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MARIST NEWS

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

THE INTERNATIONAL MARIST YOUTH GATHERING 2023 “ALL ROADS” LEAD TO LISBON

As we approach the year 2023, and with the approval of the General Councils of the 4 branches of the Society of Mary, it has been agreed to relive together the experience of the International Gathering of Marists Youth (IGMY).

Since 2016, the four branches of the Society of Mary have held a joint meeting with young people from our religious families. These experiences, and particularly the last one (WEAVING LIFE – 2019), were excellent spaces for leadership and networking for young



general administration

- The 20 participants of the Ongoing Formation Program “Mentors”, intended for Brothers Formators, which will focus on accompaniment, are arriving at the General House. The program begins next July 3rd and will end on August 27th.
- From last Saturday until last Wednesday, after the plenary session, the General Council community took a few days of rest in Silvi Marina.
- On Monday, the directors of the Secretariat of Solidarity, Brothers Francis and Angel Diego, attended the meeting of the executive committee of the Marist International Solidarity Network.
- On Tuesday, Andrea Rossi, director of FMSI, participated in the meeting promoted by the FAO entitled “Youth and agriculture: looking to the future with hope”, with testimonies of projects implemented by Catholic NGOs.
- Brother Mark, of the Secretariat of Education and Evangelization, is participating in Nairobi in the meeting of the African Mission Commission, which began on Wednesday and will end on July 5.
- On Thursday, Brother Ernesto, Superior General, partici-

pated online in the conclusion of the Gier ongoing formation program. The second part of that Program took place in Marist places. Friday, the 22 participants return home, some directly from Lyon and others passing through Rome.

- On the same day, Brother Ángel Diego participated in the presentation of the Sustainable Development Goals made by the Province of México Central.
- On Friday, Brother Ben, General Councilor, met online with representatives of the PUCRS to discuss a series of formation modules for educators and university students.
- On the same day, Brothers Carlos Alberto and Mark, directors of the Secretariat of Education and Evangelization, along with the Champagnat Global team, will attend a meeting to organize the meeting of the Network of Marist Schools planned for next November in Mexico.
- From next Sunday until July 7th, Brothers Ernesto, Superior General, João Carlos and Ben, General Councilors, will participate in the Chapter of the Province of the Hermitage, which will be held at the Hermitage in France.

Marists from different parts of the world and for strengthening our common spiritual heritage.

Having reflected together, and after the positive evaluation of the meeting in Guatemala in 2019, we can announce the joint experience with young people from the 4 branches of the Marist Family, in the City of Lisbon.

An International Preparatory Commission chosen among the 4 congregations has been working on this meeting proposal. Under the theme "INTO THE DEEP" it is expected to give 220 young Marists from all over the world the opportunity to:

- embrace the precious gift that they are to God, to the Marist Family, to the Church and to the world.
- live an international and intercultural experience, guided by the spirit of Mary and the Marist spirit.
- offer an experience of Marist prayer, community, family, and mission.
- discover ways to deepen and live out our personal call to discipleship.
- begin to understand what it means to be a pilgrim amongst other pilgrims.
- and build on the experience which took place in Guatemala, 2019.

STAKE

The IGMY is open to young Marists between the ages of 18 and 30 who have the maturity and commitment to enter into the full experience and share it with the Marist Youth Ministry (PJM) groups when they return to the respective Administrative Units (Provinces and Districts).

IGMY DATES

The IGMY will take place from July 26 to 30, 2023, in Lisbon, Portugal, at the Colégio Marista de Carcavelos.

In addition, on Monday, July 31, a Marist World Festival will be held for the participants of the IGMY and the young people who attend the World Youth Day (WYD) the following days. Age from 15 years has been announced as a criterion for participation in the festival.

WYD DATES

The IGMY Preparatory Commission also encourages young Marists to participate in the World Youth Day (WYD) for those who can do so in the following way: the dates for the World Youth Day, in Lisbon, are from 01 to August 06, 2023. "Mary got up and went quickly" (Lk 1,39) is the biblical quote chosen by Pope Francis as the motto of WYD.

It is important to note that the Marist facilities listed below will host the youth participating in WYD to foster our family spirit and support all Marist participants in having a home. Registration for WYD depends on the participants. The Marist College (Externato Marista de Lisboa) will offer accommodation.

In addition to the above information, the Marist Provinces and Districts will be informed in a timely manner about the logis-



Colegio Maris de Carcavelos

tics and preparation of the young people for these important meetings.

Welcome to Lisbon and welcome to the IGMY: let's move "INTO THE DEEP"!

The commission, from the 4 branches of the Marist Family, which met in Lisbon on June 17 and 18, is made up of Juan Carlos Piña (Marist Fathers), Akenesa Afoa (Marist Missionary Sisters), Anne McCabe (Marist Sisters) and Marist Brothers Carlos Rojas, Mark Omede, Fabio Oliveira and Rui Pires. Lucia Gómez and Marisa Temporão, from the Marist Province of Compostela, are also members of the commission.

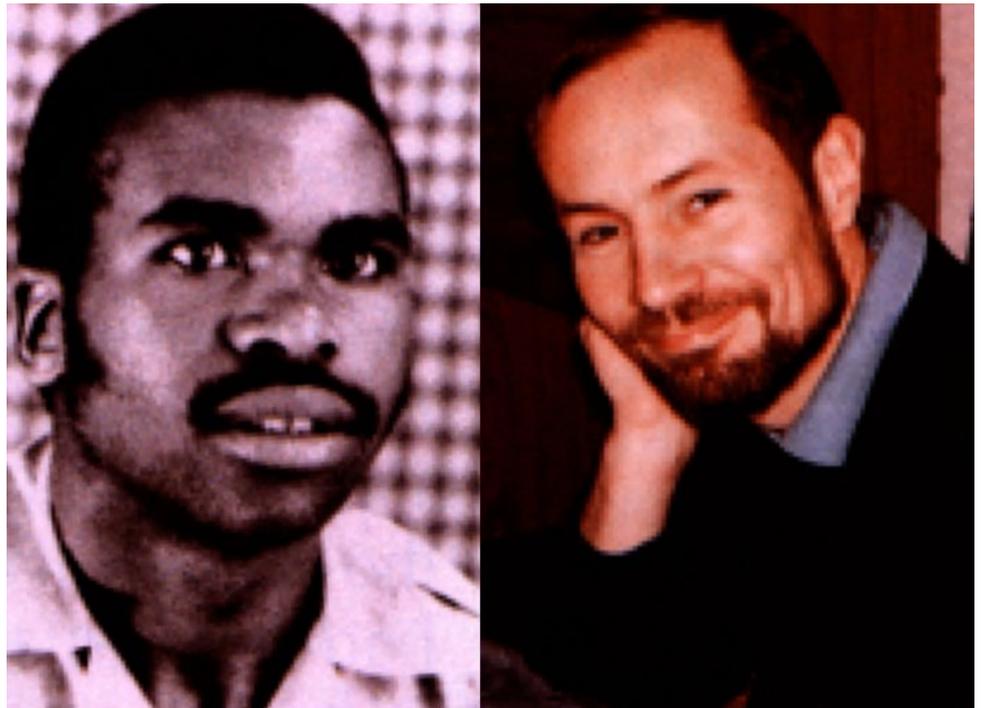
1 JULY

MEMORY OF BROTHERS CHRIS MANNION AND JOSEPH RUSHIGAJIKI

The 1st of July we remember the tragic deaths of Brothers Chris Mannion and Joseph Rushigajiki while they were attempting to save some of the Brothers and other persons in danger in Save, during the Rwandan genocide of 1994. We recall this dramatic event through the account of Brother Alexandre Rugema, who had left the country a few days before the beginning of the conflict.

When the Rwandan genocide broke out in Save, Brother Nzabonaliba Albert (the last Brother who left Rwanda) ran about everywhere in order to save :

- the Tutsi Brothers, by leading them to the frontier of Burundi,
- the teachers and young postulants and the Brothers who had stayed in Save,
- people he did not know and who were targeted by the militia ; he ransomed them with money,
- the Benebikira Sisters who were under attack everyday and to whom he brought food...



In the meantime, Brothers Stanislas Ngombwa, superior of the District of Zaire at the time, and Spiridion Ndanga, who was Master of Novices in Nyangezi (Zaire), succeeded in sending a message to Rome to ask that someone come to help evacuate the Tutsi Brothers trapped in Save. It was thus that around 28 June 1994, Brother Christ Mannion, General Councillor of the Marist Brothers and British by birth, was sent by the Superior General to go to Save to give help to the Brothers in danger of death.

Before leaving Rome, the Superior General told him : « It could be that you are forced to walk many kilometres on foot, in the jungle, perhaps carrying someone on your shoulders. It could be that you lose your life there ». He travelled via Bujumbura (Burundi) and reached Save. He saw and spoke with the brothers who needed help. He told them : « I am going to Mururu to see the other Brothers and I will come back to get you ». Brother Joseph Rushigajiki offered to accompany him. The next day, on the way back, they encountered at Gikongoro and Butare numerous people fleeing towards Zaire. Brother Joseph Rushigajiki could have been aware of the

danger, but the two Brothers went on anyway. It might have been considered suicidal. No, the Brothers were only thinking of their Confrères in danger of death. At Butare, they asked for assistance from the French soldiers present there. They agreed to accompany them to Save. The two Brothers led the convoy: the Brothers' car, a jeep and at least 3 military lorries (for the Brothers had the intention of also evacuating 200 young Benebikira Sisters who were also trapped in Save). Two kilometres from their destination, the French jeep ran into a gutter and the convoy halted to get it back on the road. The two Brothers, not knowing what had happened behind them, continued on their way. Two hundred metres from the Brothers' residence, the car ran into an ambush and was riddled with bullets and the Brothers were killed. The French military convoy, hearing the shooting, turned back, for they did not wish to face the soldiers of the Rwandan Patriotic Front (FPR). It was on 01 July 1994 around 7.00 pm.

[Read more about the Brothers Chris Mannion and Joseph Rushigajiki](#)

LEBANON

PROJECT FRATELLI

These days it will be four months since I arrived in Lebanon and joined the Fratelli family and I have discovered a project full of names, programs, dreams and stories. A project full of life.

In Fratelli we are more than fifty people who accompany children, young people and vulnerable adults, especially refugees and displaced persons from war. With them we try to make a better world together.

Our programs aim to insert children into formal schools; youth and adults into society through vocational training; we also offer a psycho-social support plan and we are committed to making Fratelli a safe place where we defend people's rights. Our success is to make people artisans of their own future. We



believe in their possibilities. That is our strength.
Br. Juan Carlos Fuertes – Province of Mediterránea

GENERAL HOUSE

TRAINING ITINERARY OF MARIST LEADERS FOR THE MISSION IN EUROPE

Sixteen Marist leaders from the Europe Region, from Spain, France, Portugal, Italy, Greece and Lebanon, concluded the last and fifth stage of the training of Marist Leaders for the Mission carried out at the General House from June 20 to 24.

The Formation was promoted by the Mission and Formation Teams of Europe. And the stage that took place in Rome had the collaboration of the Secretariat for Education and Evangelization. Brother Teodorino Aller, secretary of the Region; Eduard Jabra, formation coordinator, and Christophe Schiestse, mission coordinator, were the coordinators of the course, which also had the help of Brothers Toni Torrelles and Josep Lluís Martí, as translators. During the days spent at the General House, the Marist leaders had the opportunity to dialogue with the General Council, the different secretariats and departments of the General Administration. And in particular they discussed about the following topics:

- The Marist institutional and international reality today
- Marists of Champagnat: A common future
- Strategic planning. keys to vision



- Institutional communication policy
- Institutional and ecclesial relations

Before completing the fifth stage of the training Itinerary, the group participated in the following four stages:

1. Experience of one week in a social work of another province.
2. Experience of Marist identity in Marist Places.
3. Training week in Alcalá dealing with HR, communication, group management...
4. Week of visits to the works councils of other provinces.

marist world

TIMOR LESTE: TEAM OF THE AMS VISITS THE SITE OF THE UPCOMING MARIST SCHOOL



IBERICA PROVINCE – MEETING OF LAY PEOPLE



LEBANON: FRATELLI PROJECT



BRAZIL: ESCOLA SOCIAL LÚCIA MAYVORNE



SPAIN: MARISTAS SAN JOSÉ DEL PARQUE



MEXICO: MARISTAS IRAPUATO

MOZAMBIQUE
INAUGURATION OF NEW SPACE FOR CHILDREN IN MANHIÇA SCHOOL

On June 11, the Marist Brothers inaugurated the Saint Marcellin Pre-School in Manhiça, Mozambique, with the support of the Italian Episcopal Conference (CEI), which financed the educational project thanks to the mediation of FMSI.

The Manhiça Marist School consists of eight different main infrastructures, including the one hosting the pre-school, which accommodates 80 children who will be guaranteed a suitable environment in which to receive a quality education.

The new building will accommodate an additional 40 students for a total of 120 children per year.

The whole complex of the Manhiça Marist School, recognised by the Ministry of Education, constitutes an educational environment



to support boys and girls living in remote and rural areas.

The new school will be attended by vulnerable children, guaranteeing them the right to a quality education.

AFRICA

INTER-REGIONAL PROGRAM FOR THE PREPARATION OF FINAL VOWS

An inter-regional program for the preparation of final vows is ongoing in Nigeria presently; a two-months program – June/July. The participants and their countries of origin are:

1. Cylas Yenwong – Cameroon
2. Jude Nwatu – Nigeria
3. Misheck Mkanthama – Malawi
4. Montobaye Kimmingar (Francois) – Chad
5. Philip Okoliko – Nigeria
6. Raphael Kenneth – Malawi
7. Steven Nathaniel – Malawi

The participants had been together, during the initial formation, in the Marist International Centre (MIC), Nairobi, Kenya. The program offers them a joyful opportunity to meet again. They esteem the fraternal reunion as one of the benefits of the interregional final vows preparation program. The venue is Marist Brothers Postulancy House in Nigeria.



Let the Marist world join to pray for them, as their continuous fiat, in the Marist vocation, is a sign of generating new life and preserving Marist life.

BRASIL CENTRO-SUL

PROVINCE LAUNCHES WEBSITE TO DEEPEN THE MARIST CHARISM OF THE LAITY

During the provincial stage of the International Forum on the Lay Marist Vocation, the Province of Brasil Centro-Sul launched on June 4, in Curitiba, the Praça da Vida Marista website. The portal aims to provide lay men and women with an itinerary of deepening of the Marist charism.

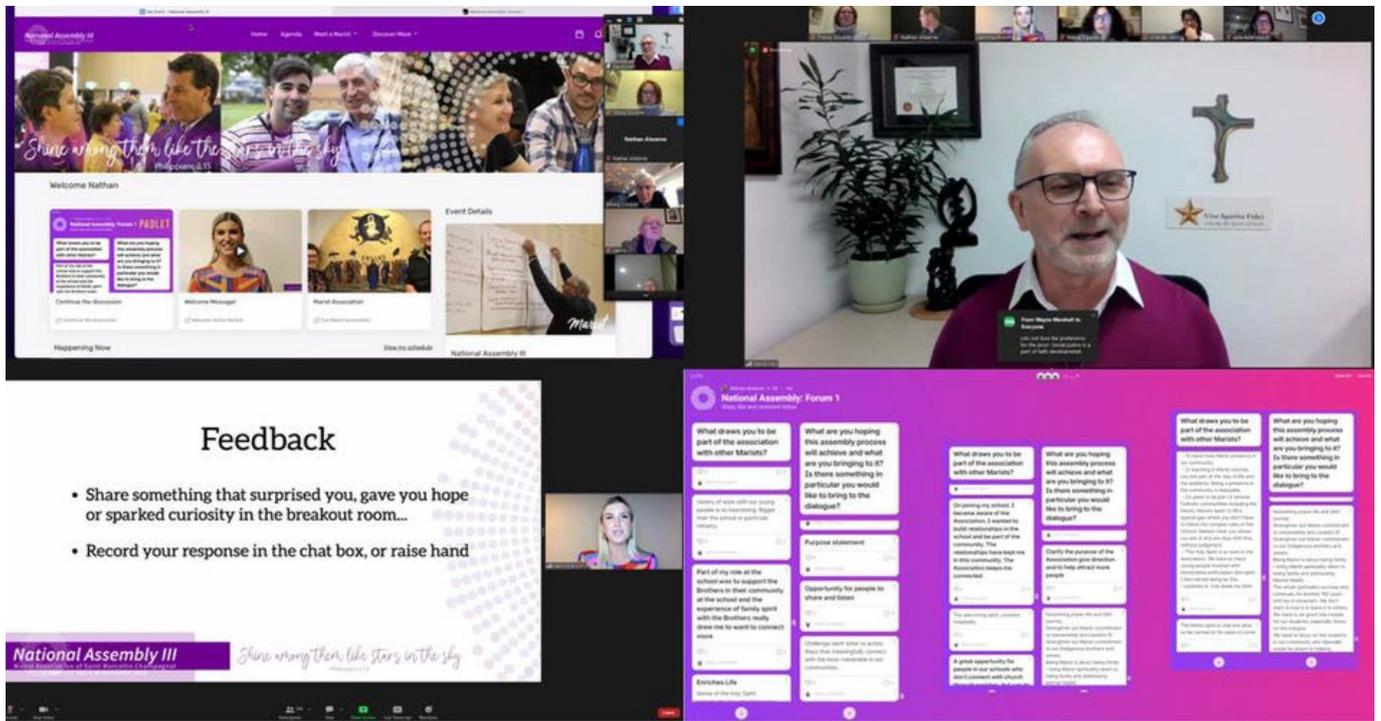
The site, that promotes information on the Marist mission, courses, training and inspiration, is an initiative open to all those who wish to contribute to the construction of a more just and humane world, especially for children and young people. It is also open to all of them who are interested in knowing better the Marists of Champagnat and what they do, even if the lay vocation has not yet awakened in them.

Watch the video of the website presentation:



AUSTRALIA

III ASSEMBLY OF THE MARIST ASSOCIATION OF ST MARCELLIN CHAMPAGNAT



The III Assembly of the Marist Association of St Marcellin Champagnat has three appointments this year. The first meeting was held on June 7, when participants joined in online from all over Australia and overseas. The second National Assembly meeting will be on 27 July, leading up to a hybrid, in-person and online third meeting in August.

The 2022 Assembly has as its theme: 'Shine among them like the stars in the sky' (Philippians 2:15).

Br Peter Carroll, Leader of the Marist Association of St Marcellin Champagnat, invited all Members to join with him in an encounter of "respectful dialogue and attentive listening" as they engage, discern and plan the future together at the National Assembly III. "We need to hear from you, we need to hear each other, we need to be able to dialogue and to plan together and that's what the assembly is all about", said on his video message.

The aim of this first Assembly Forum "Like a Family Reunion" was to encourage reflection by Members and others on their lives as Marists and on what draws them to be Marists. It was also to encourage expression of their hopes from the Assembly process, to have their stories heard and to inspire ongoing engagement with the Assembly process.

The response has been extremely positive, with much joy in connecting as Marist family and enthusiasm for all that happens as part of the Marist life. There was input from various Members, including Young Marists, and video reports from our major Marist Ministries. There was also plenty of group discussion in virtual 'break out rooms' and a wonderful visual presentation by Br Tony Leon.

People can register here to take part on the next Assembly Forum on 27 July.



IBERICA PROVINCE

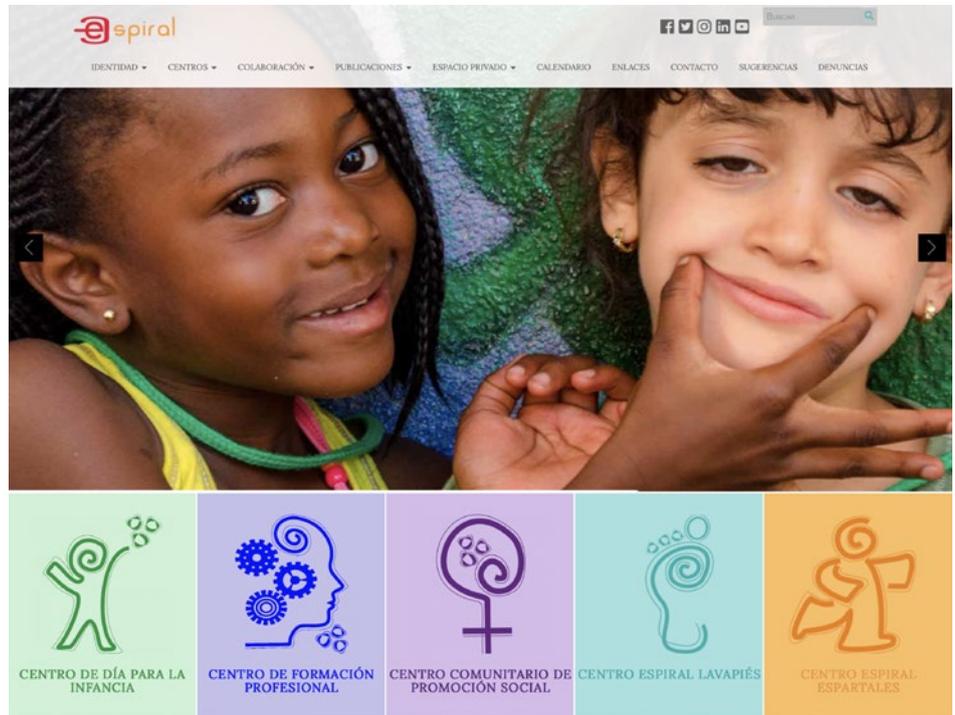
ESPIRAL IS ACCREDITED AS A NGO OF FUNDACIÓN LEALTAD

After a long and intense analysis process involving 36 indicators, **Asociación Espiral Loranca** has just become an ACCREDITED NGO of Fundación Lealtad, joining the 240 NGOs that already have this prestigious distinction. The Foundation is linked to the Marist Institute in its inspiration, educative principles and pedagogical line, as a social work of reference in the Iberian Province.

Lealtad Foundation is a non-profit institution whose mission is to foster society's trust in NGOs in order to achieve an increase in donations, as well as any other type of collaboration. It was the first entity to develop a methodology for analyzing the transparency and good management practices of Spanish NGOs. This work has been carried out since its incorporation in 2001, based on its values of independence, transparency, solidarity, and rigor.

In this way, our organization obtained the "Dona con confianza" (Donate with Confidence) seal from the Foundation, a unique distinction in Spain that identifies NGOs that fully comply with the **9 Principles of Transparency and Good Practices**, whose objective is to reinforce the confidence of donors in NGOs and contribute to the effectiveness of their donations.

For Espiral, it is a great step forward as a recognition of good



practices in management and transparency, thus improving the internal management processes of our organization thanks to the access to

tools, tutorials, guides, etc. In addition, it allows us to have the opportunity to access possible donations from private entities that trust in the seal to invest their solidarity funds and CSR activities.

[NGO profile and complete report published on the Fundación Lealtad website.](#)



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Website

<http://www.champagnat.org>

YouTube

<https://www.youtube.com/user/champagnatorg>

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