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MARIST NEWS

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MARIST SOLIDARITY

JOINT STATEMENT BY FMSI AND SED ON THE FUNDRAISING CAMPAIGN FOR SYRIA

The city of Aleppo, already devastated by the war and its aftermath, suffered a terrible earthquake of magnitude 7.8 on February 6th at 04:17 local time. In Aleppo, the situation was already extremely difficult: more than a quarter of the population was displaced and many people were already living in severe economic difficulties. Many families could not afford basic necessities for their children and the elderly were forced under the circumstances to live alone. To these economic and social dramas was added the emergency caused by the earthquake that affected the population of northern Syria. Many buildings have been damaged or destroyed. The emergency situation of those who have become homeless must be addressed.

There are still many families who are homeless, in tents, waiting for their homes to be renovated or at least considered habitable. Many



children are forced to work instead of going to school. The humanitarian situation is even more serious with the situation of internatio- >>

general administration

- Last Sunday, Brothers Ben Consigli and João Carlos do Prado, General Councilors for liaison with Europe, began their visit to the Province of the Hermitage. During this week they visit the communities of Catalonia and participate in a seminar on child rights and protection.
- Since last week, the directors of the Solidarity Secretariat, Brothers Angel Diego, and Francis, have been in Geneva, Switzerland. Last week they received a group from Australia and presented the work that the Marists are doing with the UN. This week, until Thursday, they are participating in several meetings with other institutions.
- Angel Medina, director of the Brothers Today Secretariat, is in Vietnam to participate in the Colloquium on Formation organized

- by the Marist District of Asia, with the participation of the district Brothers working in formation to develop the initial formation plan for the Administrative Unit.
- On Thursday, FMSI holds a meeting to follow up on the preparation of the 2022 Social Report, with the participation of the director of the Solidarity Secretariat, Br. Angel Diego, and the team of the foundation.
- On the same day, Br. Angel Diego participated in the IEM Seminar on the Global Education Pact.
- On Saturday, April 29, the "Pathways" ongoing training program, held in Manziana, will end. 18 brothers are participating, accompanied by the Institute's ongoing formation team, formed by Brothers Xavi Barceló, Michael Sexton and Ataide de Lima.

nal sanctions. The current sanctions against Syria, introduced in 2011, are supposed to be designed not to hinder the delivery of humanitarian aid. But because of the sanctions the export of food, medicine and medical equipment remains very difficult.

The Marist world has come together to help Syria face and overcome this new emergency. To date, FMSI and SED have collected financial contributions from all over the world for a total of € 816,557, from more than 2,500 donors, both individuals and legal entities. The first funds sent have already been used by the Blue Marists of Aleppo to provide first aid to the affected population after the first consequences of the earthquake, covering the most urgent needs such as providing hot meals, hygiene and personal hygiene material, mattresses, blankets and fuel for heating.

The rest of the funds raised are being used to face the consequences in the medium and long term and try to recover normality after the catastrophe suffered. Some of the initiatives that have been launched are:

- Contribute to the payment of housing rents for 1 year to families who have lost their home
- Financial collaboration to help defray the costs of refurbishing damaged homes.
- Collaborate in macro projects of economic reactivation, which allow especially young people to start businesses.
- Contribute to strengthening psychological care with a large part of the affected population.

The network of 155 volunteers, boys and girls from Aleppo, Christians and Muslims is the beating heart of the Marist organization: a team of educators and social workers engaged in 14 projects that reach the poorest and most vulnerable areas of Aleppo. On March 2, the “I want to learn” project, an educational program for



120 children between 3 and 5 years old, resumed. In addition, the delivery of food parcels to more than 1000 families who have lost everything, the distribution of powdered milk to more than 3000 children, the home delivery of 250 hot meals for the elderly who were left alone, resilience programs to more than 500 children and young people continue to be maintained. The contribution of the Blue Marists of Aleppo is enormous.



Fondazione Marista per la Solidarietà Internazionale Onlus
FMSI
Per il Bene dei Bambini

Thank you all for your help and support.

On behalf of FMSI and SED this is an invitation to continue developing a culture of solidarity as an expression of the global charismatic family, not only in these dramatic

moments that awaken the collective conscience, but always.

As long as there is only one person who needs our help.

19 April 2023

Andrea Rossi – Director General de FMSI

Luis Naranjo Ramos – Director General de SED

PDF: [English](#) | [Español](#) | [Français](#) | [Português](#)

ITEM WEB SEMINAR

April 27, at 6:00 p.m. Europe time, the IV Webinar of the Marist Education Institute of Salamanca, which deals with the Global Education Pact, will be held. Pedro J. Huerta Nuño (General Secretary of Catholic Schools), Raquel Pérez Sanjuán (Director of the Secretariat of the Episcopal Commission for Education and Culture of the Spanish Episcopal Conference) and Juan Pedro Castellano (Director of the EDELVIVES Foundation) will participate. You can participate by following [this link](#)

MARIST SPIRITUALITY

The Inter-American Network of Marist Spirituality holds an online formation meeting on April 27th, whose theme is "fraternity". Br. Rafael Ferreira, from the Province of Brasil Centro-Norte, a member of the international community of Notre-Dame de l'Hermitage, will be in charge of the coordination. The meeting will take place at 22:00 Rome time. Para participar, consulte los detalles en [este enlace](#)

SANTA MARÍA DE LOS ANDES

Fourteen Marists of the Young Laity of the Bolivia sector officially began their formation and accompaniment as Champagnat Lay Marists on Sunday, April 23.

AMÉRICA CENTRAL

In March, an immersion experience for provincial bursars, promoted by the Office of the Bursar General, was held in El Salvador. In addition to the host province, the following provinces will participate: Santa María de los Andes, Cruz del Sur, Brasil Centro-Norte, L'Hermitage and Mediterránea.

BRASIL SUL-AMAZÔNIA PROVINCE

IT WAS RELEASED A BOOK ABOUT SCOUTING IN THE SCHOOLS OF THE PROVINCE



A book that recovers the history of the performance of the Marist Brothers in the Scout Movement of the State of Rio Grande do Sul, in the [Brasil Sul-Amazônia Province](#), was released on April 17, in Porto Alegre.

The storybook, written by Lourival Francisco dos Santos Junior, current director of the Tupã-Ci Scout Group (Colégio Marista Rosário – Porto Alegre), is entitled "Scouting in the Marist Colleges of Rio Grande do Sul: Contributions of the Marist Brothers for the development of the Scout Movement in the State", and was published by the PUCRS publishing house.

During the launch of the book, which took place in the library of the Rosário Marist College, Br. Dionísio Rodrigues, Vice Provincial, highlighted the relevance of the theme chosen for the work: "The book is, in itself, a living and present memory. The result of this intense work fills us with pride, since it makes a historical review of Scouting in Marist schools, and the preservation of memory regarding

the contribution that the Marist Brothers made to this Movement. Being aware of how significant that association was, and continues to be, in the comprehensive training of children, adolescents, and young people; not only here in Rio Grande do Sul, but all over the world, it's very powerful."

The book on the Marist mission, the fruit of over 15 years of research by the author, records important aspects of the history of 22 scout groups that worked in different cities in the state of Rio Grande do Sul, between 1925 and 2002, and it also contains biographies of the main Marist Brothers who contributed to the development of scout groups in these educational spaces.

At the event, the author of the book, together with the regional representative of the Scout Movement, handed a decoration to the province on behalf of the Scouts of Brazil. The digital version of the book can be downloaded for free from the publisher's website, [by accessing this link](#)

GENERAL HOUSE

APPOINTMENTS THAT HAVE BEEN MADE SINCE AUGUST 2022

In the letter sent a few days ago to the Provincials, District Superiors and their councils, Brother Ernesto Sánchez, Superior General, proposed the list of appointments that have been made since August 2022, which we reproduce below.



General Administration

- Br. Angel Diego García Otaola (Mediterranea), as Director of the Solidarity Secretariat, for three years, starting 1 September 2022.
- Br. Luis Daniel Herrera Meza (Mexico Central), as Secretary General, for three years, starting on 1 October 2023.
- Br. Guillermo Villarreal (Mexico Occidental), as Postulator, for three years, starting on 1 September 2023.
- Br. Juan Miguel Anaya Torres (Mediterranea), as external canonical consultant, for three years, starting on 1 September 2023.
- Br Ton Martinez (L’Hermitage), as legal representative of the various legal entities related to the General House, for three years, starting on 1 October 2023.
- Br. Niño Mayor Pizarro (East Asia), as Assistant Director of the Secretariat for Education and Evangelisation, for a three-year term, beginning 1 July 2023
- Mr. Manuel Gómez (Mediterranea), as Assistant Director of the Secretariat for the Laity, for three years, starting on 1 February 2023.
- Mr. Mark O’Farrell (Star of the Sea), as Assistant Director of the Secretariat for the Laity, for three years, from 1 January 2023.
- Ms. Sara Pilar Cos Maruri, as a member of the Communications Department team, for one year, starting in November 2022.
- Mrs. Nazarena Palmieri, as receptionist at the General House, on a permanent contract, as from 1 January 2023.
- Mrs. Flaminia Filanci, as Coordinator of Operational and Support Services for various Departments and Secretariats, on a permanent contract, as of 21 March 2023.
- Br. Ben Consigli (General Councillor), as a member of the Institute Finance Council (EAC), from 1 September 2023 to 8 September 2025,
- Mr. Giugliano Panico (Mediterránea), as technical consultant to the Institute’s Council for Economic Affairs (CAE), for 3 years, starting on 1 March 2023.
- Mr. Francisco Javier Llamas, as Executive Secretary of the

- Champagnat Global Network, effective 1 September 2023.
- Ms. Ángela Mediero, as communications officer of the Champagnat Global Network, as of 15 February 2023.
- We thank Br. Francis Lukong (West Africa), for his three years’ service as Deputy Director of the Solidarity Secretariat, ending on 31 August 2023.

Ongoing Formation Programmes

- Brs Tony Leon (Star of the Sea) and José Miguel Caballero (Norandina) to lead the Gier programme, in June 2023 and 2024.
- Ms. Rosa Schiaffino (Mediterránea), as a member of the preparation team of the formation programme for international and intercultural communities, with CMI (Lavalla 200 and others), in May and June 2023.
- Brs César Augusto Rojas Carvajal (Norandina), Michel Maminiana Razafimandimby (Madagascar) Juan Castro Leñero (Marist District of Asia), as the team that will lead the formators’ course in Manziana, from February to November 2024.

International Commissions

- International Commission for Child Protection: , for three years, starting on 1 September 2022: Br Rogerio Mateucci (Brazil Centro Sur), Br Fortune Chakasara (Southern Africa), Br Raj Kumar (South Asia), Mrs Marcela Hormazabal (Sta. María de los Andes), Mrs Nancy Camilleri (West Central Europe), Mrs Elizabeth Gallagher (Australia), and Mr Fernando Domínguez (Mediterranea), and the following Brothers of the General Council, designated by the Superior General: Kenneth Charles McDonald (Co-ordinator),

- Benjamin Lance Consigli and Oscar Martín Vicario.
- Preparatory Commission for the 3rd Marist Mission Assembly (MIMA III) to be held from 8 to 14 April 2024: Br Maurice Juvence (Madagascar), Ms Fatia Rodríguez Goncalves (Brazil Centro Norte), Br Alejandro Mena Goldáraz (Iberica), Mr Mark Elliot (Star of the Sea), Ms María del Socorro Alvarez (México Central), Br Ángel Diego García Otaola (Secretariat of Solidarity), Mr Javier Llamas (Champagnat Global Network), Br José Sánchez Bravo, (Director of Education and Evangelisation), Br Niño Mayor Pizarro (Co-Director of Education and Evangelisation), Br Warnakulasuriya Marian Madushan Sasmika (South Asia), Luis Carlos Gutiérrez (Vicar General), Benjamin Lance Consigli (General Councillor) and Kenneth Charles McDonald (General Councillor).
 - Br. Demosthenes Calabria (East Asia), as part of the International Marist Patrimony Commission, for three years, starting on 1 June 2023.
 - International Marist Mission Commission, From 1 June 2023 (some will change according to their role in the Network or in the Region: Mr Javier Llamas (Champagnat Global Network), Mr Leonardo Soares (Brazil Centro-Norte, executive secretary of the South America Region), Br Marcelo Bonhemberger (Brazil Sul-Amazonia, representative of the Network of Universities), Br Miguel Fernandes Ribeiro (Brazil Centro- Sul, representative of the Youth Ministry Network), Br Rodrigo Espinosa (Mexico Central, executive secretary of the Arco Norte Region), Br Francis Jumba (Southern Africa, Africa Region), Br. Kevin Wanden (Representative of Star of the Sea), Ms. Analía Ruggeri (Cruz del Sur, Solidarity), Br. Farancis King (South Asia, mission representative of the Asia Region). From the General Administration: Brs Luis Carlos Gutiérrez Blanco (Coordinator, Vicar General), Ben Consigli (General Council), Ken McDonald (General Council), Ángel Diego García Otaola (Solidarity Secretariat), Valdicer Fachi (Cmi), José Sánchez Bravo and Niño Pizarro (Education and Evangelisation Secretariat), Jorge Gaio (Bursar General), Gregorio Linacero (Assistant to the Bursar General and Manager of Strategic Projects) and Mr Andrea Rossi (Director of FMSI). (The appointment of the Representative of the European Region is still pending). We thank the people who have been members of this commission in previous years.
 - Work teams for the International Forum on the Lay Marist Vocation, from 1 July 2023 to 30 November 2024:
 - Lay Marist Identity: Br. Damiano Forlani (Mediterranea) Ms. Elma Rafil (East Asia) Ms. Josmari Pauzer (Brazil Centro-Sul), Ms. Ana Saborio (Central America), Mr. Marcos Broc (Brazil Sul-Amazônia).
 - Formation and Accompaniment: Br. Jaime Comabella (Iberica), Ms. Ana Gómez (Mediterranea), Mr. Pedro Martí (USA), Mr. Nathan Ahearne (Star of the Sea), Mrs. Alida Bodomanitra (Madagascar).
 - Bonding to the Marist charism: Br. Isidro Azpeleta (Santa María de los Andes), Mrs. Christine Dispa-Lenertz (West Central Europe), Ms. Ana Sarrate (Iberica), Mr. Raúl Amaya (Santa María de los Andes).
 - Civil Structures: Br. Lisardo García (Compostela), Mrs. Danai Anagnostopoulou (L'Hermitage), Mrs. Nohemy Pinto (Central America) Mr. Mark O'Farrell (Star of the Sea).
 - Canonical Structures: Br. John Bwanali (Southern Africa), Mr. Pep Buetas (L'Hermitage), Mrs. Sara Sánchez (Santa María de los Andes), Mr. Manu Gómez (Mediterranea).
 - Ad hoc Committee of the Champagnat Global Network: team is being set up and will be reported on later.
 - Executive Committee of the Solidarity Network: team is being set up and will be reported on later.

Legal Structures

- Br. Brian Poulin (USA), as a member of the “Gier International Management Board” from 2 November 2022 to 30 June 2025
- Br. Gregorio Linacero (General Administration), as a Director of the Bedford Fund, for three years, beginning 1 January 2024.
- Br. Francisco Baeza (Mexico Occidental), as a member of the Bedford Fund Board, for three years, starting on 1 January 2024.

Other appointments:

- Br. Antonio Carlos Machado Ramalho de Azevedo (Brasil Centro Norte), as Community Leader of the community of N.D. de l'Hermitage, for three years, starting on 15 July 2023. We thank Brother Maurice Berquet for his service as superior of this international community for six years.
- Br. Warnakulasuriya Michael de Waas (East Asia), becomes a member of the Marist District of Asia, for three years, starting in January 2023.
- Br. César Barba (Mexico Central), continues in the Marist District of Asia, for three years, starting on 20 August 2022.
- Br. Reál Sauvegau (District of Canada), continues in the Marist District of Asia, for three years, starting on 3 September 2022.
- Our thanks to Br. Esteban Ortega Martínez (Ibérica), for his three years of service in the inter- congregational community of the Fratelli Project in Lebanon. Br Esteban is currently a member of the Aleppo community in Syria, together with Br George Sabe. We thank him for his willingness to serve there.

BRAZIL

BURSARS FROM FIVE PROVINCES MEET IN CURITIBA FOR AN IMMERSION EXPERIENCE



During the first semester of this year, the General Bursar is promoting immersion experiences for the bursars of the Administrative Units who meet in inter-regional groups. The experience gained at these meetings will contribute to the effectiveness of the meeting of the Institute's treasurers, which will be held in France, at Notre-Dame de l'Hermitage, from October 9 to 12, 2023; organized by the General Bursar and the International Council on Economic Affairs (CIAE), with the participation of the bursars of the Administrative Units and a layperson from the commissary team or the Economic Affairs Council.

One of these regional meetings was held March 27-31 in Curitiba, with the presence of nine representatives from the Provinces of Central Mexico, Norandina, Compostela, Ibérica and Brasil Centro-Sul.

The provinces that participated in the meeting shared their economic and administrative achievements. The host Province (Brasil Centro-Sul) began with Br. Délcio Afonso Balestrin and his team. Br. Natalino de Souza, from UMBRASIL, explained the Marist presence in Brazil, which through this institution present

in the three Provinces of Brazil is consolidating itself as a great force of action in the country, seeking an evangelizing education.

The Province of Ibérica was represented by María Lucía Martínez Campo. The representatives of Central Mexico were Br. Juan Jesús Franco Hernández and Adalberto Martínez Estrada. Dioneira Abril Latriglia represented the Province of Norandina. The Province of Compostela was represented by Br. José Luis Ribeiro Pedrinho.

There was a space for in-depth group discussion and sharing, as well as a moment to share the doubts that arose during the presentations of all the Provinces throughout the program.

Brother Jorge Gaio, Bursar General of the Institute, recalls the reason for all the work carried out by the Provincial Administration teams: "Our charisma makes a difference in humanity, especially among children and young people, they are our reason for being and it is for them that we are committed. In this way, filled with purpose and significance, we carry out our work with hope". [For more details click here](#)

marist world

ITALY: ONGOING FORMATION PROGRAM "SENDEROS" IN MANZIANA



BROTHERS JOÃO CARLOS AND BEN, GENERAL COUNCILLORS, VISIT THE ANNA REVELL SCHOOL IN BARCELONA



VISIT OF THE PILGRIM LEADERS OF THE STAR OF THE SEA PROVINCE AT THE GENERAL HOUSE



CHILE: MARIST VOCATIONAL ASSEMBLY IN SANTIAGO



GHANA: KUMASI NOVITIATE



FRANCE: PROVINCIAL VOLUNTEER COORDINATORS ASSEMBLY AT THE HERMITAGE

SPAIN

TRAINING FOR TUTORS OF INFANT AND PRIMARY EDUCATION

From Monday, April 17, until Friday, April 21, a total of 25 tutors of Infant and Primary Education from four of the Marist Provinces of Europe have been working as a team, meeting at the Marist residence of Valladolid, in Spain.



During these days, the objectives were to focus on the theory and action of the educator from the Marist charism and in

relation to other educators. For all this, the participants were provided with tools for tutoring and the management of coexistence that were shown throughout the week.



UNITED STATES

MARIST BROTHERS WELCOMES TWO NEW NOVICES

The Marist United States Province celebrated on March 25 the entry of two new novices to the Marist Brothers USA Novitiate located in St. Barnabas Parish, Bronx, New York. Br. David Freiler and Br. Miguel Garcia were received during a prayer service held at the chapel on the campus of Mount Saint Michael Academy in the Bronx.

Numerous Marist Brothers participated in this reception of the Marist Brothers' habit including the Provincial, Br. Dan O'Riordan, and many other Brothers and Lay Marists from the NYC Area; family members of the new novices and brothers from around the globe watched the Zoom stream. Members of the Novitiate Community presided over the ceremony which was marked by a strong fraternal ambiance.

During the ceremony, the Master of Novices Br. Don Bisson stated "today's ceremony here at Mount St. Michael's chapel has significant symbolic meaning. It says very powerfully the American experience of Marists of Champagnat is open for new life. This moment also reminds us that the Holy Spirit continues to call men to a life in the charism of Champagnat. The ever-powerful Voice of God continues to pursue us into a response to divine initiative."

About the Novices

Br. Miguel is from San Antonio, TX. He is a new convert to the Catholic faith, which has helped him find his calling in discerning



and his true vocation as a Marist Brother. He has worked in a business career for 20 years, worked with Catholic Charities as a case manager, and studied business management. He currently volunteers at Catholic Charities working with immigrants to obtain their work licenses to work in New York. Br. Miguel is studying immigration law at Villanova University to prepare him to work in the migrant community and help them with legal matters essential to attain legal status in the United States.

Br. David was born in Brewster, NY and earned an undergraduate degree in philosophy at UNC Chapel Hill. He earned a master's degree in Business Administration from SUNY-Albany. Before discerning his call to be a Marist Brother, Br. David worked in finance for many years.



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Website

<http://www.champagnat.org>

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