

## INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITIES FOR A NEW BEGINNING

### 15 MARISTS ASSIGNED TO CAPE TOWN, TABATINGA, EAST HARLEM, ROMANIA AND MDA

Superior general Brother Emili Turú has announced the destinations for a group of 15 Brothers and laity who are completing a two-month formation session for the Lavalla200> programme.

The Marists – the second group to join the Lavalla200> International Communities for a New Beginning since last year – are expecting to reach their destinations by September.

They will be commissioned in the Shrine of Notre Dame de Fouvière in Lyon, France, by superior general Brother Emili Turú, and formation leaders Brothers Jeff Crowe and Ángel Medina on July 1, two days before their formation ends.

In his letter to provincials, district superiors and their councils dated



June 17, Br Emili wrote the Brothers that “in our contact with the participants in the programme La Valla 200, we were highly impressed by their personal quality, generosity

and availability, as well as their enthusiasm to participate in a project that hopes to contribute to a new beginning of the Institute.”  
“With the effort and collaboration

## GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

On Saturday, July 1, the second formation programme for participants of Lavalla200> (International Communities for a New Beginning) were commissioned in the Shrine of Notre Dame de L’Hermitage, France. Superior general Brother Emili Turú, and formation leaders Brothers Jeff Crowe and Ángel Medina attended.

Br Javier Espinosa, director of the Secretariat of the Laity, held a workshop in El Salvador last Saturday for Brothers and Laity.

The three-day Marist Youth Festival ‘Awaken’ in Sydney, Australia, ended on July 3, with the director of the Brothers Today Secretariat, Br Tony Leon.

On July 3 and 4, FMSI’s strategic planning group is meeting in Rome, with Marzia Ventimiglia and Brother Alvaro Sepúlveda of FMSI. On the 6th and the 7th FMSI will have its board meeting at the general house with Econome general Br Libardo Garzón and general councillor Br Michael De Waas.

A retreat for the Brothers of the Norandina province in Rionegro, Colombia, is being held from July 3 – 9, with general councillor Brother Ernesto Sánchez.

From Tuesday, July 4, an encounter of the spirituality network in Mexico is taking place until July 10, with Br Javier Espinosa.

of all, we pray that we may be open to God's Spirit who makes all things new," he added.

The participants have been distributed the following way:

- Atlantis (South Africa): Tony Clark fms (Australia), Pietro Bettin fms (Mediterránea), María Bobillo (Compostela), Nnodu Onwutalu fms (Nigeria)
- Tabatinga (Brazil): Isidoro García fms (L'Hermitage), Juliana Kittel (Australia), Paul Bhatti fms (South Asia)
- East Harlem (USA): Jim Mc Knight fms (USA), Martha Eugenia Martínez (México Occidental)
- Romania: Barsen García fms (Santa María de los Andes), Nanci Alexandra Prochnow y Francisco Decezaró (married couple, Brasil Centro-Sul), Mario Meuti fms (Mediterránea)
- Marist District of Asia: Ricardo Piña fms (México Central), Aldo Cesar Farias (Brasil Centro-Sul)



**We were highly impressed by their personal quality, generosity and availability, as well as their enthusiasm to participate in a project that hopes to contribute to a new beginning of the Institute (...)** With the effort and collaboration of all, we pray that we may be **open to God's Spirit** who makes all things new

Br Emili Turú, Superior general



## FAREWELL CELEBRATION HELD IN HONOUR OF IOLANDA GALLO

### 24 YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE INSTITUTE

On June 26, the General Administration held a farewell celebration for Iolanda Gallo who retired on June 30 after 24 years working for the Institute.

"I always thought that this day would never come but it has," said Iolanda, who has worked as the portress of the General House since 1993. "It kind of hurts my heart to leave you all here."

In his speech at the garden of the General House, Superior general Brother Emili Turú told staff and members of the General Administration that she has spent over a third of her life at the Institute.

"She is a person who has seen and heard so many things and she's seen the time pass, especially in communications with the post, then fax and eventually emails," Br Emili told.

Br Emili recalled the anecdote of the day Iolanda received a phone call from Cameroon claiming "a Brother Emili Turú" was in hospital and needed money urgently, but she knew he was at the General House.

"This will be a new beginning for you, which we hope will be joyful and beautiful," he told Iolanda, who is moving to Marseille, France, to live with her sister.

Iolanda, who has probably been the first female staff with a visible place at the General House, has met four superiors general as well as hundreds of Brothers, laity and vis-



itors. Br Emili gave Iolanda a statue of our Good Mother with the hope that "a Marist spirituality accompanies her" and read her a traditional Irish blessing.

"May the road rise up to meet you. May the wind be always at your back. May the sun shine warm upon your face; the rains fall soft upon your fields and until we meet again, may God hold you in the palm of His hand."

## GHANA: FIRST PROFESSION IN KUMASI-NOVITIATE

### NINE NOVICES MADE THEIR FIRST PROFESSION

Nine Novices made their First Profession on Saturday 17th June, 2017 in the Marist International Novitiate, Kumasi, Ghana. Seven from the District of West Africa, and Two from the Province of Nigeria.

The Vows were received by Br. Joachim Ezetulugo, the Provincial of Nigeria.

The ceremony was attended by many priests, religious, family members and the lay faithful.



## L'HERMITAGE PROVINCE

### FIRST RELIGIOUS PROFESSION OF BROTHER THAN-LAURENT HUA

Saturday, June 24, was a joyful day in Notre Dame de l'Hermitage: Brother Than-Laurent Hua made his first profession in the Institute of the Marist Brothers.

Brother Than-Laurent Hua is French, originally from Vietnam and is aged 45 years old.

He arrived to France aged only 14, facing great difficulties. After a long personal path, he listened and welcomed with great satisfaction the call the Lord made him to be a "Little Brother of Mary," after reading a Vietnamese magazine, written by Brother Bonaventure Tran Con Lao.

A beautiful gathering of very diverse people accompanied him for the occasion: one of his sisters and a niece;



Vietnamese friends residing in northern France; the novitiate community of Seville and other educators; Brothers and Laity of the Province who were doing their retreat and the faithful of the parish to which Hermitage belongs to.

It was a simple and joyful celebration with Christian symbols, in particular during the procession of the offertory.

Brother Than-Laurent had asked his novitiate colleagues to present stones of the Hermitage rock and a pick: the building of the Champagnat "house" continues to be spiritually built around the world, thanks to the youth of several countries that continue to answer 'yes' to the Lord's call, like Mary.

After the Mass, a fraternal lunch gathered many participants and during which Brother Than-Laurent briefly recalled his journey through countless nooks.

*Brother Michel Morel*

## MARIST WORLD



Germany: Collaboration for Mission, International (Cmi Deutschland)



Brazil: Florianópolis - Centro Educacional Marista Lúcia Mayvorne



Thailand: Marist Centre for Migrants, Samut Sakhon



Mozambique: Bicentenary celebrations



Portugal: First profession of Br José Luís Rangel Carvalho - Vouzela



France: ND de l'Hermitage : Group II Lavalla200 – sending on mission

## VOCATIONAL CULTURE: A NEW BEGINNING FOR MARISTS OF CHAMPAGNAT

### NATIONAL ENCOUNTER FOR VOCATIONAL ANIMATORS

From June 13 – 17, the team of vocational animators of UMBRASIL organised a national encounter of vocational animators in Brazlândia with the participation of 45 animators of the three Marist provinces of Brazil and the team of Consecrated and Lay Life of UMBRASIL.

The objective was formation and accompaniment as well as the planning of vocational activities of Marist Brazil. Another goal was to propose the creation of a new space for the accompaniment of vocations and the exchange of provincial initiatives and experiences.

“Vocational culture: a new beginning for Marists of Champagnat” was chosen as the theme of reflection on the care of vocational animators who accompany and care for young people in the process of discernment and

preparation of the personal life project.

The coordinator of the area of Consecrated Life and Laity of UMBRASIL, Luiz Adriano Ribeiro, believes that the important thing is to take care

of those who care for others in order “to be in line with the proposal of the Marist Institute on vocational culture, creating itineraries of vocational accompaniment and discernment processes for the people who come to us.”





## GUATEMALA: VOCATIONAL PROCESSES COURSE FOR ACCOMPANIATORS

The first part of a course for accompaniators was held in July 2016 in Guatemala for lay people and Brothers of the Arco Norte and Cruz del Sur regions, in answer to the invitation made to all provinces of the Marist Institute to start vocational processes for laity.

A "Workshop of Personal Growth" was offered in the first part of the course with the aim of providing formation modules, theoretical and practical, from a psycho-historical-spiritual paradigm. During the following months, participants experienced the exercises in daily life, through records and with personal accompaniment.

The group met again this year from June 15 – 27 in Guatemala. Thirty-one Marists of Champagnat of the Arco Norte and Cruz del Sur regions began the second part of the course for accompaniators of vocational processes. Yet again, the course was animated by the team of the Central

American Institute of Spirituality (CEFAS), founded by Fr Carlos Cabarrús SJ. The formative proposal of this year is focused on techniques and tools for accompaniment, under the theme "To accompany is to love."

This experience of formation has an international tone, very much in tune with the current process of the Institute. There are participants from Uruguay, El Salvador, Mexico, Venezuela, Haiti, Guatemala, Colombia, Puerto Rico, Nicaragua, Ecuador, Argentina, Costa Rica and Spain.

Among the participants was the director of the Secretariat of the Laity, Brother Javier Espinosa, of the Commission of Laity from the América Central Province.

The experience for the group, immersed in the spirit of La Valla, is a clear sign of the "New Beginning" as Marists of Champagnat, open to the surprises of the Spirit.

## CALENDAR OF THE GENERAL COUNCIL AND DIRECTORS OF SECRETARIATS JULY – SEPTEMBER 2017

**June 31 – July 3:** Marist Youth Festival 'AWAKEN' in Sydney, Australia: Br Tony Leon, Brothers Today Secretariat director.

**July 1:** Second formation programme for participants of Lavalla200> (International Communities for a New Beginning) are commissioned in the Shrine of Notre Dame de L'Hermitage in Lyon, France: superior general Brother Emili Turú, and formation leaders Brothers Jeff Crowe and Ángel

Medina. The programme finishes on July 3.

**July 1:** Workshop in El Salvador: Br Javier Espinosa, director of the Secretariat of the Laity.

**July 3 – 4:** FMSI strategic planning group meeting in Rome: Marzia Ventimiglia and Brother Alvaro Sepúlveda of FMSI.

**July 3 – 9:** Retreat for the Brothers of the Norandina province in Rionegro, Colombia: general councillor Brother Ernesto Sánchez.



**July 4 -10:** Encounter of the spirituality network in Mexico: Br Javier Espinosa.

**July 6 – 7:** FMSI Board meeting at the general house: Economy general Br Libardo Garzón and general councillor Br Michael De Waas.

**July 7 – 13:** Accompaniment course for discernment at the General House: Br Tony Leon, Brothers Today Secretariat director.

**July 9 – 15:** District of Melanesia Assembly and Chapter in Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea: general councillor Brother Michael De Waas.

**July 10 – 28:** Commission of the revision of the Constitution meeting to elaborate third draft: general councillor Brother Josep Maria Soteras.

**July 11:** Workshop for provinces of Mexico and Canada, in Mexico: Br Javier Espinosa.

**July 17:** arrival of the new FMSI International Fundraiser & Projects coordinator, Federica Debenedittis, in Rome.

**July 22 – 29:** African Marist Gathering on Initial Formation (for formators and vocation ministry directors) in Nairobi, Kenya: Brothers Today Secretariat directors, Brothers Tony Leon and Hipólito Pérez, and Brothers Ernesto Sánchez, general councillor.

**July 24 – 29:** Visit to International Novitiate in Tudella, Sri Lanka: General councillor Brother Michael De Waas.

**July 25 – 31:** Visit to Three2Six Project and Lavalla200>Atlantis in Southern Africa: Brother Chris Wills, director of Commission for Mission, International.

**July 31 – Aug. 03:** Meeting of Conference of the Superiors of the African Continent (CSAC) in Nairobi, Kenya: Brother Antonio Ramalho, general councillor.

**Aug. 7 – 11:** Gathering of European younger brothers in L'Hermitage, France: general councillor Brother Antonio Ramalho and director of Brothers Today Secretariat Brother Tony Leon.

**Aug. 11 – 14:** Bicentenary celebration of West Central Europe at L'Hermitage, France: general councillor Brother Antonio Ramalho and Brother Tony Leon, director of Brothers Today Secretariat.

**Aug. 19 – 31:** Workshops in Ghana and Cameroon. Br Javier Espinosa.

**Aug. 20:** arrival of the new FMSI Child Rights & Advocacy Officer, Brother Rick Carrey, in Rome

**Aug. 20 – 31:** Visit to México Central Province: General councillor Brother Víctor Preciado.

**Aug. 21 – 24:** International Council of Economic Affairs, Escorial, Spain: Br. Libardo Garzón

**Aug 30 - Sept. 7:** Meeting of the Provisional Committee of the XXII General Chapter in Rionegro (Medellín), Colombia: Bros. Joe McKee, Vicar General and Ernesto Sánchez, General Councillor.

**Sept. 8 – Oct. 20:** XXII General Chapter in Rionegro, Colombia: General Council, superior general Brother Emili Turú, Brothers Tony Leon and Hipólito Pérez.

### Institute of the Marist Brothers - General House

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