



Year **XVI** - Number **836** | 22 MAY 2024

MARIST NEWS

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

NOTRE-DAME DE L'HERMITAGE

OPENING OF L'HERMITAGE'S BICENTENARY YEAR

On the morning of Sunday, May 19, the 11 a.m. Mass in the main chapel of Notre-Dame de l'Hermitage was a very special moment. As well as celebrating the Solemnity of Pentecost, the Mass marked the opening of the Bicentenary Year of the Institute's motherhouse. It was around this day in 1824 that Marcellin Champagnat and the first brothers began building this house, which is so significant for the whole Institute. Bishop Sylvain Bataille of



general administration

- Brothers Óscar and Ken, General Councillors, are continuing their pastoral visit to the Southern Africa Province. They are currently visiting the marist institutions in Mozambique and, from Thursday, they will be in South Africa.
- The visit of Brothers João Carlos and Ben, General Councillors, to the Province of Méditerranée continues until the end of this month. Until Friday they will visit the works and communities in Spain and from Saturday they will begin their visit to the Marist communities in Italy.
- Brothers Sylvain and Josep Maria, General Councillors link with the Region of Asia, after taking part in the celebrations of 50 years of Marist Presence in India, continue the pastoral visit to the Province of South Asia. Monday and Tuesday, they visited Sri Lanka and from Wednesday till next Monday they will visit the marist communities in Pakistan.
- On Monday there was an online meeting with those responsible for Education in the Administrative Units, which was attended by Brothers José Sánchez and Niño Mayor, directors of the Secretariat of Education and Evangelization, and Javier Llamas, Executive Secretary of Champagnat Global.

- Brother Ernesto Sánchez, Superior General, is taking part in the 101st Assembly of the Union of Superiors General in Assisi from Tuesday to Friday. The meeting celebrates the USG's 100th anniversary.
- On Wednesday, the three secretaries of the Lay Secretariat, Manu Gómez, Ana Saborío and Mark O'Farrell, met online. On the same day, the director, Manu, met with the laity team of the Province of Brasil Sul-Amazônia.
- During this week, the FMSI is involved in various initiatives. On Tuesday, at the General House, there was a meeting with Mary O'Connell, funding manager of Misesan Cara. On Wednesday, the third module of the training program for Latin American participants was held and there was a meeting with the Good Shepherd institution. Finally, the director, Andrea Rossi, takes part in the meeting of the Mission Council and other teams of the Marist Region of Europe.
- On Thursday and Friday, Brother Luis Carlos Gutiérrez, Vicar General, will take part in the meeting with the school principals of the Province of Brasil Centro-Norte, in Salvador.

Saint-Étienne presided at the Eucharist. Fathers Georges Richard (Marist Father of La Neylière), Gilbert Thollet (parish priest of Saint Chamond) and Gabriel Perret (chaplain of the house) concelebrated, assisted by Deacon Pierre Ganzhorn. At the beginning of the celebration, Brother Antonio Ramalho, superior of the community, read a message sent for the occasion by Brother Ernesto Sánchez, superior general ([Español](#) | [Français](#) | [Português](#)).

“I believe that during these months of



celebration of the bicentenary, we can reflect and act in such a way as to be capable, as Marists of Champagnat, brothers and lay Marists, of continuing to give life to and spread the gift of the Marist charism that we have received,” said Brother Ernesto.

The ‘Bicentenary Year’ will conclude in August 2025, when the 200th anniversary of the official blessing of the house’s first chapel will be celebrated. Various events will take place throughout the year.

BRAZIL

MARIST SOLIDARITY IN SUPPORT OF THE RESIDENTS OF RIO GRANDE DO SUL AFFECTED BY THE FLOODS

Message from Br. Deivis, Provincial – 16 May (Portuguese)

In the past few weeks, the state of Rio Grande do Sul, in the southern region of Brazil, territory of the [Brasil Sul-Amazônia Province](#), has been severely affected by floods. “More than 140 people have lost their lives, dozens more are missing, and approximately 600,000 people have had to evacuate their homes. As the water recedes, the damages caused by the flood become even more evident. Despite at least 10 educational units being affected, Marist structures are providing shelter and assistance to families affected by the rains, accommodating over 500 displaced individuals, receiving donations, and counting on the support of 5,000 registered volunteers (For details, in Portuguese, [click here](#))

To be more effective in solidarity aid and reconstruction, the Province of Brasil Sul-Amazônia has created a bank account to receive donations from abroad.

To make a donation, you can use the following information ([see more details here](#)):

- SWIFT (BIC CODE) BSCHBRSP
- CÓDIGO IBAN: BR68 9040 0888 0100 1013 0006 628C
- BENEFICIARY: PROVÍNCIA MARSISTA BRASIL SUL AMAZÔNIA- PMBSA



To ensure proper control of the donation, it is suggested to send the donation receipt to the provincial bursar, Br. Lauri Heck (lauriheck@maristas.org.br)

It is also possible to [collaborate through FMSI](#), the General Administration Foundation.

Statement from the Provincial, Brother Deivis – May 11th.

See the message from Br. Evilázio Teixeira, Rector of the Pontificia Universidad Católica de Rio Grande do Sul: https://youtu.be/ASPOZ_W1nyA

CHILE

CENTER FOR MARIST EDUCATIONAL STUDIES AND DEVELOPMENT



The desire to form, in Chile, [Province of Santa María de los Andes](#), a Research Center has been present in many conversations of the Marist teams for many years. However, in 2022 the management team began the elaboration of the research center project, to be presented to the Council of Life and Mission of the Province, who gave the coordination of the initiative to the Executive Secretary of CEIS, Jorge Radic. Thus, in 2023, the Center for Marist Educational Studies and Development (CEDEM) was born.

The objective of CEDEM is to contribute an integral pedagogical proposal, based on the incorporation of the socio-emotional dimension as one of the priority axes of school formation and at the same time to deepen in the challenges, type of learning, evaluative and formative strategies pertinent and relevant for the socio-emotional development of children and young people who are educated in [Marist Schools in Chile](#).

Each year the Center presents its Work Plan in which it defines up to three initiatives to be carried out, which respond to strategic themes of the Sector that will be developed through an annual project competition or by direct invitation, which can achieve continuity and be renewed for more periods.

To begin its work, CEDEM generated two projects in 2023, an experience of Pedagogical innovation in the Marist School of La Pintana, which seeks to systematize innovative experiences that this work has made in information booklets, to allow teachers from other schools to replicate them and on the other hand, the Socioemotional Development Research project.

The project entitled "The socioemotional formation of the students of Marist Schools in Chile" has a proposed duration

of three years, where the research team composed of Marcela Román, Claudia González, Ronald Güimenez and Juna Pablo Valdivia proposed to contribute in a substantive way to strengthen an integral pedagogical proposal for the schools of the Network, by incorporating the socioemotional dimension as one of the priority axes of Marist formation, seeking to deepen the challenges, types of learning, evaluation and formative strategies that are pertinent and relevant for the socioemotional development of children and young people.

During the first year in 2023, the project focused on bibliographical research on the subject and what was being done in Marist schools through a series of workshops with rectors, directors, psychologists, teachers, parents and students, as well as the results obtained.

This second year, on the other hand, the aim is to work on a socioemotional curricular proposal at sector level, which will be elaborated from the inputs obtained in the previous stage, which generated a report and the application of an emotional evaluation instrument focused on defining Marist needs, which will culminate during 2025 in a proposal for teacher training.

This training will have objectives to be met, examples of good treatment to be followed, seeking to prioritize the socioemotional in the classroom and not only focus the teaching work on academic results.

CEDEM seeks to incorporate all the areas of the Marist fields in its investigations, hoping to be a proposal that allows to deliver a better integral education to the students that day by day are educated under the wing of the Marist Charism.

FMSI

ONLINE MARIST EVENT TO RAISE AWARENESS AGAINST THE CONTEMPORARY SLAVERY

29/05/2024
13:00 CET
ZOOM



The Marist International Solidarity Foundation (FMSI) and the Secretariat of Solidarity-CMI of the Institute will hold on May 29 a virtual forum, titled “Unveiling Modern-Day Slavery: A Marist Event for Awareness and Action”. The event aims to address the pressing issue of modern-day slavery by sharing testimonies and real-world experiences. During the solidarity initiative, several Project Managers who have implemented impactful projects in Bolivia, Bangladesh, and Haiti will share their testimonies that seek to combat modern-day slavery.

To participate in the online event, from 1 p.m. to 2 p.m. (Rome time), [enter using the following ZOOM](#)

Speakers and topics to be discussed:

The UPR as a tool to fight Contemporary Slavery: Strategies for Advocacy and Action by Br. Ángel Diego García Otaola - Director of the Secretariat of Solidarity

Slavery in the modern world by Andrea Rossi – Director of FMSI

Safeguarding Children’s Rights and Addressing the Challenge of Child Labor in Bolivia by Mauricio Siñaniz Zambrana – Marist Brothers of Bolivia

Empowerment testimony: Experiences as President of Working Children and Adolescent Workers in Bolivia by Esperanza Flores Bautista – Former President of the Working Children of Bolivia

Building Hope: advancing Restavek Children’s Rights in Haiti by Br. Junel Pierre – Marist Brothers of Haiti

Empowering Children from the Tea Gardens in Bangladesh by Br. Vigiario Bwalya - Marist Brothers of Bangladesh

Conclusions and final greetings by Andrea Rossi – Director of FMSI



OTHER MARIST VOICES 65 AND 66

REFLECTION ON LEADERSHIP / A CALL TO MARIST LIFE

As an extended project of the “Marist Voices” initiative, from September 25, 2023, the Marist International Mission Commission promotes a series of publications related to the development of servant and prophetic leadership in Marist mission... “Other Marist Voices”. This week, we published messages 65 and 66.

Other Marist Voices 65 was written by Br. Victor Mwamba Chomba, Professor, dedicated to School Ministry and Marist Laity in Zambia – Province of Southern Africa. The message titled “An experience reflection on servant and prophet leadership” ([English](#) | [Español](#) | [Français](#) | [Português](#)) – [Video](#) and refers to chapter 12 of Marist Voices (How Many Loaves do You Have?), written by Br. Hipólito Pérez.

Other Marist Voices 66 was written by Leonardo Soares, Executive Secretary of Umbrasil and Region of América Sur. The message titled “Prophetic and servant leadership: A call to Marist life” ([English](#) | [Español](#) | [Français](#) | [Português](#)) – [Video](#) and refers



to chapter 3 of Marist Voices (What Type of Leader Do You Want To Be?), written by Br. Seán Sammon.

[This link gives you access to all the messages of this initiative, published as of September 2023.](#)

SANTA MARÍA DE LOS ANDES

The three sectors of the Province, Bolivia, Chile and Peru have held simultaneously, an Assembly for the preparation of the VIII Provincial Chapter to be held in July. Brothers and lay people participated in an atmosphere of fraternity and vision for the future. The assembly included a space for virtual connection between the 3 sectors.

SOUTHERN AFRICA

There are 6 Marist Schools in South Africa. They are showcased on the Marist South Africa website (<https://maristsouthafrica.co.za/>), along with the shared events amongst the schools, in order to create cohesion and to highlight our unique identities within our Marist Family. In this video you will meet the Heads of the Schools (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0QDr1WwkTqk>).

AMÉRICA SUR

The face-to-face meeting of the Communications Team of the Region was held in Santiago, Chile, May 14-16. Lorena de Olivera, UM-BRASIL, coordinator of the team, Giannina Grosso from Cruz del Sur, Juliana Fontoura from Brasil Centro-Sul, Oniodi Gregolin from Brasil Centro-Norte and Joaquín Meli from Santa María de los Andes participated in the meeting.



SRI LANKA

MARIST ASIA CONFERENCE MEETING

With the theme, “Working and Walking Together,” the Marist Asia Conference (MAC) meeting this year took place at Good Shepherd Retreat House, Negombo, Sri Lanka last May 6-8, 2024. It was participated by the Provincials, Vice-Provincials



of East Asia and South Asia together with the MDA District Superior and his deputy, Lay Marists from different Administrative Units and Link Councilors from the General Administration, Brothers Sylvain Ramandimbarisoa and Jose Maria Soteras. During the first day, the committee reports on Marist Life, Mission and Services were delivered by the following point persons: Br. Ador, Elma, Br. Farancis and Br. Suresh. They highlighted the different collaborative initiatives and program within the region on the areas of Initial through the Formators’ Colloquium, Vocation Promotion Animators’ Workshop, Formation on Spirituality of the heart, Marist Spiritual Patrimony symposium, Laity Forum, Program for Preparation for Perpetual Profession, Mentoring Temporary Professed Brothers, Servant Leadership, Marist Education through Champagnat Global Network of Schools, Child Rights, Ecology, Volunteers, Youth Ministry, Solidarity, Social Services, Fundraising and Project Management Online Formation by FMSI, Bursar and Sustainability

The succeeding two days were dedicated:

- to plan for the January 2025 Marist Asia Assembly in Thailand where Br. Graham Neist, of Star of the Sea Province acted as facilitator.
- to review and update the MAC Statues and Structures where the following Brothers and Lay Marists were identified to work on:
 - Marist Life: Br. Rommel C. Ocasiones (Chairman). Br. Dominador A. Santiago, Ms. Elma Rafil, Br. Raj Kumar, Mr. Chalana Pragharathna, Mr. Jude Fernando, Br. Juan Castro, and Br. Nguyen Viet Bao.
 - Marist Mission: Br. Jiji Dhasan (Chairman), Br. Mark RoberthLaurea, Mrs. Leann Jester Rosali, Br. FarancisRehamat, Mr. Ruchira Wijendra and Br. Anselmo Kim.
 - Marist Services: Br. Suresh Durai (Chairman), Br. Danilo M. Sevilla, and Br. Nguyen Van Tri.

“Working and Walking Together as Marists of Champagnat” and “What is God calling us to BE and to DO in our Marist Life and Mission in Asia?” were the invitations for the all the participants as they ended that meeting.

UNITED STATES

USA MARIST HELD SECOND ANNUAL MARIST EARTH DAY WEEKEND

Almost 100 students, teachers, the Staff and leaders from various USA Province Marist schools, as well as Brothers participated in the second annual Marist Earth Day Weekend held from April 19-21 at the Marist Brothers Center at Esopus, New York. Br. Dan O’Riordan, provincial, opened the weekend with an evening prayer.

The Weekend directed by Mr. Sam King, USA Province Ecology Coordinator, aims to encourage local meetings and actions throughout the various Province locations. And bring together student leaders from Marist schools in solidarity for our common home. And encourage local meetings and actions throughout the various Province locations. The First Marist-USA Earth Day weekend was April 21-23, 2023 also at Marist Brothers Center at Esopus, NY.

The program began with an overview of *Laudato Si*, Pope Francis’ 2015 encyclical on the environment, and the seven principles laying the foundations for an ethic of integral ecology. These include the Response to the Cry of the Earth, the Response to the Cry of the Poor, Adoption of Sustainable Lifestyles, Ecological Education, Ecological Economics, Ecological Spirituality, and Community Resilience and Empowerment. “Earth Day Weekend at Esopus was an affirmation of the strength, concern, and care that our young people have for our common Earth,” said Joanne Cavera, former chair of the Science Department and Green Team representative at St. Joseph Regional. “

The second day of the gathering featured all plant-based meals prepared by Br. Dan O’Riordan, Provincial of the USA Marist Brothers, along with a range of outdoor programming. In the morning, students walked down to the Hudson River for a special prayer gathering led by Evan Pritchard, an Indigenous Mi’kmaq elder and former professor of Native Studies at Marist College. Austin Bilotto, a Teacher of Environmental Science at Marist High School in Chicago, then guided students in a case study on the environmental history of the Hudson River, highlighting the ecological importance of estuaries, the effects of polychlorinated biphenyl (PCB) pollution from industrial plants, and recent efforts to remediate the river. After, Joanne Cavera led students in a workshop on native planting to underscore the importance of food security and the health of bees, butterflies, and other pollinators. Students then worked together to plant



a native food forest with apples, blueberries, raspberries, and blackberries. They also planted an indoor herb garden for the kitchen using a wooden box crafted by Director of Maintenance and Facilities, Tyler Pereira. In the afternoon, students took part in four workshops on various topics of integral ecology. Henry Glynn, a Religion teacher at St. Joseph Academy Brownsville, offered a workshop on climate action, drawing on his years of experience with the Catholic Climate Covenant. Damian Sciano, an alumnus of Archbishop Molloy and energy expert, led a workshop on the transition to a clean energy future. Bridgette Bolduc, a Teacher of Science and Religion at Central Catholic, guided students in a contemplative forest walk at nearby Black Creek. That evening, students took part in a special Earth Day program from the Catholic Climate Covenant called “Healing Our Throwaway Culture: Focus on Plastics.”

During the program, students learned about the life cycle of plastics, its harmful effects on human health and the biosphere, and strategies for mitigating and managing plastic waste in their communities. After nightfall, students gathered around a campfire for marshmallows and storytelling led by Matt Fallon, Director of Marist Youth and Young Adult Ministry.

On Sunday morning, students joined for Mass and shared action plans they hope to bring forth in their home communities. These included planting native gardens, expanding recycling campaigns, and promoting reusable bottles.

“The students have gone back to their school communities and demonstrated what they shared—for example, by working to create pollinator-friendly native plant gardens,” said Joanne Cavera. “The youth are our hope for a bright future for God’s creation.”

marist world

FIJI: BR. ANGEL DIEGO'S VISIT TO THE STAR OF THE SEA PROVINCE



CHILE: MEETING OF THE MARIST STUDENT CENTERS 2024



PERU: SCHOOL COEXISTENCE CONGRESS



JAPAN: MARIST BROTHERS INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL, KOBE



INDIA: CELEBRATING 50 YEARS OF PRESENCE



ECUADOR: MARIST EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS DIRECTORS' MEETING

CRUZ DEL SUR

THE MARIST YOUTH MINISTRY MEETS TO DEEPEN ITS MARIST IDENTITY

80 young Marists from Argentina, Uruguay and Paraguay, countries that make up the Province of Cruz del Sur, met in Luján, Argentina, to participate in the III edition of the meeting organized by the Marist Youth Ministry (MYM), from May 3 to 5. With the theme "To the same beat", the MYM of the Province once again called together all its coordinating agents and advisors and incorporated for the first time the young animators.

During the meeting, the MYM agents, coming from 24 Educational Centers of the province, participated in common dynamics and others in which the roles were separated to focus on their specificity: the coordinators and advisors had their own times and there were also exclusive meetings for the animators. Among games, reflective moments and music, the participants deepened their Marist identity, their mission, and shared the sense of belonging to a Provincial community.

Four workshops were held which allowed the young people to deepen their understanding of Marist spirituality and interiority



and to approach the construction of an experience of solidarity. They were also able to begin to plan a long-term youth ministry proposal (one or two years) and to design a PJ meeting with the experiential formative method.

On the last day, all that was explored was shared and proposed to all the participants to anchor it locally, in the life of each educational center.

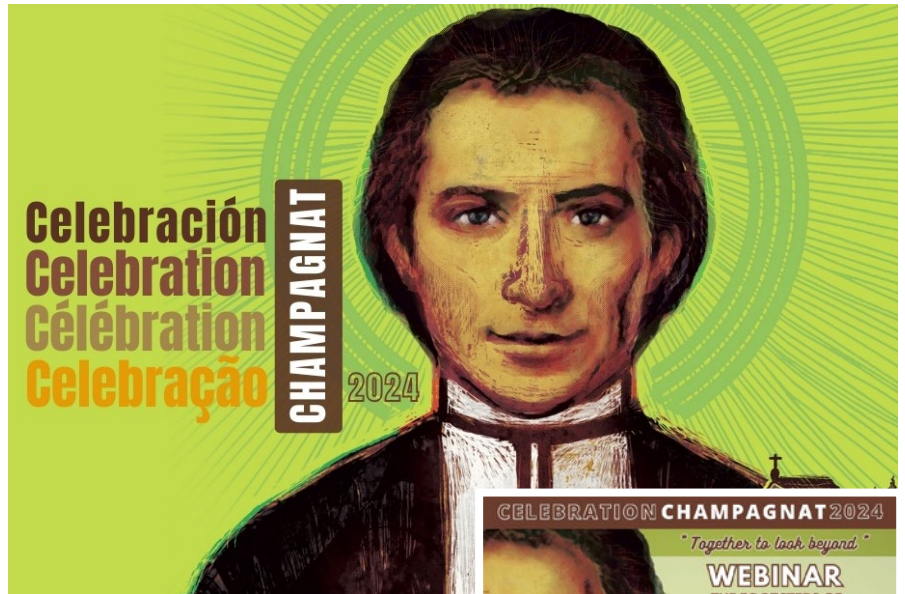
CHAMPAGNAT GLOBAL

CHAMPAGNAT GLOBAL INVITES TO A WEBINAR ON “IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF MARCELLIN CHAMPAGNAT: MARIST EDUCATIONAL MISSION”

“**T**ogether to look beyond”
 For the third consecutive year, on the feast of our founder in the month of June, the Marist Global Network of Schools, Champagnat Global, invites the international school community to meet and honor the Institute’s founder by holding the already traditional webinar: together to look beyond, which on this occasion will have as its motive to get to know the new document “In the Footsteps of Marcellin Champagnat: Marist Educational Mission”.

For many Marists, the Marist Educational Mission document launched in 1998 was a valuable reference of the values and principles that marked the Marist educational style, inspired by the founding vision. The new edition In the Footsteps of Marcellin Champagnat: Marist Educational Mission is the fruit of a process of revision and updating carried out by an international commission composed of “Marists” who live the different vocations of the charism and reflects the changes that have taken place in the world, the Church and our Institute, and which are relevant for Marist education today, together with the calls to be, feel and act as a great global family at the service of children and young people.

At the Marist International Mission Assembly (MIMA III) held last April in El Escorial, Spain, the official launching of the document took place with the presence of the participants from each Administrative Unit of the Institute, who were invited. This webinar gives to everybody the opportunity to meet and live this



experience at an international level.

Champagnat Global invites you to come together and learn more about the Document. To facilitate participation, the same webinar will be held on June 12 at two different times: the first at 9:00 AM and the second at 4:00 PM (Rome time). You are invited to REGISTER as soon as possible so that you can receive the participation ZOOM link.



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