. The Executive Committee of the Network has been working towards the realization of this second Assembly. This Committee is made up of Rebecca Bromhead (Australia), Mark Potterton (South Africa), Socorro Alvarez (Mexico), and Brothers Vicente Falchetto (Brazil), Henry Uzor (Nigeria) and Javier Salazar (Spain), together with the directors of the Secretariat of Solidarity, Brothers Francis Lukong and Ángel Diego Garcia Otaola.

The general objective of this 2nd Assembly is to resume the meetings of the Marist International Solidarity Network and its actions of animation and coordination of the different areas of Marist solidarity. In addition to this general objective, there are other specific objectives: to get to know and share life; to com-



mit ourselves to work in the Network; to initiate the Thematic Groups and the Approval of the Constitutive Documents of the Network.

All the provincial delegates of the 5 Working Groups (Children's Rights, Education in Solidarity, NGOs/Foundations, Ecology and Social Works) were invited to the Assembly, as well as representatives of other organizations such as SED, FMSI, CMI and UMBRASIL. Since the Assembly was held "online", participation was open to all those persons of the Institute who are working in any of the areas included in the 5 Thematic Groups. There were more than 80 participants.

The group will now continue working until February 16, when the Assembly will be closed.




Institute of the Marist Brothers General House

Piazzale Marcellino Champagnat, 2 - Rome, Italy - comunica@fms.it

Website

<http://www.champagnat.org>

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