

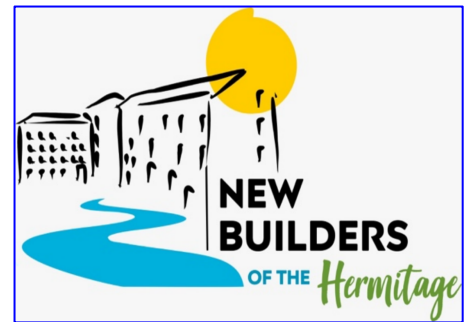


MDA Buletin

June 2024

Formators Course Program 2024 - “New Builders of The Hermitage”

“New Builders of The Hermitage,” is set to commence on February 1 and culminate on November 25, 2024. This innovative program invites participants to embark on self-discovery, renewal, and personal transformation, drawing inspiration from the enduring principles and spirit of the Constitution and Rule of Life.



“New Builders of The Hermitage” offers a unique opportunity for personal and communal growth, encouraging each participant to heed the call to embrace a new way of life founded on the principles outlined in the Constitution and Rule of Life. Through a blend of contemplation, study, and communal engagement, this program seeks to guide individuals in pursuing personal and spiritual growth, urging us to assume a proactive role in our transformational journey.



Central to the program's practice is the call for each participant to internalize the invitation to be transformed and commit to this profound process of self-discovery and renewal. It is an invitation to embrace change and actively contribute to the transformation of our lives and the wider community.

Moreover, "New Builders of The Hermitage" aims to provide invaluable motivation and guidance to those committed to initial formation, encompassing various aspects of personal, spiritual, and communal development. By fostering an environment of support, encouragement, and growth, the program seeks to inspire and empower participants to fully embrace the principles and values inherent in our journey as Marist Brothers.

In the spirit of the Marist tradition and the enduring legacy of the Hermitage, this program invites individuals to embark on a transformative and purposeful journey, guided by the teachings of Saint Marcellin Champagnat and a shared commitment to personal and communal renewal.

"New Builders of The Hermitage" represents an exciting opportunity for individuals to undertake on a fulfilling and inspiring path of personal and spiritual growth, purposeful commitment, and communal unity. It is a call to embrace change, embrace growth, and embrace the sacred journey toward a renewed and profoundly meaningful way of life.

Br. Anton Cong

MDA Council Meeting Summary: 9th JUNE 2024

On-Line Meeting: Canisio, George, Juan, Jiji, Kikko & Cong

INTRODUCTION

Short sharing / prayer

Report on India Sector's 50th Anniversary (Canisio, Jiji & George)

PERSONNEL

- **Jose Maria**'s rehabilitation is improving steadily. Returned to India on 2 June

- **Marti:** kidney stones seem to be improving.
- **Cesar's** medical check-up is good, continue follow up.
- **Augusti & Monoj:** positive feedback of their summer courses in Bangalore
- **Kim:** health issues being checked in Korea.
- Ms **Liz** has returned to Pailin as a volunteer for 1 year.
- Mr **Eloy Gistobal** (SED): volunteer to Talit for a month
- **Donatus:** visa issues are challenging. Various options are being considered, including work in formation.
- **Real:** medical tests done, follow up. To Vietnam for P⁴ programme
- **Thanh:** change to travel plans in summer holidays. Now to Belgium community
- **Br Horacio Bustos (Argentina)** has requested to join MDA. Arrival yet to be determined.

LAITY

- **Topu** coordinator of Marist Laity in Bangladesh
- August Programme is already organised

FORMATION

- **Novices' ACEP:** 23 June to 15 August: **Shohel** to Talit; **Shovo** to Giasnogor; **Vinh** to Cu Chi and Nam Nung
Accompaniers: India: **Jose Maria** (formation) and **Jiji** (Mission); Bangladesh: **Vigilio**;
Vietnam: **Bao & Binh**
- **P⁴ 2024:** Vung Tau: 24th June to 4th August: 11 participants
- **GuangZhao:** 30 days retreat (starting 9th June)
- Formators' Course update: L'Hermitage section: origin, spirituality, Marcellin, Francois + 3 days retreat (Taize)
- Formation Houses' updates:
 - Talit: **Shital** applying for postulancy; 2 candidates applying for aspirancy
 - Mymensingh: **Robert** renewed vows; **Amor** accepted as aspirant; Come & See for 2 possible candidates (**Onik & Limon**); **Robert** attended vocation campaign in Dhaka;
 - Lavalla Home: 1 candidate from Myanmar (**Peter**), 2 more to join the candidacy.
 - Saigon: 2 young men for come and see program: Thuong & Pietro will accompany
 - Davao: currently 2 postulants: **Timash & Trung**; expecting 2 more from Sri Lanka and **Amor** from Bangladesh (pending National ID process); apostolates begin in July; renovations of house pending
 - Tudella: **Rod** in Australia until July; **Kikko & Shanti** are current personnel; farewell to **Real**.
 - MAPAC: 3 scholastics: **Mai, Cuong & Elijah**; 5 Timor Leste brothers had to return because of passport issues; **Joseph Walton's** presence much appreciated
- "Looking at Initial Formation as a Global Family" report – letter from Brothers Today Secretariat
- "Sources & Streams" – next symposium has been postponed. Overall positive evaluation
- Final Professions Guidelines: survey to be done: formation commission; country level; young brothers: draft guideline to be presented to District Council.
Team: **Michael P, Cong, Rubel**
- **Marist Joint Formation:** Asia Region Meeting: 40 participants; 11th – 15th November

ADMINISTRATION

- DL shared about MAC meeting, Asia Region Calendar; AU leaders reconfiguration visits
- Schedule, topics and arrangements for MDA Bursars' and Community Leaders' meetings were presented
- Korea-Japan Sector: invitation to MDA brother for 3 month's experience
- Sustainability: difficult to get everyone present: Canisio & Michael represented MDA
- Giasnogor: Land Transfer Deed: Vigilio is working on progressing the arrangements
- MDA Young Brothers' Gathering / Retreat/Assembly & Chapter: **DRAFT** dates: 16th July: Young Brothers Meeting; 17-19 July: Retreat; 20th July: relaxing day; 21 – 22 July Assembly (all invited); 23 – 24 July: Chapter (elected delegates). Venue to be explored (Cambodia, Vietnam, Thailand). More information to be shared in the coming months.

FINANCES

- Rubel's P⁴ Travel & Apostolic Experience budgets were approved
- Laity Meeting in VN; budget approved
- Marti's Courses budget: approved
- Bedford Fund: Finance Commission to prepare a presentation for the Assembly next year
- District Revenue Statement: tabled
- MDA Budget Round for 2025: District Budget to be submitted to Rome by 31 July, 2024. Includes all communities & District Office
- Community transfers for remainder of 2024 will be reviewed in July. Finalised before August transfers. Communities will have opportunity to respond to probable cutbacks (mainly caused by higher-than-predicted opening balances)
- Additional support for community and project budgets who might be struggling

PROJECTS

- Mission & Projects Commission Report presented to the Council
- Pailin Project: Bryan is happy with the progress being made. Documentation presented – to be checked by Project Director of Lavalla School
- Talit Project: Jiji has been appointed Project Finance Manager
- Australia Marist Solidarity: Ms Taylor Lemmon visited Marist Learning Centre: potential of grants to MLC. Budgets needed for next 2 years
- Ta Do Trustees' Recommendations: purchase of vehicle is on hold in the meantime; evaluation of project will be conducted: Team: Michael P, Sr Thao ACI and Ms Luci (AMS)
- Talit Land Certificate: all work under the name of the Institute
- Talit Report: needs to be submitted to AMS

OTHER MATTERS

- Next Council Meeting: 6th July: 10am BKK time
- Extraordinary Meeting (to approve District Budgets) 29th July, 9am BKK time
- Face-to-face Meeting: Pailin: 23rd – 25th September
- District Leader's Calendar: 4th – 10th June: Davao & MAPAC; 11th – 26th June: Vietnam (incl P⁴ visit)



Birthdays in July:

1st July: Br. Marti

7th July: Brs. Long & Pech

25th July: Br. Vigilio

26th July: Br. Isma

27th July: Br. Cuong

“Do you wish to be great? Then begin by being. Do you desire to construct a vast and lofty fabric? Think first about the foundations of humility. The higher your structure is to be, the deeper must be its foundation.”

-St. Augustine-

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