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International Meeting of Marist Youth

World Youth Day: Madrid, 2011

The positive experience of the meeting of youth from all over the world held in Sydney (Australia) in 2008, the week prior to the WYD, led the Superiors to think it worth the effort to continue along the road started there. This could be an excellent opportunity to reinforce the work carried out with young people in each Marist administrative unit, as well as help the Institute listen to the young.

The participants in the 21st General Chapter had the opportunity of attending an information session on the activities being planned for the World Youth Day, scheduled to be held in Madrid (Spain) in August 2011. In July 2009, an international team, appointed by the General Council, established the aims and characteristics of the different activities and procedures, after listening to the Provincial Councils of Europe. From August 2009, co-ordination was assumed by a team appointed by the provinces with a presence in Spain, plus a representative of the General Administration.

Taking advantage of the celebration of the WYD in Madrid, the Marists of Spain propose three offerings. The first is the "International Marist Youth Meeting". This meeting is intended by the Marists for the youth of their educational works around the world. To take part in this meeting, a process similar to that of the "International Marist Mission Assembly" will be followed. That is, all the adminis-



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trative units are invited to set in motion a process with their youth groups. The youth will take part in a dynamic which culminates in Provincial meetings, and finally in an International Meeting. The latter will be held during the days leading up to the WYD, from 10 to 14 August 2011. Participation will be limited to a maximum of 5 youth delegates from each administrative unit plus an accompanier. The Preparatory Team is going to send out the materials necessary for carrying out the process.

In the second case, the rest of the youth from each administrative unit who want to take part in the WYD in Madrid are invited to get to know the Marist situa-

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tion in Spain and to interact with the Marist youth of the country, through some activities organized in the different provinces.

For the third offering, the day of the 15th

of August is planned as an institutional festival event, open to all, those taking part in the "International Meeting" as well as those coming from the various provinces with a presence in Spain. The details will be published later.

The Spanish Marist Conference Team (CME), which is preparing and co-ordinating the various events, will send out the necessary information as time goes on.



Revision and updating of the Chronology of the Institute

Historians begin preparing for the celebration of the Bicentenary of the foundation of the Institute



The first printed compilation of the Chronology of the Institute in our possession was published in the Circulars (Vol. 13, p. 437-499) on the occasion of the first Centenary of the Foundation of the Institute. It covered the period from 1789, date of Saint Marcellin's birth, to 1917. The second compilation of the chronological data of events occurring in the Institute was published in 1976 and made use of the fruit of the researches of Brother Charles-Raphaël between 1968 and 1976. This

edition was accompanied by indexes of the subjects, names and places contained in the Chronology. In 2006 Brother Joseph De Meyer undertook, in Rome, the labour of compiling the chronological data from January 1976 up to the end of 2005. All these works were furnished with various annexes which complement the data contained in the works cited.

In view of the celebration of the Bicentenary of the foundation of the Institute, work has begun on an up-

dated and corrected edition of the data recorded in the above mentioned works. With this aim, a team composed of Brothers Jean Rousson, Jean Ronzon, Juan Moral, Edward Clisby and George Fontana met in Rome from 14 to 17 January 2010 under the direction of Brother André Lanfrey. The team carried out an intensive work of revising, completing and updating the compilations of data drawn up to the present.

The body of information collected in this Chronology constitutes an archive of extraordinary data relative to the general history of the Institute. One of the activities carried out by this team of brothers has been checking the sources from which the information comes, and the accuracy of the references and the contents collected in the chronology compiled. The drawing up of tables and sketches which present some of the historical content in graphic form will be a new way of presenting the data collected in the work and will aid future researchers to quickly locate the same. Once the text has been purged of inaccuracies and inconsistencies, it will be able to be published, in book and digital format.



A new coordinator in Rome for the Mission ad Gentes

Brother Teófilo Minga assumes his new position



The Mission ad Gentes Project began in 2006 and today there are 48 brothers in 5 Asian countries assigned to 15 communities. Brother Teófilo took part in the Project at the beginning. He joined the first group going to Davao (Philippines) in August 2006 to follow a five months session before going to an Asian country. A month and a half after arriving at Davao, he was called by his Superiors to Rome to be the Religious Life Commission Secretary. He promoted – from that bureau – the Year of Spirituality throughout the Institute and he spread the message of Water from the Rock in many ways: different sessions, meetings, and lectures given in different places and languages. When he finished his

service in this secretariat he was preparing to go back to Portugal (Ermesinde) when Providence changed his plans.

The General Council during its last session on the 9th January 2010 appointed Bro. Teófilo Minga as coordinator in Rome for the Asia Mission ad Gentes Project. The task entrusted to him is to establish relations with the civil and ecclesiastic authorities of the countries where the new foundations in Asia will establish, to strengthen the existing foundations and to support from Rome the brothers in the Mission, working closely with Brother Superior general and his Council.



Marist Solidarity Campaign

Australia - Marist seeing the world through the eyes of a child

The annual Marist Solidarity campaign is a program organized by the International development agencies of the Marist Brothers in Australia, the Provinces of Melbourne (MSO) and Sydney (MAPS). It is an Australia wide educational, sensitising to justice, and fundraising event or process that is usually conducted during Lent in 50 Australian Marist associated schools. This year inspiration has come from Rome, the Solomon Islands and Australia.

In 2009 the Superior General of the Marist Brothers Br Sean Sammon issued a challenge for the worldwide Marist community: "We want to see the world through the eyes of poor children and young people," he said. Marist Solidarity has adopted this theme for 2010 and, through its campaign it is asking its school communities to take up this challenge.

When searching for photos to create the campaign materials, it was hard to go past the image pictured in

this years' poster "This picture shows Year 12 student Anselm McManus from Marist College Canberra and Cassandra Ruia, the four-year-old daughter of the principal at St Dominic's Rural Training Centre in the Solomon Islands," said Br Chris Wills on behalf of Marist Solidarity.

"The picture was taken when Anselm visited St Dominic's last year with his school and whenever the older students would go swimming, the young kids would follow. "Purely by coinci-



side the Sistine Chapel in the Vatican and the cardinals see it as they come out of the meeting halls. It depicts St Marcellin Champagnat carrying a child on his shoulders.

"We are very grateful to Anselm and Cassandra for allowing us to use this picture," Br Chris said. "It captures a moment in time when students from our Australian Marist community took up the challenge to see the world through the eyes of poorer children in one of our overseas communities.

"I know Anselm and his fellow students found this to be a wonderful experience," Br Chris said. "I encourage all of our school communities to take up the challenge of thinking about what life is like for poor children and young people in other Marist communities and how we can help them."

Read more about the Campaign in www.maristsolidarity.net.au/maps



dence, the photograph has a strong resemblance to the canonisation statue

of St Marcellin Champagnat in the Vatican," he said. The statue sits just out-

Models of Marist Holiness

Brothers considered as models

The Web site, in the place reserved for our Marist Saints, presents the book *Our Models of Marist Holiness*. This book brings together our different causes; as well as certain cases where the Brothers concerned are truly considered as models, even if their cause has not been opened.

Our Models of Marist Holiness first looks at our confessors: Marcellin Champagnat, Brother François, Brother Alfano and Brother Basilio.

Much more numerous are the martyrs. Brother Lycarion, a Swiss aged 39, killed on 27 July 1909 in Barcelona, opens the series. Then follow Brothers Bernardo, Laurentino and his confrères

(46), beatified on 28 October 2007; the group of Br. Crisanto (68) occupies quite a large space, and that of Br. Eusebio (59) closes the series of the Spanish martyrs.

A hundred pages are reserved for our martyrs of Oceania, Africa, and China. The latter find their case enhanced by the recovery of the acts of the Peking tribunal relating to Christians killed by the Boxers in 1900. Brother Henri Vergès and our martyrs of the Great Lakes of Africa are our contemporaries, pioneers of Mission ad Gentes.

The series of causes are not of equal value. The confessors offer a wealth of material, while certain groups of martyrs

receive cursory treatment: the martyrs of Oceania, Br. Eusebio's group... This is so that the dossier does not become too long.

The advantage of having this work in electronic format allows it to be continued and added to with further data.

The aim of this work is to provide an overall vision of our models of sanctity, an instrument particularly useful for young people in formation. From acquaintance it is possible to pass on to personal and community prayer. It will be a great thing if this work helps to keep alive in our hearts love and prayer for these Brothers, models of Marist life.

