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MARIST NEWS

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GENERAL HOUSE

CHAMPAGNAT GLOBAL: MILESTONES FOR THE FIRST YEAR

Much has happened in Champagnat Global since we decided a year ago to journey together as a global Marist school family. With a collaboratively designed network model, with the participation of many Champagnat Marists coming together in so many gatherings, family bonds are strengthened.

In this first anniversary we do not intend to make an extensive memory of the activities carried out throughout this initial period, but it is good to highlight and value some of the milestones that, with the involvement of the pioneers of the network, have been achieved

and are cause for celebration.



general administration

- Last weekend, Brother Carlos Alberto, Director of the Secretariat of Education and Evangelization, met with Brother Joe McKee to organize the work of revising the document In the Footsteps of Marcellin Champagnat.
- On Monday, Brother Ernesto, Superior General, participated in a meeting with the teams of directors of the Province of Brazil Centro Norte, in Mendes.
- On Wednesday, Brothers Angel Medina and Lindley Sionosa, from the Secretariat Brothers Today, participate in the 5th Formation Meeting of the Inter-American Network of Marist Spirituality (RED IEM).
- Brothers Ken and João Carlos will finish their visit to the Province of México Occidental during these days.
- On Friday, FMSI promotes an event commemorating its 15

years of activity as an NGO. It will be attended by about 250 guests, including Brother Ernesto and his Council, along with all the collaborators and Brothers of the General Administration.

- Brothers Josep María, General Councilor, and Ángel Medina, Director of the Secretariat Brothers Today, are accompanying the three third-age groups at Notre Dame de l'Hermitage.
- Brother Luis Carlos, Vicar General, from Friday to Sunday, will participate in a meeting in Lima on servant leadership for the directors and lay Marists of Peru.
- From Friday, Br Ángel Diego, director of the Secretariat of Solidarity, will take part in the meeting of the Corazón Solidario Network, which is being held in Colombia until 25 October.



Web Champagnat Global

We now have a web portal that allows us to access information, resources, and services. A meeting point for the global Marist school community.

Map of schools

In a downloadable and interactive version, the map is a valuable tool at the service of strengthening our identity and global sense of belonging. Do you know the photo album of the Marist Global Map of Schools?

AGORÁ

It is Champagnat Global’s tool that allows you to participate in one or more groups to discuss, share and work on initiatives with other members of the Marist educational community, fostering communication, encounter, and interaction.

Newsletter

Periodically, those who have decided to register receive a newsletter with the most important news from Champagnat Global.

Open network activities

It is the space that promotes activities aimed specifically at the school community. This year it is worth highlighting the international seminar for Marist school principals, during the feast of Saint Marcellin Champagnat:

MOOC – Global Citizenship

MOOCs are massive open online courses, open to an unlimited number of participants through the internet. We at Champagnat Global are working on offering some very simple, yet important, courses that are in tune with the values we want to instil in our global community, and a Marist Global Citizenship course will be available soon!

EAST CENTRAL AFRICA

A WORKSHOP ON THE INSTITUTE’S MISSION SUSTAINABILITY PROJECT

From 26 to 30 September, in Kinshasa, Congo, a workshop on Mission Sustainability was held for the Province of East Central Africa (PACE). Ten brothers took part, including the Provincial and the Province Bursar, the Directors of Marist schools in Congo, Kenya and Tanzania, and the administrator of the Marist University of Congo. Also present at the workshop were two members of the Mission Sustainability Project team from the Province of Brasil Centro-Sul, Rony Ahlfeldt, executive director of Basic Education in the province, and Masimo Della Justina, professor at the Pontifical Catholic University of Paraná. The workshop continues a project that started in 2018 in the Province of West Africa. Its focus now is on drawing up Strategic, Leadership and Management plans for colleges and the university. Some of the topics discussed and



worked on were: Leadership – servant style, communication, delegation and feedback; Strategy – changes, scenarios, vision, innovation and strategic planning; and Management – marketing, pastoral dimension, financial operations and processes. The challenge posed to the participants

is to follow through on such planning and apply the methods proposed, especially through the exercise of servant leadership that is collaborative and innovative. For the Marist presence and mission in the countries which make up the province of PACE to be effective, ensuring economic sustainability is essential.

BRAZIL SUL-AMAZÔNIA

Last week Brother Ernesto visited the Province on the occasion of the closing of the course for Marist leaders. The Superior General visited the third age Brothers in Viamão, the young brothers in formation in Porto Alegre, and the collaborators at the provincial house. Last Saturday he took part in the meeting with all the Brothers of the Province, which was held in a hybrid format, with about 40 Brothers attending in person and more than 30 connected remotely from communities in the interior of the state of Rio Grande do Sul, the Amazon region, France and Thailand.

COMPOSTELA

From October 7 to 9, the Province held a meeting of Vocation Reception Communities in Albergaria-a-Velha, Portugal. During this meeting, Brother José Luís Carvalho renewed his vows as a Marist religious.

EAST ASIA

The Brothers of the Korea-Japan Sector held a retreat during the first week of October. Ten brothers and one priest participated. The central theme was Brother Ernesto's Circular, Homes of Light.

UNITED STATES

Young people from the USA Schools and the Marcellin Champagnat School in Canada participate in a program, the annual LaValla Weekend, where they have an opportunity to live in a Marist Community. This year's meeting focused on the call to live, as Marists, the indications suggested by Pope Francis in the Encyclical *Laudato Si'*.

BRAZIL CENTRO-NORTE

FINAL PROFESSION OF BR. JOSÉ SOTERO



Brother José Sotero, from the Province of **Brasil Centro-Norte**, made his Final Profession in the Institute on October 9, at Rosário do Catete, in the state of Sergipe. Br. José de Assis Elias de Brito received the vows on behalf of the Superior General. The celebration was also attended by the Vice Provincial, Br. Adalberto Batista Amaral, as well as by other Marist Brothers, family members and other guests.

“With this celebration of the final profession I am saying that I wish to follow Jesus Christ definitively for life. It is the surrender of my existence to the Lord through the religious profession of the vows of chastity, poverty and obedience. It is to let myself be guided by the conviction: There is great value in being a BROTHER today! It is to cultivate the certainty that I was born to be at the service of children, adolescents, and young people, after all, ‘it is for them that I consecrate myself’ (Jn 17:19)”, emphasizes Brother Sotero.

Br. José, presently superior and formator of the Marist Community of Nossa Senhora da Penha, in Vila Velha, says, moreover, that the Marist mission remains the same, however, the final profession fills with meaning the essence of the purpose of serving the Kingdom of God. “Like Mary, our Good Mother, I proclaim with joy: here I am, Lord, a Brother among brothers,” continues Brother José Sotero.

The solemnity of Final Profession, broadcast live on the **“Ser Marista” channel on YouTube**, is the result of a time of formation and discernment that Br. José Sotero has undergone since his first profession on December 8, 2014.

“As St. Oscar Romero already warned us, we are prophets of a future that is not ours. The revolution of tenderness depends on me, on you, in an enveloping embrace, a mutual presence in love. Let’s keep dreaming with our eyes open!” concludes Brother José Sotero.

DISTRICT OF THE PACIFIC

MARIST PRESENCE IN KIRIBATI

The Marist brothers started their mission in Kiribati, in the central Pacific Ocean, in 1984. However, the first Marist Brother arrived in Kiribati some years before, in the seventies, to teach as volunteer: Br Flavius Michael Donnelly, from Australia, who died in 1972. Ten years after, in June 1982, Br Gregory Ryan, New Zealand Provincial,



received an invitation from Bishop Paul Mea to get brothers to his diocese of Tarawa and Nauru and direct a post-primary institute. This invitation was accepted by the Provincial Council of New Zealand in 1983. The brothers chosen for this new ministry were two New Zealanders and a Samoan: Francis Eggleton, Camillus Aylward, and Edward Daneilson. They arrived in Tarawa at the beginning of 1984 to run the St Louis' Vocational Centre, which became St Louis High School when it was registered as a secondary school in 1986. Some years later, in the nineties, the first local brothers formed a community on the island of Marakei. Since

then, a growing number of Champagnat Marists have worked in St Louis and in the diocese. Brothers from Samoa, Fiji, Tonga, and New Zealand have been and are involved in this Marist mission.

At present, there are four Kiribati brothers who are living with one postulant and one aspirant.

The brothers have two communities in Tarawa: one is attached to St. Louis' High School in Teoraereke, and the other is a formation community in La Valla, Bikenibeu.

Marist Life and Mission in Kiribati

There are three active groups that live the Champagnat's charism:

- Kiribati Mission Stewardship Team – created in 2018 in liaison with the District Council of the Pacific, consists of five Lay Champagnat Marists and two Brothers. The purpose of the mission is that Brothers and Lay Champagnat Marists to be co-responsible for the future Marist Mission in Kiribati. Members meet monthly.
- Champagnat Youth Group – it has about 25 members ranging from University Students to Secondary school students: meet regularly: help animate other youth outreaches.
- Saint Louis High School Champagnat Marists – consists of St Louis Lay Teachers committed to deepening the Charism within the School.

As institutions, the Institute works in 3 different realities:

- St Louis High School – is a Co-educational Secondary School Forms 1 to 7: school roll – 1,200. It is Diocesan Owned, under Marist Governance. Brother Sefo Une is acting as School Commissioner.
- La Valla Spirituality and Retreat Centre – both the residence for the four Brothers and a Centre for running retreats, and various Champagnat Marist Gatherings: There are two brothers assigned to this mission.
- Champagnat Marist Preschools – there are three Preschools which we support in terms of animating the Champagnat Charism, assisting the religious Teachers' spiritual and professional development, and offering financial support from some international donations.

GENERAL HOUSE

NETWORK OF INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION ADVERTISES A WEBINAR ON UNIVERSITIES, IDENTITY AND POST-MODERNITY REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE REGION

The Marist International Network of Institutions of Higher Education has organised a webinar Universities, Identity and Post-Modernity, with Michel Maffesoli. An international expert in sociology, Michel Maffesoli is considered one of the greatest specialists in post-modernity. In studies dedicated to better understanding contemporary imagination from the viewpoint of phenomenological philosophy and comprehensive sociology, he has produced more than 30 books focused on defining post-modernity paradigms.

The event organised by the Network of Higher Education will take place on October 20th, 9am (Brasilia time). It is free of charge, on Zoom, and will have simultaneous translation into Spanish and Portuguese. Interested parties can join the webinar directly at [this link](#) (Access password: 886829 – webinar ID: 981 0270 4538).

The mediator will be Prof. Dr. Juremir Machado da Silva, coordinator of the Postgraduate Programme in Social Communication at PUCRS. During the event, there will be an opportunity to share questions and ideas with Maffesoli.

The initiative is part of a wider effort undertaken by RIMES over the last two years. “The objective of these activities is to collaborate in the training of leaders, professors and students of the Institutions of Higher Education associated with RIMES, providing quality content about relevant and contemporary themes in the field of higher education”, emphasizes João Fett, executive secretary of the Network.

Post-Modernity

Although it is not clear exactly when it started, postmodernity has been recognised since the 19th century as a way of thinking that runs counter to more classical modes linked to the logic of reason, identity and objectivity.

“The topic has great relevance for the reality of RIMES. In a



Webinar
**University,
Identity and
Postmodernity**
With Michel Maffesoli

October 20,
at 9:00 am (Brasilia time),
on Zoom Platform.

Marist International Network of
**HIGHER
EDUCATION**

time of rapid change and multiple concepts of education, of who its interlocutors are and, of what the role of the university is in this scenario, the talk of Professor Maffesoli will certainly be opportune,” underlines Marist Brother Marcelo Bonhemberger, President of RIMES and Portuguese-language representative for the Pontifical Catholic University of Rio Grande do Sul (PUCRS).

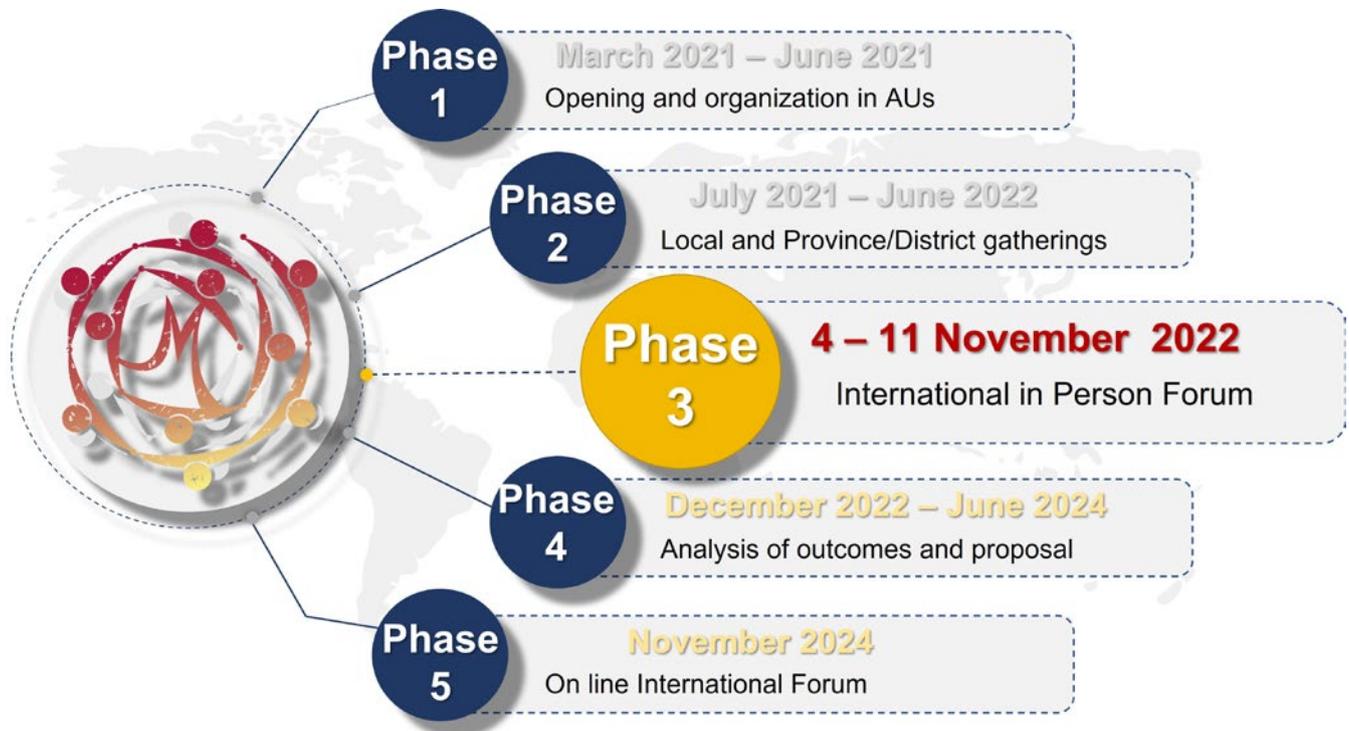
About the International Marist Network of Higher Education

The Marist International Network of Institutions of Higher Education is an umbrella group for 27 institutions at present. Taking their orientation from the General Administration of the Institute of the Marist Brothers in Rome, they seek to create connections of synergy and action in their respective works.

Founded in 2004, this network has as its objective the creation of opportunities for partnerships, formation and joint projects, strengthening our efforts in higher education in more than 10 countries. [Learn more about the Network here](#)

GENERAL HOUSE

3RD PHASE OF THE INTERNATIONAL FORUM ON THE LAY MARIST VOCATION



The International Forum on the Lay Marist Vocation is a process of dialogue and discernment to which all Administrative Units are invited and which will run over four years. Our intention is to provide answers to a series of questions being asked by lay Marists in different parts of the world.

This process of reflection and discernment has as its central

focus the vocation of the lay Marist, its formation and accompaniment, the possible ways of bonding to the charism, and reflection on the organization of the laity in associative structure (civil and/or canonical). It is a dialogue on the present of the Marist laity, the future we dream of, and the communion with the Brothers for a greater vitality of the charism.

International Forum in Rome | 4-11 November 2022

In July was conclude the second phase of the Forum, the local and Province gatherings. The third phase will take place in Rome, the Residential International Forum, with representatives from all the Administrative Unities. The meeting starts on November 4th and will end on November 11th, 2022. It will be held at the Spiritual Retreat House “Nostra Signora Madre della Misericordia”.

For that meeting, the Secretariat of Laity has set the following orientation and objectives:

Together as lay women, lay men, and brothers, around Mary and Marcellin and in harmony with the Holy Spirit, we want to...

1. To live a deep experience of the Global Christian Family in communion, co-responsibility, and spirit of discernment.
2. To become aware of the Marist laity’s current reality and plan for its future.
3. To reflect on the contributions of the Administrative Units to the four objectives of the International Forum, with emphasis on objectives 3 and 4.
4. To seek consensus on the key themes for the future of the Marist laity, based on the four objectives of the Forum, to be deepened, elaborated, and decided at the virtual Forum of 2024.
5. Suggest ways to plan and organize the next steps of the Forum for the years 2023 and 2024: teams, themes, deadlines, and methodology.

marist world

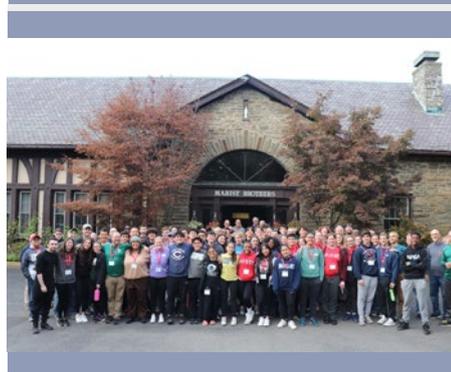
COLOMBIA: VISIT TO THE MAICAO FRATELLI PROJECT, FMS AND FSC TOGETHER



MEXICO: GENERAL COUNCILORS AND PROVINCIAL BROTHER VISIT MARIST POSTULANCY IN MORELIA, MICHOACÁN.



BRAZIL: BR. ERNESTO'S ENCOUNTER WITH THE BROTHERS OF BRASIL SUR-AMAZÔNIA



UNITED STATES: MARIST SCHOOLS FROM USA AND CANADA GATHERED TOGETHER FOR THE 10TH ANNUAL LAVALLA WEEKEND!



SYRIA: FMSI VISITING THE BLUE MARISTS OF ALEPPO



BRAZIL: MARIST SOCIAL CENTER OF PORTO ALEGRE – CESMAR

CENTRAL AMERICA

PROVINCIAL COUNCIL AND COMMISSION MEETINGS

From October 11 to 16, two Commissions and the Provincial Council met at the Provincial Residence in Guatemala to share different projects. On October 11, the Marist Life Council met with Brothers Hipólito Pérez, Juan Antonio Sandoval, Juan Carlos Bolaños, Rodrigo Cuesta and Sister María Laura Soto. Mrs Nohemy Pinto joined by video call.

On October 12, the Mission Council met with Brothers Carlos Vélez, Gerardo Munguía, Hipólito Pérez, Omar Peña, Manuel Matilla, Alejandro Cáceres, and Idalia Ramos.

On October 13, the Mission Council, the Marist Life Council, and the Provincial Council met. From the 14th to the 16th the meetings concluded with the



Provincial Council meeting, with Brothers Hipólito Pérez, Gerardo Munguía, Manuel Matilla, José Antonio Alonso, Juan Carlos Bolaños and Nicéforo Garrán.

DISTRICT OF THE PACIFIC
MARIST PRESENCE IN FIJI

There are six Marist Brothers presently residing in Fiji, living in two communities, in Vatuwaqa and Lomeri. Two of those Brothers are over 70 years of age and are still engaged in part time teaching roles. Two Brothers are at the Post Novitiate Stage and are currently committed to studies at the University of the South Pacific as well as the Pacific Regional Seminary. One Brother remains as caretaker of the former Pacific Novitiate, currently being used as a retreat and meeting venue.

Marist Life and Mission

There are three partnership groups who meet regularly in Lomeri and Suva. One of the Suva groups is a youth group.

Marist Brothers have had a presence in schools since 1888. They have taught in schools in Suva, Cawaci, Napuka, Wairiki, Naililili and Savarekarereka. The Brothers pioneered multiracial education when they opened their secondary school to all races in 1937.



There are currently five educational institutions owned by the Brothers in Suva: Marist Brothers High School, Marist Champagnat Institute (inc. Tertiary College), Marist Brothers Primary School, St Marcellin Primary School and Marcellin's Angel's Kindergarten. One Brother is a Director of a Tertiary Level Child Care Institution which offers a Diploma level course. It was originally begun by the Brothers at Marist Champagnat Institute and remains there, but is now affiliated to Corpus Christi Teachers' College. Marist Champagnat Institute is an inclusive Special needs school catering for students at Post Primary School level.

Formation sessions for staff are run as part of the schools' internal professional development program.



Institute of the Marist Brothers General House

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Website

<http://www.champagnat.org>

YouTube

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

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