



MARIST NEWS

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Marist Brothers - General House - Rome

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION LAUNCHES CHAPTER WEBSITE

WWW.CHAMPAGNAT.ORG/LAVALLA2017/

This is the address of the website of the General Chapter, already available to the public since Aug. 1.

Through this website, we can meet the capitulars and accompany the work of the Chapter, which begins on Sept. 8 in Colombia.

Interaction with the Chapter participants is possible through messages published on the website itself and by using the hashtag #lavalla2017 on social media.



CAPITULANTS WILL SOON RECEIVE FINAL DRAFT OF CONSTITUTIONS

COMMISSION FOR THE REVISION OF THE CONSTITUTIONS

The Commission for the Revision of the Constitutions held its final meeting from July 10 – 28 in Rome to pre-

pare the final draft of the revision of the Constitutions and Statutes, and to write the complete draft of the 'Rule

of Life.' It will send these two drafts to the capitulars in August for them to read ahead of the 22nd General Chapter in Colombia in September.



"These three weeks have been a very intense working session to fine tune the third draft of the revision of the Constitutions and to write a complete draft of the 'Rule of Life,'" affirmed Brother Tony Clark, member of the Commission.

"The Rule is not mimicking the structure of the Constitutions, but it is rather based on the Vatican document 'Identity and Mission of the Religious Brother in the Church,'" he told the general house press office on July 25. Br Tony explained that the 'Rule of Life' will be based on the call of being a Brother as "a gift we receive, a gift we share, and a gift we give away," which refers to consecration, community life and mission.



On July 15, the Commission visited a Vatican official of the Congregation for Institutes of Consecrated Life and Societies of Apostolic Life for feedback on the wording.

For three weeks, the Commission looked at feedback from all provinces and districts on the second draft of all the constitutions and statutes, divided into five chapters: 1. Our Institute of Religious Brothers (identity, nature and purpose); 2. Our way of Being as Brothers (consecration and vows); 3. Our life as Brothers (fraternity, prayer and ministry); 4. Our life journey as Brothers (belonging); 5. Our organisation as Brothers (government and administration).

"The feedback was really helpful," stated Br Tony. "A criticism of the second draft is that the Institute sits in the

wider Marist family and the Brothers do not need to be in control since it's the Holy Spirit at work with lay people and Brothers together."

"We, Brothers, are now called to a different role," he continued. "We can step back a bit from doing and be more a witness of what it means to be a Brother."

The current commission includes Brothers Josep María Soteras (General Councillor and coordinator of the commission), Tony Clark (Australia), Eduardo Navarro de la Torre (México Occidental), Albert Nzabonaliba (East Central Africa), Antonio Peralta (Santa María de los Andes), and Sebastião Ferrarini (Brasil Sul-Amazônia).

BEGINNING OF THE CAUSE OF BEATIFICATION OF BROTHER MOISÉS CISNEROS

THE GENERAL COUNCIL CONSTITUTES THE CAUSE ACTOR

Superior general Brother Emili Turú Rofes, in a meeting held with his Council on May 15, in accordance with the requirements of the Divinus Perfectionis Magister Constitution of Pope John Paul II of January 25, 1983, and with approval by absolute majority of votes, has assumed responsibility for the cause of martyrdom of Brother Moisés Cisneros Rodríguez, a member of the Institute of Marist Brothers of the Schools, murdered in Colonia Santa Isabel of Guatemala City (Guatemala) on the 20 April 1991, aged 45.

This administrative act is the first step to begin the beatification process of Brother Moisés.

The Superior General and his council have been sensitive to the request presented by the province in which it is affirmed that Brother Moisés enjoys an extended fame of martyrdom that deserves to be recognised legally by the authority of the Church.

Brother Moisés Cisneros was born on 12 August 1945 in Quintana de Raneros (León), Spain, to a family who knew how to instill in all of its children a deep sense of life and of the Catholic faith, a legacy that was already a family tradition and way of life. He began his apostolate in El



Salvador at the San Alfonso School. During his time at the Liceo Salvadoreño, he made a beautiful projection in the community of Atehuán. He was founder of the community of Chichicastenango.

Being director of the Marist School of Guatemala, in zone 6, he was assassinated in his office on 29 April 1991.

With his violent death he left the memory of his dedication and self

giving to the simple people of Ateos, Chichi and Zone 6; memory of the intense concern for the young brothers of his community and of his 25 years as an apostle among Central American children and youth.

From his faithfulness up to his death, he confirmed the Gospel verse: "If the grain of wheat does not fall to the ground and die, it is unfruitful, but if it dies, it bears much fruit."

NEWS IN BRIEF

AUSTRALIA

Three bicentenary Masses will be held on Aug. 12 in Brisbane, Sydney and Melbourne.

AMÉRICA SUR

The Provincials of the América Sur region met from July 18 – 21 in Cochabamba, Bolivia, to evaluate common projects that are already under way and also to guide processes for structuring the regional body of the Congregation's Marist administrative units in the southern part of the continent. The new Marist Institute region encompasses five provinces in seven countries: Brazil, Argentina, Chile, Uruguay, Paraguay, Bolivia and Peru.

IBÉRICA

A large group of brothers stayed at the house of Fuentenueva in El Escorial (Spain) from July 23 – 31, where they had their retreat this year. It was animated by Brother José María Ferre, who currently lives in Lebanon, and focused on the topics of brotherhood and being a Marist Brother.

BRAZIL

From Aug. 9 – 12, the Brasil Centro-Norte province held its first provincial assembly for youth. The Brasil Centro-Sul province held a provincial encounter for laity over the weekend in Curitiba. In Labrea, the Brasil Sul-Amazônia province gathered Marists currently in Amazonia in an intercommunity meeting.

BRAZIL: A PREPARATORY MEETING FOR THE 22ND GENERAL CHAPTER GATHERS BROTHERS AND LAITY



Around 60 brothers and laity of Rio Grande do Sul gathered in São Leopoldo from June 30 – July 1, for the pre-chapter encounter “gathering the fruits.”

The encounter served as preparation for the 22nd General Chapter, which will be celebrated in September in Colombia.

It was a sort of challenge for participants to reflect on the continuity of the Marist mission and the different realities, listening to the appeal of the children and young people of our time.

The activities were based on the experiences of immersion carried out by the Marist communities since 2016. Divided into groups, brothers and laypeople shared their experiences using the methodology called contemplative listening, which guides a dialogue impregnated by sensitivity, lack of prosecution and having open hearts.

The goal was to gather the elements of our Province that would be sent to the General Chapter.

“The fruits of this preparation are strongly linked to what we plant, water and care in our mission areas,” affirmed the provincial’s vice president, Brother Deivis Fischer.

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The provincial superior, Brother Inacio Etges, noted that “the experience was very important and fruitful, mainly because it is the first time that we make a preparation of this magnitude with the presence of brothers and laity.”

This experience was also held in Lábrea, Amazonia, from July 6 to 9 with the communities of the Brasil Sul-Amazônia Province, who were unable to attend the meeting at Rio Grande do Sul.

MARIST WORLD



El Salvador: Members of the San Alfonso School at the casa Hermitage



Kenya: Gathering of African Marist Formators for a New Beginning, Nairobi



Philippines: Notre Dame of Marbel University in Koronadal City



Argentina: First profession of Br Víctor Andrés, from Uruguay, in Mar del Plata



Fiji: Anitelea Fidow's First Profession at Lomeri Novitiate



Nigeria: Workshop on school management at Alban Okoye Hall, Uturu

SANTA MARÍA DE LOS ANDES

CAPITULANTS ATTEND ASSEMBLY IN COCHABAMBA



Thirty-three Marist Brothers and Laity of Cochabamba, Bolivia, gathered with Brothers Saturnino and Patricio, capitulants of the Santa Maria de los Andes Province. The encounter's

goal was for participants to reflect and prepare contributions for the Marist General Chapter to be held next September in Río Negro, Medellín, Colombia.

THE VOCATION OF THE MARIST LAITY

BROTHERS CONVENE TO DISCUSS LAITY ISSUES WITH A CHAPTER PARTICIPANT

Thirteen brothers met on July 23 to share reflections on the key documents that pertain to the Marist Laity.

It was an opportunity for Ms. Elma B. Rafil, participant of the 22nd General Chapter in Colombia on behalf of the East Asia province, to be in dialogue with the brothers on key themes, specifically, on The Vocation of the Marist Laity.

Ideas shared were enriching as openness permeate the course of the discussions.

In exploring the identity and the process of the development of the vocation of the Lay Marists and their role, there still exist areas which are not clear from the standpoint of the brothers.

On the part of the laity, the tension, among others, lies in the area of de-



pendency on the brothers and the challenge for autonomy within the context of communion.

Details of the discussion points in

the consultation forum were consolidated for they provided valuable reference to understanding perspectives of both brothers and lay.

CRUZ DEL SUR PROVINCE: PRE-CHAPTER ASSEMBLY IN ARGENTINA

In the context of the preparation of the XXII General Chapter, the Province of Cruz del Sur has already carried out six local assemblies (Mendoza, Jujuy, Rosario, Montevideo, Asunción and Coronel Oviedo), with another two still to take place (Buenos Aires and

the Province of Buenos Aires). The capitulants do not cease to be amazed as we listen to the richness of the Marist Mission in these three countries of the Province (Uruguay, Argentina and Paraguay), the intuitions and certainties that are unfolding and the

dreams that are dawning. The seriousness with which brothers and laypeople have carried out this process shows us the interest and enthusiasm of being co-creators in updating the Marist Charism to our times and in the contexts in which it is unfolding.



NATIONAL MARIST YOUTH FESTIVAL

250 MARISTS GATHER FROM ACROSS AUSTRALIA TO CELEBRATE BICENTENARY

From 30 June to 3 July, St Joseph's College in Sydney was transformed into celebration mode as 250 students, young adults, volunteers, staff and Marist Brothers gathered from across Australia to celebrate the Marist bicentenary.

Young adults from the Province of Southern Africa and the Philippines participated bringing an international voice to the celebration.

The festival theme 'Awaken' invited young people to reflect on the legacy of Champagnat's charism over the past 200 years and to once again awaken to the situations and circumstances of today's rapidly changing world, and respond as 'agents of change' in the lives of children and young people.

The festival provided 24 engaging workshops covering a range of topics including faith, theology, justice, human rights, spirituality and ministry to the peripheries.

For the first time, participants encountered the Lavalla 200> Community from Mt Druitt and were provided with an overview of the community's vision and mission objectives for young people in western Sydney.

We were blessed to have inspirational keynote speakers including Brother Tony Leon from Rome and the energetic Catholic songwriter/performer, Steve Angrisano from the United States.

Speaking at the conclusion of the four-day festival, Awaken co-ordinator Brother Greg McDonald reflected



on the significance of the gathering. "The festival has been a unique opportunity for the Province and the Marist Association to not only celebrate our Marist bicentenary with our young people, but also encounter their youthful desire and vitality for future Marist life and mission," affirmed Br Greg.

"We want to tap this energy by inviting our graduating school students to participate in a range of emerging Marist youth ministry projects throughout the Province and support them in their young adult lives through the provision of good formation and accompaniment experiences," he added.

Awaken marked the 30th anniversary of Marist Youth Festivals in Australia.

Superior General, Brother Emili Turú, sent a message to the participants which can be seen here <https://goo.gl/JJ5F9T>.



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