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MARIST NEWS

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SECRETARIAT FOR EDUCATION AND EVANGELIZATION

MEETING OF THE TEAM FOR THE REVISION OF THE MARIST EDUCATION DOCUMENT



The team for the revision of the document “In the Footsteps of Marcellin Champagnat; A Vision for Marist Education today” met in L’Hermitage, France from the 3rd to the 8th of April 2022 to continue the discussions on the updates of the document which was started sometimes back in June 2021. The choice of l’Hermitage for this meeting was no coincidence as this brought memories of the beginnings of the foundation of the institute and inspiration for the work to be done.

Each working day was an opportunity for the team to explore the document, make suggestions, listen to each other, and finetune different areas that needed attention. The Secretariat for Education and Evangelization facilitated the sessions while by Br Joe Mckee was invited to accompany the group. He shared his thoughts generously and was very instrumental in guiding the deliberations of the group. Indeed, we have every reason to thank God for his presence during our sessions.

general administration

- Brothers Óscar and Ken, General Councillors, have finished their visit to MIC in Nairobi.
- Brothers João Carlos and Ben, General Councillors links with the Region of Europe, are visiting the Marist communities in Hungary during this week.

- On Thursday, the Chapter of the East Asia Province began, with Brother Allan de Castro taking office as Provincial. ■ Brothers Luis Carlos, Vicar General, Josep Maria and Sylvain, General Councillors, are participating in the meeting in the Philippines, which will end on Sunday.



On Friday April 8th, 2022, the team ended the working sessions with an evaluation of the work which had been done so far. Each participant was given the chance to express himself and like the other days, this was also a very rich experience. The session of the day officially closed at the bedroom of Fr. Champagnat where the team had a moment of recollection, prayer, and thanksgiving to God for all that we were able to achieve during these days. The sound of the Gier River from the open window of the room to the founder reminded the

team of the freshness of the mission and a call to a renewed commitment to the ministry through the update of the document.

The work is not yet over as much still needs to be done. The sessions will therefore continue via zoom until the group get to a consensus. The team trusts that it is the work of God, and He will see them through till they have the final copy of this very precious document for the Marists of Champagnat.



The members of the team are the following: Adriana Kampff (Brasil Sul-Amazônia), Amaya Espuelas (Ibérica), Br. Ángel Diego García (General Administration), Bartolomé Gil Garre (Mediterránea), Br. Ben Consigli (General Council), Cecilians Alves Feitosa (Brasil Centro-Sul), Br. Hank Hammer (United States), Joan Palma (East Asia), John Robinson (Australia), Br. Luis Carlos Gutierrez (General Council), Br. Michael De Wass (South Asia), Br. Nchang Cho (West Central Africa), Br. Salvador Hidalgo (Compostela), and Br. Valdicer Fachi (General Administration).

ARCO NORTE

In the document “Pastoral Orientations on Intercultural Migrant Ministry”, the Vatican published a booklet with examples of best practices in working with migrants and refugees in various continents. Among them is “The Encuentro Project”, in which the Marist interprovincial community of El Paso, in the United States, participates.

HERMITAGE

Brother Rafael Ferreira, from Brasil Centro-Norte, is the new member of the Institute’s mother community, the Centre d’Accueil l’Hermitage. Besides Br. Rafael, the community’s current members are Brothers Benito Arbues, Eladi Gallego, Manel Castillo, Maurice Berquet (Superior), Maurice Goutagny, Maurice Paul Razanandro and Miquel Cubeles Bielsa.



BRASIL SUL-AMAZÔNIA

The Marist Centre for the Promotion of the Rights of Children and Adolescents in the Province promotes, on 5 May, the 7th edition of the Seminar The School and the Justice System, with the theme “The use of images of children and adolescents by educational institutions”. The event will be online, from 8:30am to 5pm. [Registration can be made through this link until May 3.](#)

PHILIPPINES

LAY MARIST COMMUNITY OF MARIKINA GATHERED FOR SHARE VOCATION



The Lay Marist Community of Marikina gathered on April 11 and 12 for the International Forum on The Lay Marist Vocation, with the Theme: Welcoming, Nurturing, Living and Sharing our Vocation. The twenty-five Marist Lay participants were comprised of administrators, middle level administrators, CMMF members, faculty and staff.

With the leadership of the animators Agnes Reyes and Marjorie Raneses, the participants were drawn into engaging formation activities. The participants were led to recall the Marist Spirituality – Marian and Apostolic, the life and charism of our founder St Marcellin Champagnat and our vocation as Marist Lay.

Each participant was able to share their reflection on their vocation journey through an art activity and other engaging group activities that help them express their experiences, difficulties,

struggles, triumph, goals, mission. Chosen participants shared the articles/documents on Faith – based Family, Spiritual Itinerary Process and on bonding and belonging.

The gathering was graced by the presence of the Br. Luis Carlos Gutiérrez, Vicar General, and Br. Josep Maria Soteras, General Councilor, from Rome. Brother Allan De Castro, the Provincial Elect of the Marist East Asia Province was also present.

The event culminated with a table fellowship, that reminded the participants of the message of Brother Josep Maria, that to strengthen the communion of the Marist Brothers and the Marist Lay, we must together PRAY, EAT and LOVE. The participants were spirit-filled, had the sense of bonding and belongingness, inspired and motivated to continue the journey of being Marist lay in the way of Mary.

AUSTRALIA

SOLEMN MASS FOR THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF MARIST SCHOOLS

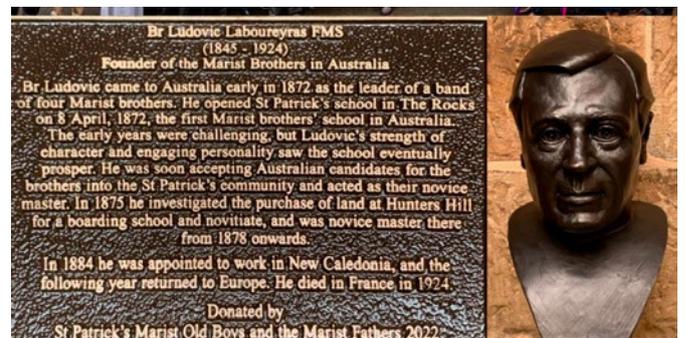


Marists of Champagnat in Australia commemorated their 150th Anniversary of Marist education on April 8 with a solemn Mass at St Mary's Cathedral, Sydney. Marist Brothers, Marist teachers, Marist parents, current and past Marist students, Marist support staff, singers, musicians, ushers, altar servers, Marist Old Boy priests and bishops all

led parts of the beautiful eucharistic celebration to visibly give thanks to God and the Good Mother Mary who has blest the Marist mission to education in Australia. The Archbishop of Sydney, Anthony Fisher, was the main celebrant. Melbourne Archbishop, Peter Comensoli, travelled from Victoria to concelebrate. Mark Edwards OMI, Bishop of Wagga Wagga, →

The bust of Br Ludovic Laboureyras, Founder of Marist Brothers in Australia

Taking advantage of the occasion, before the Mass at St Mary's Cathedral, a group of about 120 people gathered in the plaza next to the St Patrick's Church Hill, a parish governed by the Marist Fathers, for the unveiling and blessing of a bronze bust of Br Ludovic Laboureyras, Founder of Marist Education in Australia, in 1872. The bust was a project of the Marist Fathers of Australia and was made by the Australian sculptor, Roger Apte. In addition to Marist Brothers and Lay women and men, present also were ex-students of St Patrick's Harrington Street, parishioners, Principals of Marist schools, and members of the Society of Mary – Father Michael Whelan (PP on sabbatical and originator of the project), Fr Tony Corcoran (Provincial) and Fr Peter McMurrich (Administrator who led the ceremony). Current students from St Patrick's Church Hill acted as hosts, welcoming guests and participating in the ceremony.



marist world

BRAZIL: COLÉGIO MARISTA CHAMPAGNAT – TAGUATINGA



COLOMBIA: GROUP OF MARIST LAITY “MARÍA FARO DE ESPERANZA”, IBAGUÉ



PHILIPPINES: MARCELLIN YOUTH CENTER, GENERAL SANTOS



KENYA: BROTHERS CONCLUDED THEIR 4 YEARS FORMATIVE IN MIC, WITH BR. ÓSCAR



BOLIVIA: PASTORAL FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH MARIST



FRANCE: CENTRE D'ACCUEIL L'HERMITAGE

who is a member of the Marist Formation Committee, was also a concelebrant. So too were Bishop Vincent Long and Bishop Terry Brady.

Br Peter Carroll, provincial, in his speech at the conclusion of the mass thanked to the Archbishop of Sydney to assist in developing schools for young Australian people, to the brothers to carry the missions, to the diocese to develop catholic education, to the parents who trust their children to the Marist and their support, to the students, to the teachers, to the staff, to the colleagues, woman and men who collaborate and lead the Marist education and to many others who help and support mission in Australia.

Br Peter also recalled that “the first Marist Brothers group arrived in Australia in 1872 with very few resources yet through faith and patience, perseverance and collaboration, imagination and energy with the blessings of God and the ever-guiding presence of Mary, Our Good Mother we have created something that will outlast us and that act of creating will continue after us” ([read here the Br. Peter’s word](#)).

“Congratulations to all the Marist family in this wonderful occasion. You have done so much good for many young in this land for 150 years. God bless you all!” said Archbishop Fischer, and finished the mass with the Latin, ‘Ad Multos Annos’.

At the end of the Mass all the Marist enjoyed a meal together at the St Mary’s Cathedral College Hall. The sesquicentenary mass was streamed in real time so that everyone could participate. [Watch here the video.](#)

During this year, other events will celebrate this milestone. Champagnat Day and Feast of the Assumption will give local communities the opportunity to celebrate together and with local supporters. The June-July Jubilee Celebrations in the Province will take on a distinct Sesquicentenary flavour. There will be two books to launch: Sub Tuum, the Sesquicentenary History, and the revised edition of Good Christians and Good Citizens, which will profile each of the schools the Marist Brothers have led in Australia. And at the end of the year, the Marist Institute farewells the Australian Province and welcomes the Star of the Sea!

BRAZIL SUL-AMAZÔNIA

MARIST YOUTH MINISTRY HOLDS A MEETING WITH ANIMATORS



After two years of virtual meetings, 120 people from the Marist Youth Ministry (MYM) of the Province of Brasil Sul-Amazônia met in person on April 1 at the Marist Youth House in Porto Alegre. It was a meeting for new animators, whose interlocutors were adolescents and young people who have assumed the service of animation

in 2022 and have the responsibility of energizing the activities carried out in the groups present in the schools, in the Pontifical Catholic University (PUCRS) and in the Social Units where there are groups of young people. During the day, the participants shared their experiences and reflected on what it means for their lives to be in charge

of a group of young Marists. In this perspective, approaches on the integral development of the person, the service of animation in relation to the MYM process and the group experience were proposed. The event was organized by the Provincial Team of the MYM, a group composed of brothers and Marist collaborators, and also young people designated as animators. All the moments were carried out through sharing in small groups, dynamics and collective construction of knowledge.

Marist Youth Ministry

The MYM is present in the three provinces of Brazil. In the province of Brasil Sul-Amazon it is present in twenty-seven institutions. It is a youth organization that lives the integral development of the person, the formation of leaders, socialization, the construction of a critical conscience, the living of Christian spirituality and the Marist charism.



LAVALLA200>

COMMUNITY OF TABATINGA PROMOTES EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES

In communion with St. Marcellin Champagnat's dream of forming good Christians and citizens, the LaValla200> community of Tabatinga, Brazil, promotes the "Redes" (networks) project, which seeks to be a significant presence among children and young people in vulnerable situations in the triple border between Brazil, Colombia and Peru, through the promotion and accompaniment of school education, their protagonism and the defense of their rights.

The project aims to be a space for education, leisure, coexistence and school reinforcement. It also relies on volunteer collaborators. As a support structure for the project, the "Marist Center" has been created, a physical space that allows for educational activities. This is a fundamental initiative, given the social context of the city of Tabatinga, which lacks safe spaces and educational activities for children and adolescents. "The Marist Center plays an important role in offering moments of leisure, intended not only for fun, but also for the human formation of each person," says Sthefany de Sousa, one of the project's volunteers.

The "Redes" project operates on the basis of two approaches. With regard to children, adolescents and young people, the approach includes educational activities, with the support of lay people and volunteers in the realization of school reinforcement activities, English and Spanish classes and recreational moments. From the point of view of neighborhood leadership,



ecclesial communities and teachers, it offers training and listening spaces focused on integral development. This perspective also encompasses guidelines related to guaranteeing the rights of the region's indigenous and riverine communities, with the guiding principle of caring for the Common House in light of the concept of integral ecology.

For Jaelen Vale, mother of two children helped by the Marist Center, "Projeto Redes makes dreams come true through the opportunities it offers and the commitment with which the volunteers work. They teach very well, they have patience to explain every detail when a student can't understand, it's very gratifying, it's a huge joy!". Inspired by her daughters' involvement in the project, Jaelen also began to participate in the activities promoted by the initiative: "I will never waste my time on anything other than

my studies!" she comments.

The Lavalla200> community in Tabatinga is currently made up of Mayra Gutierrez (México Occidental) and Br. Luke Fong (Pacific District, Fiji). At the end of April, a Brazilian couple is expected to arrive as volunteers.



Br. François, first Superior General of the Marist Institute

55. THE DEATH OF LIFE-LONG COMPANIONS

Little by little the first Marist Brothers were dying, and it was up to Brother François to bury all the Brothers who had been his companions in the house at Lavalla, when Marcellin Champagnat had invited them to “Be Brothers”.

The first brother of the Institute, Brother Louis (Audras) died at Notre Dame de l’Hermitage on August 3, 1847.

Brother Laurent (Jean-Claude Audras) was the next on February 8, 1851, at the age of 58, also at the Hermitage. Brother Jean-Baptiste wrote: “Before he died, Brother Laurent said to Brother François, who was about to leave for Paris to start the formalities for getting authorisation: “Don’t worry; when I am up there with Father Champagnat, you will see how between the two of us we will make sure that things go right for you.”

Brother Antoine (Couturier) died on March 7, 1851, at Ampuis where he was buried. In his circular of July 3, 1851, Brother François wrote: “You see, dear Brothers, that our elder brothers are leaving us, those whom Father Champagnat formed and who had his spirit in full, the original spirit of the Society. In less than a month we have lost the two oldest members of the community, Brother Laurent and Brother Antoine. Let us pray to God that the spirit of these good Brothers may live on and be perpetuated among us, their simple and sincere piety, their zeal for teaching the catechism, their love of poverty and simplicity, of the rule and customs of the Institute, their complete dedication, their respect, their submission and attachment to those chosen to lead them. It is certain that these virtues shone in a particular way in the good Brothers Laurent and Antoine whose death we announce to you... They were true Brothers of Mary and we must absolutely make them live on in the Society, imitating their virtues and preserving their spirit”.

Brother Stanislaus (Claude Fayol) died at Our Lady of the Hermitage on November 2, 1853. Some time later, Brother Barthélémy (Badard) died on July 5, 1877, at the age of 78.

His companions in the government of the Institute also died before him: Brother Jean-Baptiste (Furet), his Assistant, died at Saint-Genis on February 5, 1872, and Brother Louis-Marie (Pierre-Alexis Labrosse), also his Assistant, Vicar and successor in government, died on December 9, 1879. Brother François would say on that day: “Now my assistants are in heaven. All I have to do now is to go and join them”.

Other episodes



Institute of the Marist Brothers General House

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Website

<http://www.champagnat.org>

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