

www.champagnat.org

Updates

13/05/2010: The 2010 Hermitage Pilgrimage and Study Tour - Australia

12/05/2010: Photo gallery: Remodeling work at the Hermitage

12/05/2010: Manziana - Marist Family Midlife Renewal Programme, 2010

12/05/2010: Deceased Brothers: Valentín Lesaga Ruiz (Ibérica); Carlos Sáiz Moradillo (Mediterránea)

11/05/2010: Meeting of Co-ordinators of Social Works - Italy

10/05/2010: Welcome to the General House of the Marist Brothers in Rome

10/05/2010: Deceased Brothers: Willy (Johann) Klein - Europe Centre-Ouest; Gerard Paul Williams (Sydney)

10/05/2010: Worldwide presence - Photo gallery number 255

10/05/2010: St. Marcellin Day Secondary School, Chibuluma, Zambia

10/05/2010: Deceased Brother: Thomas Lynch (New Zealand); Miguel Baima (Santa María de los Andes); Ignatius Francisco Khambi (Southern Africa)

10/05/2010: News from the Publishing Group Luis Vives

08/05/2010: Italy - Brother Flavio Testa completes 100 years

Marist Family

Midlife Renewal Programme, 2010



We had our Orientation in the first week of March, followed by our first speaker, Dr. Katrina Anderson, M.D on the topic of Wholistic Living. She guided us towards looking deep into our life, our mental, physical and spiritual being. She also introduced some practical ways to keep our body in good shape using Yoga, which we continue doing every Monday to Friday. We also experienced the snow (for most of us it was the first time).

Fr. David Glenday (MCCJ) helped us on Prayer the following week. He journeyed with us and guided us to see prayer in another dimension and level of our life.

The third week, Sr. Patricia Stowers SMSM, spoke to us on Interculturality. She shared with us her experiences and challenged us to see the values in our cultures and also

the church. Sr. Georgeanne, the Superior General of SMSM led us to see the value of Liturgy in our lives. She helped us to appreciate not only the Eucharist but also our everyday celebrations within our communities.

The team helped us in the preparation for the Holy Week by reminding us our call to Discipleship. We listened to the whole Gospel of Mark read reflectively and meaningfully. Throughout the Easter Triduum celebrations we prayed, meditated, and participated creatively, to see and to celebrate meaningfully the liturgies with each other.

Easter celebrations continued on Monday when we had our BBQ on the lawn and invited our French speaking sisters on Renewal at the SMSM General House to join us.

MARIST NEWS

N.º 104 - Year II - May 13th, 2010

Director:

Br. AMEstaún

Production:

Mr. Luiz da Rosa

Redaction and Administration:

Piazzale Marcellino Champagnat, 2
C.P. 10250 - 00144 ROMA
Tel.: (39) 06 54 51 71
E-mail: publica@fms.it
web: www.champagnat.org

Edit:

Marist Brother's Institute
General House - Rome

Before going on to our seven full days directed retreat, we went on a day Pilgrimage to Subiaco, the birth place of monastic life, where St. Benedict spent some years in contemplation and prayer.

The whole experience of Easter continued to energize us when we went for our Retreat at Galloro from 9th to 16th of April. The Easter readings somehow resonated with the beauty of nature surrounding us as spring continued to give birth to new life in abundance.

Three of our team members: Barry, Marie and David together with Fr Kevin SM and Sr. Eileen Plunkett (Franciscan Mil Hill) and the active participation of the Holy Spirit made this retreat one of our deep God-experiences. We all came away with a great sense of being deeply nourished, infinitely loved by our God and with a renewed energy to continue to respond to the transforming action of the Holy Spirit taking place in each one of us.

The following week started with two full days on 'Signs of the Times' led by the team. There was a lot of energy and enthusiasm as we worked in small groups looking at the signs of the times in the World, the Church and our own Congregations. We were divided into the four continents we come from and areas of our present mission, in Africa, Asia, Australia, Europe and Oceania. It was a powerful exercise as the response from each group challenged

and reminded us of our responsibility to care for the environment and one another by being more attentive to the 'SIGNS OF THE TIMES TODAY' and in the way we live.

It was very appropriate that the next topic on the programme was on 'The Kingdom of God' by Fr John Fuellenbach SVD. He was one of the most lively and entertaining guest speakers we've had so far! On the first day we looked at What is the Kingdom of God? followed by What was Jesus all about? And the last day was on The Church and the Kingdom. The days were very full and intense but a rich experience for us as Marists in midlife to be more Kingdom conscious "...to read and smell the signs of the Kingdom which is 'now here and yet not fully revealed...'"

The fourth week of April began with the topic of 'Midlife Transitions' by Br Don Bisson FMS. This was the most challenging topic so far as Don in his expertise on this area gave us a clear and honest picture of the normal process of midlife transitions. We were invited to look at our personal as well as collective shadows, not in a negative way but as an opportunity for growth and transformation. As Jung puts it "90% is gold to be redeemed and 10% we surrender to God." We appreciated very much Don's down to earth approach with lots of his own personal experiences that gave humour to real human examples that we can all relate

to. How we live our midlife years can affect our behavior and attitudes in old age. "We cannot live the afternoon of life according to the programme of life's morning..."

This is our tenth week of living together in Manziana. Our creative and prayerful liturgies with the rich variety of inputs continue to nourish and help us live in this very multicultural and dynamic community. The outings, sports, manual work, combination of good food and wine and social evenings we have are all life-giving to the body, mind and soul. Don reminded us once again that "we are called to be WHOLE not perfect".

We are 19 participants: Br. Timothy Song (Korea), Br. John Chong (Malaysia), Br. Albert Ongemba (DR Congo), Br. Raphael Mariso (Zimbabwe), Br. Sumith Senadheera (Sri Lanka), Sr. Clotilda Diedhou (Senegal), Sr. Noela Iosefo (NZ/Samoa), Sr. Salome Dilagi, Sr. Mariana Maramaanicava and Sr. Mareta Nai Raikivi (Fiji), Marist Sisters. Fr. Pius Gregory Jones (Australia), Fr. Chris Skinner (New Zealand), Br. Petelo Sanele Sekeme (Wallis-Futuna), and Fr. Patolo Matiasi (Samoa), and Missionary Sisters of the Society of Mary Sr. Nau Apikotoa and Sr. Loloahi Tautalonoa (Tonga), Sr. Ludeline Patero (Philippines), Sr. Etevisio Ioane and Sr. Pelenatete Peni (Samoa).



Province Assembly of the MChFM

Province of "Rio Grande do Sul"

138 people from the Province of Rio Grande do Sul (Brazil) met in Veranopolis at a grand province assembly to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the Marist-Champagnat Family Movement (MChFM).

There were 127 laypersons and 11 Brothers at the assembly and they reflected on the 21st General Chapter,

the 3rd Provincial Chapter, and the 1st Meeting of Animators of the Marist-Champagnat Family Movement that took place at the start of this year. They also discussed the implications and consequences of each one of these three major events on the life and mission of members of the MChFM.

Listening to the words of our Brother

Provincial directed at the group, everyone felt challenged to a change of heart which is necessary in order to allow the authentic sharing of the Marist-Champagnat charism is to become a reality. The present assumed as a short term goal to encourage candidates to the vocation of the Marist life: brothers and laypersons.



Brother Flavio Testa completes 100 years

Rome, Italy



Born in Castel Madama (Italy) on 2 May 1910, Brother Flavio Testa has achieved a century of life. His 100th birthday was celebrated at the Colegio San Leone Magno of Rome, where he is a member of the community. Surrounded by brothers, family and friends, he renewed his vows and took part joyfully in the Mass and the meal. He has reached his century without ever having visited the dentist. He was annoyed with those present for applauding him, saying that "only the Lord should be applauded"

for having given him a hundred years of life.

Brother Onorino Rota gave a survey of Brother Flavio's life, emphasizing some important dates. He began his juniorate in Mondovi (1922), and did novitiate and made first profession at Ventimiglia (1926). Present at his profession ceremony was Brother Alfano, his master of novices. Today, the remains of this saintly brother rest in the chapel of the college of San Leone Magno. In 1931 Flavio

made perpetual vows in the Institute of the Marist Brothers. He has performed various ministries: Superior, catechist, teacher, administrator and others as the need required. He has always been active and dynamic, including the time when, as librarian at San Leone Magno, the library moved to the basement.

Brother Onorino concluded by saying: "Brother Flavio has lived his vocation with serenity and joy to reach his first 100 years. (Let us remember that we cannot place limits on the Providence of God). Let us together today celebrate this Eucharist with heartfelt joy for the great gift God has given to the Marist Brothers and to each of us in the person of Brother Flavio".

Brother Emili Turú, Superior General, representing all the brothers of the Institute, and Brother Antonio Giménez, Provincial of Mediterránea, presented him with a papal blessing and a beautiful image of the Good Mother.

Thanks to the Lord and our Good Mother for this first of the Italian brothers to achieve a century.



Marist world



Belgica



Cambodia



Zambia

Meeting of Co-ordinators of Social Works

Province of "Mediterránea"



The annual meeting of the Co-ordinators of Social Works of the Marist Mediterranea Province was held in the General House in Rome on 23 and 24 April 2010. The group has been meeting for several years as a result of the holding of the 1st Provincial Social Mission Assembly, with the aim of connecting the various social works, reflecting on their Marist identity and making possible joint action.

Currently, the Social Works of the Province consist of:

In Syria:

- Oreja de Dios for the socio-educational care of children and young people, in Aleppo.

In Italy:

- Acuma Association for the animation of street children in Bucharest, with groups organized in Genova and Como.
- L'Albero Day Centre for children and youth in Cesano Maderno (Milan)
- Grupo Famiglia to support the homeless and other marginalised people in Genova.
- Solidarity Group of San Leone Magno, with special involvement in the Ematos Association in Rome.

- Mani Unite Association for handicapped in Taormina

In Spain

- Centro Champagnat for residential care of minors in Huelva
- Hogar Champagnat for residential care of minors in Torrent (Valencia)
- Nuevo Horizonte Association for assistance for minors and immigrants in Huelva
- Proyecto de Inclusión de Jóvenes, especially of Gypsy extraction, in Alcantarilla (Murcia)
- Vida Project for care of those with drug dependency in Badajoz

Representatives of all the works were present at the meeting, except for those of Aleppo (Syria), who were expecting the canonical visit of the Provincial Council.

The meeting touched on some matters which try to reinforce the Marist identity of the works, such as the Profile of the Marist social agency or the Character proper to Marist social works. Another aspect of central interest for the different works is the drawing up of a formation plan for social agents.

Most valuable, as in all these meetings, was the opportunity to share concerns and become familiar with the projects for the most needy. We are conscious that our task of co-ordination is not easy, but we feel that we are on the way as the General Chapter asked.

News from the Publishing Group Luis Vives

At the present time, the two latest publications of Ediciones Khaf for Spring 2010 are being distributed.

The first carries the title "El camino de la paz" and was written by Xavier Pikaza. Peace continues to be one of the greatest human aspirations. After describing the manifestations of war and violence in our world, the author proposes a series of practical initiatives which can help bring about peace in our society, in our communities, and in the Church. We have here a proposal for all who "believe in life" and are engaged with it.

The second is from Josep Otón and is called "Relatos con vivencia. Retratos de interior". This work is a collection of stories which propose to restore narrative as a source of values and as a way of preparing people to live together effectively in society. The book uses the short story as instrument for creating a portrait of the kinds of situations we encounter in daily life. In turn, the situations show other "faces" of reality and demonstrate the rich nuances, the different "landscapes," we encounter along the pathways of life.

To work with these stories a very useful on-line teaching aid is offered at www.edicioneskhaf.es

This last title opens the collection "Expresiones" destined for the publication of works and resources useful in religious education, ministry, education in values and in solidarity.

Ediciones Khaf forms part of the Publishing Group Luis Vives, owned by the Marist Brothers.

