



Year **XVI** - Number **781** | **24 MAY 2023**

# MARISTNEWS

MARISTS OF CHAMPAGNAT | GENERAL HOUSE | ROME | [WWW.CHAMPAGNAT.ORG](http://WWW.CHAMPAGNAT.ORG)

## MEXICO CENTRAL

### MEETING OF THE BOARD OF GIER INTERNATIONAL CORPORATION

The meeting of the board of directors of the international entity Gier International Corporation was held in Mexico City, Province of Mexico Central, from May 15 to 17. The corporate entity was registered in the State of Delaware, USA and is operated from the State of Puerto Rico.

The participants of the meeting were Br. Jorge Gaio (General Econome and president) Jorge Juárez (México Central), June Cruz (Brasil Centro-Sul), Br. Libardo Garzón (Norandina), Br. Brian Poulin (USA) and Br. Goyo Linacero (General Administration). Br. Patrick McNamara (General Administration) represented the other international entity (Fraters Maristen Internationalaal).

The work of the participants was the diagnosis of the mission realities that are at risk, the approval of the financial statements for 2022 and the work plan for 2023 and 2024.

During this meeting there was the possibility to have a videoconference with the other board members of Fraters Maristen Internationalaal. The group also took time to share with Br. Martín Rocha Pedra-



jo, Economo General of the De La Salle Brothers, about the new challenges of the canonical and civil structures in the development of the mission.



## general administration

- On Monday, Br. Pepe, director of the Secretariat for Education and Evangelization, participated in the OIEC meeting.
- This week, the directors of the Secretariat of Solidarity, Brothers Ángel Diego and Francis, are visiting MDA. On Monday and Tuesday, they visited the works and the community of Pailin, in Cambodia; and on Wednesday they visited the Marist mission in Phom Penh. Finally, from Thursday to Sunday, they will visit the communities and works of Thailand.
- On Monday and Tuesday, the directors of the Secretariat Brothers Today, Ángel Medina and Lindley, and Manu Gómez, from the Secretariat of Laity, participated in the meeting of the Marist Life Commission of the Europe Region, held in Giugliano.
- On Wednesday, brothers Óscar and Ken, General Councillors and links with the Africa Region, finished their visit to the PACE Province. This week they visited the Democratic Republic of the Congo.
- From Wednesday to Friday, Br. Ernesto participated in the Assembly of the Union of Superiors General., in Rome.
- On Thursday, the Secretariat of Laity will meet online to continue the programming of Phase IV of the International Forum

on the Lay Marist Vocation. The three directors (Raúl, Manu and Mark) and Br. João Carlos, link councillor, will participate.

■ The Project Manager of the Champagnat Global Network, Javier Llamas, presented the Marist International Network of schools on Tuesday to the directors of Marist schools in El Salvador, and on Thursday he will present it to those in Guatemala.

■ On Friday, a meeting in Malawi marks the conclusion of the New Horizons II project. Various authorities and Marists will be present. The General Administration will be represented by Br. Luis Carlos, Vicar General, Br. Pepe, director of the Secretariat for Education and Evangelization, and Andrea Rossi, director of FMSI.

■ Br. João Carlos, General Councillor, will be in Cali, Colombia, from Thursday to next Monday.

■ Brothers Tony Leon (Star of the Sea) and José Miguel Caballero (Norandina) are already in the General House to coordinate the Gier Formation Program, which begins on May 30.

■ This week, a group of 13 Marists - brothers and lay people from South Africa - stayed at the General House as part of their pilgrimage to Marist places.

### Two legal entities at the service of the global family

On 18 November, the General Council approved the constitutions and statutes of two international legal entities at the service of the Institute. With the creation of the Corporation "GIER International" and the Association "Fraters Maristen Internationaal" (Marist Brothers International) a major step has been taken from a legal point of view to help the Congregation and the Administrative Units in their various needs.

The two international entities facilitate the care and support of the Marist mission areas, particularly those that may be in greater weakness. They also help the interconnection between different civil and canonical instances of the Institute for a greater internal effectiveness and solidarity.

Its purposes also include meeting the needs of formation, solidarity, charity, integral human promotion, evangelization and education, channelling aid or receiving donations, and supporting internal and external alliances. They represent a useful mechanism for the needs of the organizations and networks of the Institute or of regional and interprovincial instances that need some type of legal coverage. GIER International Corporation operates from the United States and the Association "Fraters Maristen Internationaal" from the Netherlands. The two institutions have separate governance and management bodies with reserved powers and defined functions. The governance board of both is the General Council and the two Management Boards are composed of individuals from various Administrative Units and Regions.

## GENERAL HOUSE

# SECOND MEETING OF MARIST DEEPENING AT THE GENERAL HOUSE

Lay people and Brothers of the General Administration gathered on May 17 for the second Marist formation meeting entitled "Mary and Marcellin Among Us", led by Brothers Ángel Medina and Lindley Sionosa, directors of the Brothers Today Secretariat.

This second workshop is part of the five Marist Deepening Encounters, organized by a team led by Br. Luis Daniel Herrera Meza, Secretary General, which have the following objectives:

- To promote a better team relationship, between brothers and laity, in the General House.
- Continue the process of ongoing formation by promoting adherence to the charism of St. Marcellin.
- To make known the work of the Secretariats and Departments of the General House, and to make the mission more effective.
- To take advantage of the work the collaborators do on a daily basis to exchange activities and points of view.
- To continue to deepen the understanding of the lay Marist vocation and the response of each person to his or her own Marist vocation.

The first meeting was held on March 29, in charge of the Postulator General, Brother Guillermo Villarreal, and the Director of the General Archives, Dorotea Cinanni. Both speakers spoke about their work at the General House.

During the second meeting, guided by Brothers Ángel and



Lindley, the brothers and laity, motivated by the song "Ruah", discovered the work carried out by the Secretariat. Br. Angel emphasized that the mission of the Secretariat Brothers Today is "to live and promote the new way of being a Marist Brother" and showed the actions and work they are doing to achieve their objective.

A second part of the meeting was marked by a visit to some areas of the General House, highlighting visible signs of the presence of Mary and Marcellin among the people who frequent the Institute's headquarters.

Three other meetings will follow, with the following dates and themes: "Global Marist Family" on September 6; "Marist Mission in the World" on October 18; and "Law and Protection of Minors" on November 22.

[Photos in FB](#)

## IBÉRICA

A few weeks ago, the second meeting of the Marist Christian Communities of Reference was held. In the Province there are three communities (Sarriguren, Alcalá, Chamberí) formed by a group of Marists (Brothers and lay people) who are constituted as a recognized community, whose mission is to present the charism of Champagnat in the educational work.

## SANTA MARÍA DE LOS ANDES

With the participation of 51 registered tutors, began on May 18 the first version of the Training Diploma for Marist tutors of the Educator Training School in Chile.

## CRUZ DEL SUR

14 educational centers from Uruguay and Argentina participated together in the second evangelization meeting "Al mismo compás", held from 12 to 14. Through this event that promotes exchange, the province seeks to synchronize the processes of Youth Ministry and the training of animators of each educational center.

## MÉXICO OCCIDENTAL

The Meeting of the Responsables of the Psychopedagogical Department of the Marist institutions in the province took place from May 11 to 13, with the purpose of creating a space to share successful experiences and guide the works towards an integrated and common vision according to the formative principles of our Mission. More than 50 people from all educational levels participated in this meeting.

## BOLIVIA

FIRST PROFESSION OF  
BR. LEANDRO FRÍAS ORTIZ

On May 14, the Marists of the Bolivia sector, Province of Santa María de Los Andes, celebrated the first religious profession as a Marist Brother of Leandro Frías Ortiz. The vows were received by Br. Pablo González Franco, provincial. The Eucharist was presided over by Bishop Nicolás Castellanos. During the celebration, Br. Leandro made a commitment to become a Marist Brother and received the Marist Cross and the Constitutions from the hands of Br. Pablo.

Brother Leandro was accompanied by all his family, friends, Brothers and some lay people from the Marist community of Bolivia.

Br. Leandro is a former Marist student of San José de Chiquitos, with a degree in business administration from the ITP of Cochabamba. He has also been a catechist for several years.

On the Facebook page of the Marists of Bolivia you can find photos and a video of the celebration.

## YEAR OF MARIST VOCATIONS: CLOSURE AND CONTINUITY

The Brothers Today Secretariat published a guide and other resources for the "closure and continuity", on June 6, of the Year of Marist Vocations. The resources consist of a guide for the "closure and continuity", a proposal for nine days of prayer and reflection leading to the feast of St. Marcellin Champagnat (28 may – 05 june 2023) and a celebration for June 6, the feast of the founder of the Marist Institute. [View here all resources.](#)



*caring for and generating*  
**MARIST LIFE**  
YEAR OF MARIST VOCATIONS  
20 MAY 2022 - 06 JUNE 2023



## AMÉRICA SUR AND ARCO NORTE

## CORAZÓN SOLIDARIO NETWORK: SOLIDARITY AND DEFENSE OF RIGHTS



On May 15, the Corazón Solidario Network promoted an online meeting for the presentation of its strategic plan. Representatives of the teams and institutions that promote Marist solidarity in 21 countries of the three Americas participated. At the beginning of the meeting, Brother Luis Carlos Gutiérrez, Vicar General, motivated the mission of the Network, inviting everyone to persevere in the dream of St. Marcellin Champagnat. Brothers Ángel Diego and Francis Lukong, directors of the Secretariat of Solidarity, and Andrea Rossi, director of FMSI, also attended the meeting, representing the General Administration.

The Corazón Solidario Network encourages dialogue on the animation and strengthening of missionary processes, transforming Marist solidarity with a focus on rights, in a perspective of synergistic work from the territories. The Network, which connects the América Sur and the Arco Norte Regions, has lines of action of the strategic plan and thematic axes that strengthen the mapping of realities, the integral care of life, the policies of protection of children and adolescents, inclusion and the Sustainable Development Goals throughout the continent. It is the Marist mission that is increasingly connected, taking significant steps in the construction of a global family.

## 15 YEARS OF MARIST NEWS

The last issue of Marist News, 781, marked 15 years of life for the newsletter. It was launched on May 20, 2008 ([https://champagnat.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/07/noticias\\_maristas-001\\_EN.pdf](https://champagnat.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/07/noticias_maristas-001_EN.pdf)), bringing together in a single digital publication two others that were intended separately for the brothers (Marist Bulletin) and for lay people (Update).

Published weekly, the bulletin summarizes the news that appears on [champagnat.org](http://champagnat.org), as well as informing about the activities of the General Council and collaborators of the General Administration. It is distributed in 4 languages, directly to about 4,000 people. It is available in an e-mail version, summarized, and in a full PDF version.

Marist News represents an important collection for Marist history. All issues are available on the Institute's website.

If you do not yet receive the newsletter, you can subscribe to the mailing list using [this link](#)



## marist world

UNITED STATES: VOCATIONAL MINISTRY WITH STUDENTS FROM TEXAS



BRAZIL: LAVALLA200&gt; TABATINGA



AUSTRALIA: MARIST ASSOCIATION MEMBERS IN BRISBANE



CHILE: COLEGIO MARISTA DE RANCAGUA



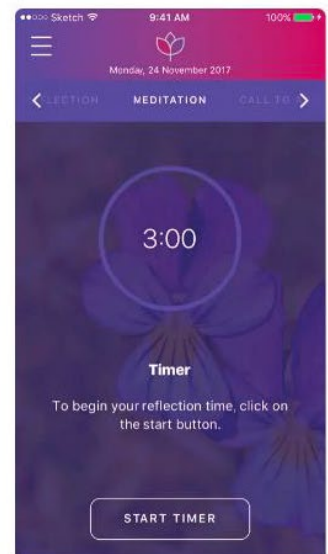
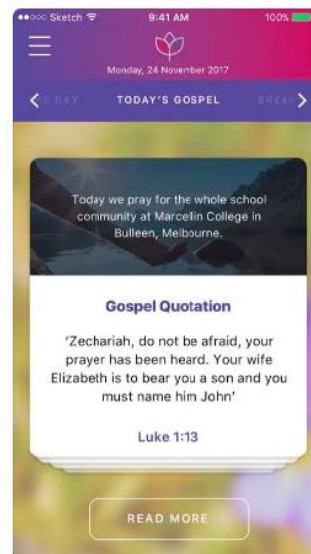
KENYA: MISSION COMMISSION OF AFRICA – MEETING IN NAIROBI



DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO:: LAYPEOPLE AND BROTHERS IN KINSHASA

## AUSTRALIA

## MARIST DAILY PRAYER APP



The Marists of Australia have a 'prayer app', in English, that anybody can access. The app was created by the Marist Association of Saint Marcellin Champagnat. It can be found in the App Store and Google Play by entering Marist Daily Prayer.

The application has a good selection of reflective materials using scripture and Marist documents. It leads you through a short 10-minute prayer for each day of the year. Please encourage other Marists to consider using it. The app can also be [found online here](#)



## MÉXICO OCCIDENTAL

## FIRST COURSE OF "MARISTIZACIÓN" FOR LAY PEOPLE

**M**ore than 50 lay Marists from the Province of México Occidental participated in the Course "Maristization" (Becoming Marist), which took place from April 21 to 23, at the facilities of Spacio La Valla, in the city of Guadalajara, organized by the team of the "Lay Vocational Animation" area.

The training which is the first of the two stages that make up the Maristization Course had the objective of training all the laity (work collaborators, personnel from the province's facilities, members of the MCFM, alumni, among others) interested in living a process of reflection and discernment of the call to follow Jesus in the style of Mary, according to the charism of Champagnat.

In his opening message, the Provincial of México Occidental, Br. Luis Enrique Rodríguez Santana, encouraged all attendees to let themselves be moved by the Spirit, and to continue caring for and generating Marist life, all of this in tune with the Year of Marist Vocations.

For his part, Br. Fernando L. Alberto López Hernández, head of the Nucleus of Marist Charism and Life, and provincial counselor, recalled the importance of participating in the "Maristización" Course, not from the role of collaborator of any of the Marist works and to enrich their work but from a personal decision to discern the response that we can give to the call that God makes us to be full and happy.



The area of Lay Marist Vocation in charge of Br. Eduardo Bron- do, Abigail Ruiz, Mónica León and Alfredo Rodríguez, seeks to guide all those who want to know more about the life, work and spirituality that God gives us through Saint Marcellin Champagnat; and they want to join the Marist Institute in a more formal way.

During this first course, the path of reflection began around the axes of Jesus, Mary, Champagnat and the person.

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