

Via Latina 22

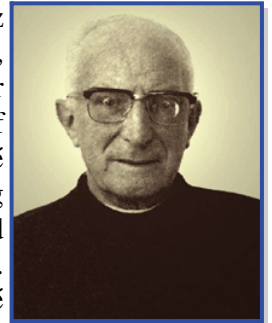
News From the General Administration - Society of Mary



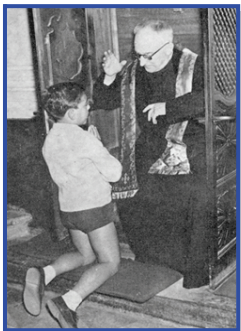
Issue # 171 - November 2008

OPENING OF THE PROCESS OF THE CAUSE FOR THE BEATIFICATION OF FR. VICENTE LÓPEZ

Fr. Vicente López Uralde Lazcano was a Marianist priest who died in the city of Cádiz (southern Spain) on September 15, 1990 in his 97th year. Fr. Vicente was born in Vitoria, Spain, in 1894. At nine years of age, he became a student at a school by the name of "Our Lady of the Pilar Children's School," which was directed by the Marianists in the city of Vitoria. The school was founded by Mrs. Felicia Olave (aunt of the father of Fr. José María Salaverri) primarily to take care of the children of poor Christian workers. Young Vicente was enrolled by his parents in this small school from which several students had already proceeded on to the Marianist Postulate for the Province of Spain in Escoriza. One of those postulants was Emilio Salaverri, father of our former Superior General, José María. Vicente always expressed great respect and affection for Señor Salaverri.



Young Vicente also became a Marianist postulant and novice. He professed his First Vows in Vitoria in 1911 and Perpetual Vows in 1917 at Escoriza. Destined for the priesthood, he studied Theology at the Marianist Seminary in Fribourg (Switzerland) and was ordained in 1925. He returned to the Province of Spain as a young priest, and in 1928 he was sent to Colegio San Felipe Neri in Cádiz to serve as a teacher in the Colegio and as chaplain of the oratorio located beside the school. From that day in 1928 until the moment of his death in 1990 he always lived in Cádiz and dedicated himself to the work at the school. This amounted to faithfully carrying out his ministry as a priest and teacher for seventy-two uninterrupted years in Cádiz! To the people of Cádiz, especially the students, alumni, parents and diocesan clergy, he became well known and loved as a faithful priest, a holy and good man, and expert confessor.



Fr. Vicente's cause was introduced to the Bishop of Cádiz on September 25, 2008 by Fr. Antonio Gascón, Postulator General of the SM. After consulting the bishops of the region of Western Andalucía, and receiving the *nihil obstat* from the Congregation for the Causes of Saints, His Excellency Antonio Ceballos, Bishop of Cádiz approved the introduction of Fr. Vicente's cause in his diocese. Consequently, Diocesan Vicar General Fr. Guillermo Domínguez Leonseguí (former Marianist student who knew Fr. Vicente) has set the date for the opening of the

cause. It is scheduled to occur on Sunday, December 14 at 6:00 pm in the Chapel of the Oratory of San Felipe Neri, in Cádiz. The bishop will preside and it will include the swearing in of the members of the diocesan tribunal that will be in charge of gathering oral and written testimony regarding how Fr. Vicente lived and practiced Christian virtues to a "heroic degree." At the same ceremony, the Postulator and Vice-Postulator (the latter is Mr. Julio Ramos, Esq., a retired lawyer, former student of Fr. Vicente, and someone very close to the Marianists) will take an oath to carry out their duties faithfully.

From the very beginning, Bishop Ceballos exhibited great enthusiasm for the initiation of the Fr. Vicente's Cause. Fr. Vicente was greatly loved by the diocesan clergy and the faithful of the city of Cádiz. We are grateful to Bishop Ceballos for his having accepted this initiative and we thank God for this sign of His sanctifying presence which touches so deeply the Marianist Family.

Prayer

God, Our Father,
you have called your servant
Vicente López de Uralde
to serve your Church
as a Marianist priest,
under the maternal protection
of the Virgin Mary,
and you made him
a merciful pastor
for the reconciliation
of sinners.

Grant that we, following his example,
might bear witness to our faith
with a compassionate
and merciful heart
and, through his intercession,
grant the graces
that we humbly beg of you.
Through Christ our Lord. Amen

ORDINATION IN ABIDJAN



The Ordination of our brother Noël Dominique Kouao, SM took place on Sunday, October 12, 2008, the feast of Our Lady of the Pillar. The Mass was presided over by the Bishop of Agboville: Bishop Alexis Touably. The ordination ceremony lasted about 3 hours! Members of the entire Marianist family were present, together with friends and family of Noël Dominique. All came to accompany him and show their

support. It was a simple Eucharistic celebration, yet beautiful and very prayerful. The main feature of this ordination was peace and joy. In his homily, the bishop congratulated the Marianists for their presence in Ivory Coast and their "native son" who found his way into this religious congregation. He drew the attention of the new priest towards fidelity to his commitments in these terms: "The value of a person derives from being faithful to one's commitments."

PERPETUAL PROFESSION IN MEXICO



Fr. Joseph Lackner presents Bro. Nico with his gold ring.

Bro. José Nicolás Castilla López (Bro. Nico) professed perpetual vows in the Society of Mary on Oct. 12 at the Sanctuary of Our Lady of Guadalupe in Coatzacoalcos, Mexico. OLG parishioners and Marianist Family members from Coatzacoalcos, Querétaro, Puebla and La Chinantla were in attendance.

CONGRATULATIONS



APPOINTMENT OF SUPERIORS IN INDIA

Bro. Stephen Glodek, SM, Provincial of the Province of the United States recently announced the appointment of District Leadership in India. Fr. Pragasam Thathappa has been re-appointed to a second term and Bro. Prakash Kujur was named Assistant District Superior. We offer our prayers and best wishes to these two leaders and to the entire District Council.

NEW LEADERSHIP ELECTED FOR THE ALLIANCE MARIALE



Congratulations to Christiane Barbaux and the new General Council who were recently elected as the leadership team of the Alliance Mariale. The new General Council of the Alliance Mariale is as follows:

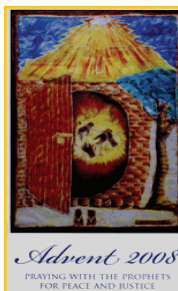
Christiane Barbaux (France) "General Responsible"
 Agathe Senou (Ivory Coast) General Counselor
 Cecilia Moraga (Chile) General Counselor
 Marie-Laure Jean (France) General Counselor

May the Lord bless the Alliance Mariale and the Virgin Mary guide them in her tenderness!



REQUEST FOR PRAYERS

Please pray that, through the intercession of Blessed William Joseph Chaminade, Julie, the 27 year old niece of Marie-France Chopy, of the Marianist Lay Community in Bordeaux, may be cured of cancer.



ANNOUNCEMENT

An Advent booklet designed to be used by individuals and as a community has been prepared by the Office of Temporalities. It is being sent to ALL COMMUNITIES in the Society of Mary.

REAFFIRMING HUMAN RIGHTS FOR ALL - *Remy Sandah, SM*

"All human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights. They are endowed with reason and conscience and should act towards one another in a spirit of brotherhood. " (Article I of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.)

Where are we, 60 years after the Universal Declaration of Human Rights? How can we make it better known? Is it possible to strengthen and ensure a more consistent application of its principles in places where they are neglected? These were the concerns of the 61st annual conference organized by the Department of Public Information of the United Nations, in cooperation with the NGO community, with the support of UNESCO, the High Commissioner for Human Rights and the government of France.



Several Catholic-inspired NGOs, including Marianist International, sent representatives to the conference held from 3 to 5 September 2008 at UNESCO headquarters in Paris to mark this 60th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, signed in this city in 1948. Members of the SM who were present included Remy Sandah, SM (GA), Charles-Henri Moulin, SM (FR), and Olivier Glaize, SM (FR). The Declaration was the first universal affirmation of the fundamental principles of human rights in which all peoples and all nations can take pride. It is a remarkable work and we are grateful to our predecessors when we see the positive effects of this statement on society. One speaker pointed out that it would be difficult in today's world to find nations willing to sign the Universal Declaration of Human Rights if it were written today. Or better yet, can we now find minds capable of writing such a statement?

But, despite the undeniable progress, today, 60 years after the Declaration, we realize that the world still badly suffers from non-compliance with these rights. That is why the conference chose the theme "Reaffirming Human Rights for All." Through conferences and roundtables, it drew the attention of the 1200 participants to the capacity of civil society, in partnership with other actors, to advance human rights at international, regional, national, and local levels. Several speakers stressed the word "universal" which implies that respect for human rights must be absolutely applied wherever there are human beings. We need to educate individuals and societies to awareness of human rights and put the values promulgated by the Declaration into practice in daily life. Kiyotaka Akasaka, Deputy Secretary General for Communications and Public Information, United Nations said that: "Indifference must be enemy number one."

Human rights must remain a constant concern and we are obliged to seek the best way to encourage and contribute to the advancement of human rights in the world. One of the 55 final proposals from the Synod of Bishops that just concluded here in Rome reminds us of this by inviting us into dialogue with Muslims: "In this dialogue, the Synod insists on the importance of respect for life, the rights of men and women, as well as the distinction between what concerns the social-political arena, and what concerns the religious arena, in promoting justice and peace in the world."

(Proposition 53) (Fides, 27 October 2008)



PRAY FOR VOCATIONS TO THE MARIANIST FAMILY



50 YEARS OF MARIANIST PRESENCE IN TOGO



Marianistes du Togo

This year, the Marianist Region of Togo celebrates the Golden Jubilee of the Marianist presence in that country. After holding various commemorative events over the past several months, the brothers will close the program of events with a solemn Mass of thanksgiving on Sunday, November 16, 2008, 9.00 a.m. in the Cathedral of Kara. Very Rev. Fr. Manuel Cortes, Superior General will preside at the Eucharist.

The first Marianist brothers arrived as missionaries in Togo in October 1958. They were sent by the Province of Switzerland. Their early work was mainly in schools, where they quickly gained a very good reputation. Chaminade College, Kara, has been a Marianist work for 50 years and it is a benchmark in education for the entire country. Even the current president of Togo was once a student there!

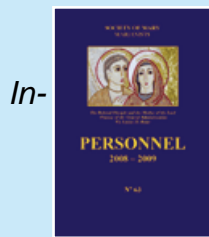


Togo became an independent region on September 12, 2005. The Unit currently consists of four communities and approximately forty Marianists religious.

Let us join them in joy and thanksgiving during this time, especially on November 16th, as we all pray for the future of the Marianist family in this country. More information on the celebration will appear in the December issue of *Via Latina* 22.

E-MAIL AND ADDRESS CHANGES

- Institute of Integrated Rural Development (IIRD) in Bangladesh: iird@iird-bd.org
- Fr. Alvin McMenamy (USA): amcmenamy@sm-usa.org
- Bro. Robert Wiethorn (USA): bobwsm@gmail.com



In-

NOTE: The 2009 Issue of the *ternational Personnel* is currently on its way to all Units.

NOVEMBER 6:

**CELEBRATION
OF THE
MARIANIST
MARTYRS OF
MADRID**



General Administration Calendar

- **Nov 6-8:** Meeting of the World Council of the Marianist Family in Rome.
- **Nov 10-22:** Meeting of Unit Education Assistants at the General Administration in Rome.
- **Nov 13-19:** MC attends Anniversary Celebration in Togo.
- **Nov 24-25:** General Council Meetings, Rome.
- **Nov 26-29:** AF attends African Zonal Conference in Nairobi.
- **Nov 27-28:** MC attends meeting of USG, Rome
- **Nov 30-Jan 1:** AF and JMA visit India

G.A. Communications Recently Sent...

- Death Notices #'s **25-29**
- **Nov 1:** 2009 *SM International Personnel* to all Units
- **Oct 3:** Travel form for all those attending the meeting of Unit Education Assistants at the General Administration in Rome
- **Sept 30:** (*via post*) Marianist Prayers for Advent to all communities in the SM.