



Year **XVI** - Number **808** | **22 NOVEMBER 2023**

MARIST NEWS

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

EAST ASIA PROVINCE

80 YOUTHS TAKE PART IN MARIST LEADERSHIP FORMATION

To nurture Marist youth leadership, the Marist Youth Ministry (MYM) from the East Asia Province hosted a Marist Youth Leaders Formation Program from November 10 to 12, at the Marist Asia Spirituality and Mission Center, in Lake Sebu, South Cotabato, Philippines.

Around 80 young leaders from Marist Notre Dame schools like Marist School Marikina, Notre Dame of Dadiangas University, Notre Dame of Marbel University, Notre Dame of Jolo High



general administration

■ The canonical and pastoral visits of the general councilors to the provinces are continuing. From November 17 to December 22, Brother Óscar Martín Vicario will be in Brasil Sul-Amazônia. From November 19 to 22, brothers Josep Maria Soterias and Ben Consigli visited the Marist community of Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea. On November 25 and 26, the two brothers will visit the Marist community and works in Lismore and Queensland, Australia.

■ On November 20, Br. Ernesto Sanchez, Superior General, met at the General House with the participants of the formation program for those accompanying older brothers.

■ Ángel Diego García Otaola, director of the Secretariat of Solidarity, attended the event «Right to be Children - Derecho a ser Niños», organized by FMSI and the Secretariat of Solidarity. Br. Ernesto Sanchez, Br. Ken McDonald, FMSI President, and Andrea Rossi, FMSI Director, also participated.

■ From November 20 to 22, Br. Goyo Linacero participated in the Meeting of the Boards of Directors of the Marist International Entities, held in Bogota. And from November 23 to 24, Br. Goyo and Br. Jorge Gaio visited the General Economat of Norandina, in Colombia.

■ From November 20 to 23, the Secretariat of the Laity met in person in Chile. Mark O'Farrell, Manu Gómez, Ana Saborío, Raúl Amaya and Br. João Carlos do Prado participated. The Secretariat meeting evaluated the state of the laity in the regions and Administrative Units, and the 2024 and 2025 calendar. On the other hand, the Secretariat of the Laity and the Extended

Secretariat of the Laity met virtually, on November 21, with the International Forum Team to evaluate the progress and plan the following steps.

■ From November 20 to 24, Br. José Sánchez, Director of the Secretariat for Education and Evangelization, and Francisco Javier Llamas, Executive Secretary of the Marist Network of Schools are participating in the African Mission Commission in Nairobi.

■ From November 21-27, Br. Angel Diego is in New York to meet with Br. Dan O'Riordan, Provincial of the United States, and to meet with Samuel King, Provincial Ecology Officer. He will also visit the United Nations and the Marist Brother Centre in Essopus.

■ On November 22 the Secretariat of Brothers Today facilitated the online gathering of the African Formation Commission.

■ From November 22 to 24, Br. Ernesto Sanchez participated in the General Assembly of the Union of Superiors General, and the International Union of Superiors General, at the "Fraterna Domus", Rome. On November 25, the Superior General will meet with the Marists of Champagnat of Italy, at San Leone Magno (Rome), to share about the Synod. On the same day, Br. Ernesto Sanchez will participate in the meeting "Tutti Fratelli", to give a lecture regarding the Synod.

■ On November 24, Br. Valdicer Fachi, Director of CMI, and Br. Oscar Martin Vicario, General Councilor, participated virtually in the Fratelli Council Meeting.

School – Kasulutan, Notre Dame of Cotabato, and Notre Dame of Kidapawan College took part in this 2-day program.

The Marist Youth Leadership Formation Program (MYLFP) 2023, covered topics like “Deepening Marist Leadership,” “Developing Community Spirit,” “Humanizing Marist Leaders,” among others.

Br. Allan De Castro, Provincial of the East Asia Province, stressed that MYLFP isn’t just an opportunity; it’s a vital mission that empowers Marist leaders to make a difference in their communities. “As you leave this event, carry the global mission inspired by Champagnat, and we believe in your ability to address various issues and provide unity as one Marist family, as our identity,” he added the Provincial.

Dr. Wilter C. Friales, the representative of East Asia Province in the Adhoc Committee of the Marist Youth Ministry (MYM), emphasized the program’s goal of creating connections and space for Marist leaders in the Philippines, aligned with Marcellin Champagnat’s ideals. “We are Marists not just because of our school, but because of our Marist identity,” Friales said during the General Orientation.

Br. De Castro considered the Marist Youth Leadership Formation Program (MYLFP) 2023, “mark of identity as Marist family”.

The MYLFP serves as a Marist Youth Program that unites leaders from different Marist Schools, fostering interaction and learning as one Marist family.

GENERAL HOUSE

THE CHAMPAGNAT GLOBAL RUN IS ALREADY UNDERWAY

Support and global networking go hand in hand in this project, presented last Global Week, whose objective is to establish contacts between Marist schools around the world. The first to start was Chamberí (Madrid) which decided to begin with a nearby goal: the school San José del Parque. What they didn’t know at the time was that they would be the second school in Spain to take part in this initiative: La Merced – Fuensanta (Murcia).



Once the two schools had established contact, they decided to go together to their next destination: Malaga.

On the other side of the Atlantic, they have also buckled their trainers and are already travelling kilometres, in this case, between countries.

On the one hand, the Hidalgo school in Cocula (Mexico) has a clear objective: Christopher Columbus (Miami – United States) and this is reflected in the launch video of their first target school.

Santiago González, director of Hidalgo de Cocula, already has his next destination clear and although it is still a secret, we

can say that from this great little secondary school they are going to cross the pond with one objective: to raise awareness of the importance of learning languages among their students. These three schools have already started to run kilometres, but three others are already organising the start of the Global Run. This is the case of Maristes Anna Ravell (Barcelona), Instituto Queretano San Javier (Mexico) and ICFP Diocese Baucau (Timor).

Do you want to take part in this initiative? We leave you all the information and details about Global Run as well as the steps to register.

KENYA

TREE PLANTING 'SPECIAL HOLIDAY'

On Monday, November 13, 2023, the Kenyans nationwide observed a "special holiday" to plant trees to support their country's land restoration efforts. Their target is to nurture a sustainable and greener future while addressing pressing environmental challenges. By this initiative, they hope to contribute to climate change mitigation efforts, promote sustainable development, conserve the environment and biodiversity, and encourage community participation and awareness.

The 'special holiday' tree planting initiative in Kenya is a powerful and simple way of saying that trees are important. Of course, trees, as we know, play a crucial role of purifying the air, providing habitats and food sources for numerous species of birds, insects, and other wildlife, improving air quality as well as easing the urban heat island effect. They equally restore ecosystems and promote biodiversity conservation, prevent soil erosion by anchoring the soil with their roots, absorbing excess rainwater, reducing runoff, and contributing to nutrient cycling and soil fertility. Also, trees around buildings and urban areas also provide shade, reduce the need for air conditioning and thus conserving energy. Trees help regulate and improve water cycles and quality by absorbing and storing water in their roots and decreasing the risk of floods by filtering pollutants and reducing sedimentation in water bodies. Moreover, they enhance the visual appeal of landscapes, promote psychological well-being, create a sense of tranquility, and reduce noise pollution by acting as sound barriers. To say the least, trees provide timber and other wood products to contribute to our overall economic and social well-being.

By declaring a 'special holiday' to plant trees, the Kenya government sets an example for other countries emphasizing the need for collective action, government involvement, and environmental stewardship to address and lessen the challenges posed by climate change and environmental degradation. This initiative highlights environmental consciousness and the



significance of taking care of our Planet (our Common Home). It equally demonstrates the role of the government in spearheading environmental initiatives and taking responsibility for the well-being of the country's natural resources. Hence, such an initiative provides an opportunity for individuals, communities, and organizations to actively participate in tree planting thus fostering a sense of collective responsibility and encouraging citizen engagement in environmental initiatives.

Moreover, it also serves to educate and raise awareness about the benefits of trees, and their contribution to sustainable development besides encouraging communities to come together to reinforce social cohesion and provide an opportunity for shared experiences and a sense of pride in making a positive impact on the environment. November 13, 2023, tree planting campaign in Kenya is a concrete response to Pope Francis' call in "Laudato Si'" exhorting everyone including communities and governments to take actions to address environmental concerns by caring for the Earth, our Common Home. This initiative showcases a proactive approach to environmental conservation sustainable practices, community engagement, and climate change mitigation. Specifically, it encourages other initiatives such as environmental, energy, water and wildlife conservations, clean-up campaigns, use of renewable energy sources, protection of natural habitats, advocacy and environmental education, and sustainable transportation.

Brother Francis Lukong
November 13, 2023
Nairobi, Kenya

FMSI

RIGHT TO BE CHILDREN

This year, on the occasion of the International Day of Children's Rights and Adolescence, celebrated every November 20th, the Marist Foundation for International Solidarity ETS (FMSI), in collaboration with the Solidarity Secretariat of the Marist Brothers Institute, has organized the event "Right to be Children – Derecho de ser Niños."

The event represents a unique opportunity to share knowledge and experiences, as well as to reflect on recommendations and next steps to be taken as a Marist Family, in order to ensure that every boy and girl can enjoy their fundamental rights. FMSI and the Institute's Solidarity Secretariat are determined to contribute to the creation of a world where the rights of children are respected, protected, and guaranteed. The event, focused on children's rights, aims to shed light on the challenges and difficulties facing young people around the world, actively promoting their rights and safety. Fr. Ernesto Sánchez Barba, the Superior General of the Marist Brothers, along with Fr. Ken McDonald, President of FMSI and General Councillor of the Institute, will welcome participants and emphasize the importance of global support and commitment to protecting the rights of children.

The program includes a presentation by Br. Fortune Chakasara from the Southern Africa Province, who will illustrate the importance of acting for children's rights in Africa. Br. Fortune has proven experience in designing, organizing, and implementing seminars on child protection throughout the Marist African Region. With over a decade of experience in the field of children's rights, protection, and safeguarding, he is a respected member of the Marist Brothers International Commission for the Protection of Minors and Sexual Abuse, an advisory body of the Marist Brothers Institute. His training includes a Postgraduate Diploma in Child Safeguarding from the Pontifical Gregorian University in Rome, as well as certificates in Child Rights and Protection and Child Rights in Africa. He has recently completed a Master of Advanced Studies in Child Rights (MCR) at the University of Geneva. Br. Fortune's testimony will provide an opportunity to understand the unique challenges facing children in this region and the importance of targeted initiatives to improve their living conditions.



Internationally, the presence of Maria D'Onofrio, Secretary General of CCIG (Centre catholique international de Genève), will illustrate the rights of every boy and girl according to the definitions and conventions of the United Nations in an international context, offering a clear view of the importance of International Cooperation in promoting and protecting the rights of children globally.

A significant moment will be the awarding of the "A Better World for Children" prize, with the intervention of Alessandra Aula, Secretary General of BICE (Bureau International Catholique de l'Enfance). The award not only celebrates positive initiatives for children but also serves as a call to continuous action to ensure the well-being of the youngest.

The goal of the event is to share knowledge and experiences, reflecting on future actions within the Marist Family to ensure that every boy and girl can fully enjoy their fundamental rights. The focus on Africa, international collaboration, and the recognition and valorization of positive initiatives are all key elements that will characterize the event. The event by the Marist Foundation for International Solidarity ETS and the Solidarity Secretariat represents a significant step toward creating awareness to undertake an increasing number of concrete actions to ensure that children's rights are respected worldwide. The participation, diversity of topics addressed, and declared commitment to the protection of children's rights highlight the importance of collective initiatives to create a future where every boy and girl can grow up in a safe environment that respects their fundamental rights.

marist world

CHILE: MEETING OF THE SECRETARIAT OF THE LAITY



TAILANDIA: FIRST VISIT OF THE CARDINAL OF BANGKOK TO THE NEW MARIST LEARNING CENTER



KENYA: AFRICAN MISSION COMMISSION IN NAIROBI



MADAGASCAR: POSTULANCY OPENING IN AMPAHIDRANO FIANARANTSOA



SPAIN: PARTICIPANTS OF THE MARIST LIFE ITINERARY OF COMPOSTELA



MEXICO: XII SYMPOSIUM OF RESEARCH: MEDICAL GENETICS, UNIVERSIDAD MARISTA DE MERIDA.

OTHER MARIST VOICES 17 AND 18

THOUGHTS ON MARIST LEADERSHIP / LEADER AND PROPHET

The publication of “Other Marist Voices” continues, messages inspired by the book “Marist Voices” related to the development of servant and prophetic leadership in the Marist mission.

Other Marist Voices 17 was written by Br. Juan Sebastián Herrera Salazar, professor, dedicated to Educational and youth ministry, from the Province of Norandina – Ecuador, who addresses the theme “Hope in fragility: Thoughts on Marist leadership” (English | Español | Français | Português) – Video. The message refers to chapter 19 of Marist Voices (Marist Style of Prophetic and Servant Leadership: Some Exemplars in Our Tradition), written by Br. Michael Green.

Other Marist Voices 18 was written by Rodrigo Rivas, Administrator and Marist volunteer, from the Province of Cruz del



Sur – Uruguay, who addresses the theme “Leader, Historian, Analyst and Prophet” (English | Español | Français | Português) – Video. The message refers to chapter 9 of Marist Voices (Sentinels of the Dawn Foresee: The Prophetic Imagination), written by Br. Emili Turú.



BRASIL CENTRO SUR

Brothers Rafael Fernandes and José Aderlan are taking part in the 5th National Missionary Congress in Manaus from November 10 to 15, con el tema « From the local church to the ends of the earth” and with the motto “Hearts on fire, feet on the move”.

COMPOSTELLA

From November 10 to 12, the “Etapa Elegir” of the “Marist Life Itinerary” began in the Province of Compostela”. 32 laypeople who are in the final phase of their journey participated in this first module. At the end of this year, each person will be able - in dialogue with the Marist Life Team and the Provincial Council - to make his or her link to the Marist charism in the Province.

MEDITERRÁNEA

26 Marist educators concluded the first presential meeting of the formation “Marist leadership for the mission”, a journey that will last 3 years. During the training, held at the Casa de Xaudaró in Madrid, the participants studied Marist leadership, happiness in service, vocation, spirituality and strategic thinking.

MADAGASCAR

On November 11, the opening of the Ampahidrano Fianarantsoa postulancy was held in Madagascar. Nine postulants are in the first year and seven in the second year. The provincial, Br. Alphonse Tiamaro, was present at the event.

BRAZIL

THE VICAR GENERAL OF THE MARIST INSTITUTE PARTICIPATES IN A CONFERENCE FOR LEADERS OF BRAZIL SUL-AMAZÔNIA



Brother Luis Carlos Gutiérrez, Vicar General of the Marist Institute, participated on November 10 in a conference for the leaders of all the missionary fronts of the Brasil Sul-Amazônia province. The meeting, with the theme “Audacity and hope in the exercise of Marist leadership” was held at the Pontifical Catholic University of Rio Grande do Sul (PUCRS), and had the participation of the Marist Brothers, leaders of Schools, Social Units, São Lucas Hospital, members of the PUCRS, and Corporate and Canonical Instances of the Brasil Sul-Amazônia Province.

During the opening of the event, Br. Deivis Fischer, Provincial and president of the Marist Network (Province of Brazil Sul-Amazônia), reinforced the importance of the theme of “servant leadership” for action in all Marist spaces. For the provincial, the visit of Brother Luis Carlos, who spreads the message about the role of leadership on the fronts of mission, is a way of expressing the closeness of the Marist Institute with all

the Marist Provinces of the world. “Unity with the Marist Institute reinforces our feeling of brotherhood and fraternity,” said Br. Fischer.

In his presentation, Br. Luis Carlos spoke about the primary aspects of Marist leaders. By emphasizing that the training of leaders is one of the strategic options of the Institute, Br. Luis Carlos referred to the work Marist Voices: essays on prophetic and servant leadership (2022), which includes 22 articles on topics such as: the vision of the leader, characteristics of prophetic and servant leadership, skills, paths and foundations and perspectives of leadership formation.

“The leader must be that person capable of working on both aspects: audacity and hope,” said the Vicar General, and highlighted that the leader’s greatest commitment must be the development of independent people, who fight for a different future without losing hope, even in times of adversity.

SPAIN

THE EUROPE REGION ADVANCES IN ISSUES RELATED TO THE MARIST MISSION

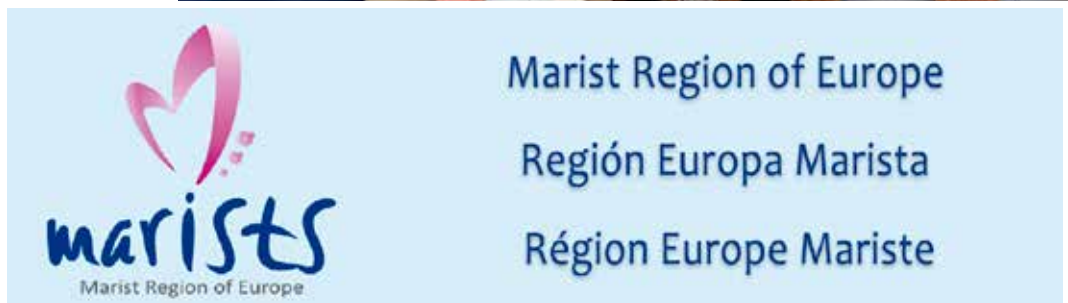
The director of the Secretariat of Education and Evangelization, Br. José Sánchez, met with the Secretary of Mission of the Marist Region of Europe (MRE), José Antonio Rosa, on November 7, at the Marist house of Xaudaró (Madrid).

During the meeting, both shared about the responsibilities and fields that encompass all the work related to the initiatives of the MRE, as well as the lines of work promoted by the Secretariat of Education and Evangelization: Marist Global Network of Schools, Youth Ministry and Higher Education Institutions, as well as the upcoming 3rd Marist International Mission Assembly (MIMA III).

Brother José and Mr. José Antonio also discussed the evaluation of the Marist Youth Gathering in Carcavelos (INTO THE DEEP) and the World Youth Day in Lisbon, Portugal.

Likewise, they discussed how to advance the care of children and young people through pastoral action in Europe, anticipating the moments that will be experienced in the next two years.

Likewise, they discussed how to advance the care of children



and young people through pastoral action in Europe, forecasting the moments that the RME will experience in the next two years. They also shared about the new Marist Observatory that will be created in Europe together with the Institute of Marist Studies of the Pontifical University of Salamanca.




Institute of the Marist Brothers General House

Piazzale Marcellino Champagnat, 2 - Rome, Italy - comunica@fms.it


Website

<http://www.champagnat.org>

YouTube

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

Facebook

 <https://www.facebook.com/fmschampagnat>

Twitter

 https://twitter.com/fms_champagnat