

# Via Latina 22

News From the General Administration - Society of Mary



Issue # 178 - May 2009

## PREPARATIONS FOR THE GENERAL LEADERSHIP ASSEMBLY HAVE BEGUN

Recently, participants in the 2009 General Leadership Assembly received the schedule and agenda for the meeting which is to be held in Rome from July 19, 2009 until August 1, 2009. This agenda was prepared by the General Council in consultation with Unit leaders and the Extended General Council. Participants in the Assembly, according to our Rule of Life, include members of the General Council, Provincials, Assistant Provincials, Regional and District superiors.



The overall theme of the Assembly, which occurs at the half-way point between General Chapters, is “*A vision of the future of the Society of Mary, understood as a global community: presence, mission, lifestyle, structures....*” One can see that the focus clearly will be on our future. Before addressing this future vision, it is important to come to a clear understanding of the current reality within the Society of Mary. So, the first part of the Assembly will consist of reports and presentations from each Unit. Unit leaders will share the situation, challenges and vision for their Unit. They will also discuss their Unit’s response to the last General

Chapter and their involvement with the greater Family of Mary. Members of the General Council will also present a report of the activities of their office since the last Chapter.

Informed by these reports, and with a spirit of trust and hope, members of the Assembly will examine some of the challenges that the future presents. While the General Leadership Assembly is not charged with the responsibility of making decisions (in the way that a General Chapter would be), it does provide an invaluable service in helping to guide the General Council in its decisions,

as well as to identify those areas which need to be addressed at the next General Chapter. To this end, the Assembly will involve general sessions, sub-group discussions and time for personal reflection.

In addition to the formal meetings in the General Assembly and sub-groups, members of each Zone will have the opportunity to conduct meetings. Also, there will be ample time for informal sharing and fraternal interaction. We commend the intention of this Assembly to the prayer of all the members of the Family of Mary. It is a very important event for the SM as we move toward the General Chapter of 2012 and face the challenges of our mission in the future.

### General Administration Calendar

- Apr 25-May 19: AF and JMA visit Colombia
- Apr 28-May 5: MC and EV visit Meribah
- May 7-9: MC attends conference in Valencia
- May 28-30: MC and AF attend meetings of the USG in Rome
- June 4-7: AF and JMA visit Poland

### G.A. Communications

- Death Notice - #'s 5-6
- Apr 13: *Three Offices #125*: Chaminade Year
- Apr 14: GLA Bulletin #4 to Unit Leaders
- Apr 20: Mixed Composition—Additional info from Superiors and Formators
- Apr 20: Circular #3 of the Superior General
- Apr 29: VOCSM Issue #1

## PROFESSION OF FIRST VOWS IN INDIA

Three brothers made their First Profession on April 30 at the Nirmal Deep Novitiate in Ranchi, India. Fr. Pragasam T., SM, District Superior received the vows of Brothers Pratap Guria, SM, Arokiyasamy P. Prince, SM, and Anshtony S. Santhosh, SM. Bro. Prakash Kujur, SM, gave the homily and presented the Rule of Life to the newly professed. Fr. Ignatius Arulappen, SM, Novice Master was the main celebrant. The MLC, FMI and the SM were present in great numbers. After the liturgy, all gathered in joyful celebration of the commitment they had just witnessed.



### PRAYER INTENTION:



Request is made for prayer through the intercession of Blessed William Joseph Chaminade for the cure of Luiga, the aunt of Colombian Marianist, Jair Romero. Luiga is 51 years of age and is suffering from vesicular cancer. *Intention proposed by Jair Romero, SM.*

## MIXED COMPOSITION CONSULTATION IS UNDERWAY!



The information for completing the Mixed Composition Consultation has already been sent to all those who registered to receive it by e-mail. Please take a few moments and contribute to this important fraternal project. All members of the SM should complete this consultation. It may be completed on paper (copies sent to each community) or by computer. Even if you did not register to complete it on the computer you may still do so by going to one of these language links:

<http://dparesearch.net/Marianist/English> — **available now!**  
<http://dparesearch.net/Marianist/Italian> — **available after May 9**  
<http://dparesearch.net/Marianist/Spanish> — **available now!**  
<http://dparesearch.net/Marianist/French> — **available after May 9**  
<http://dparesearch.net/Marianist/German> — **available after May 9**  
**Korean and Japanese are available in written form from the Unit Superiors**

**Please note that unless you have received a “Thank You” and indication that your responses have been recorded, your consultation is not yet submitted. Be sure to follow the directions until the end.**

The Consultation will end at the end of May. Thank you for your cooperation and assistance!

# OUR EARTH COMMUNITY

by Remy Sandah, SM

A recent publication of the "Integrity of Creation" working group of the JPIC Commission, is available on the web: The book is entitled: *The Earth Community: In Christ, Through the Integrity of Creation towards Justice and Peace for all*. This booklet is an initial and ongoing training for men and women religious. The brochure is available in English, Spanish, French, and Italian, and it will be soon available in several other languages like German, Polish, Croatian, Portuguese etc.

I would like to thank Father Bernard Vial, SM, and brother Bertrand Bougé, SM, who have contributed to the French version of the document by a proofreading of the translation before publication.

The first chapter, entitled *See*, which gives an overview of the state of the planet, discusses five themes (climate change, biodiversity, oil, water, and genetically modified organisms). The second chapter, *Judge*, presents theological, scriptural, and ethical reflections on these themes. The third chapter, *Action*, presents a series of practical suggestions to help change our personal and communitarian behavior as we work to build an appropriate legal framework at national and international. In this we can help ensure a more sustainable future for the Earth Community. Finally, the brochure provides resources, accounts of experiences, a pattern of celebration and some questions so that you and your community can evaluate your progress.

The JPIC group would like wide dissemination of this brochure and invites each religious institute to reflect on its contents, and then complete the document according to the ecological dimension of its own charism.

I hope you will use and benefit from this resource. To find this document type in the link below:

English: [http://jpicformation.wikispaces.com/EN\\_creation](http://jpicformation.wikispaces.com/EN_creation)

Español: [http://jpicformation.wikispaces.com/ES\\_creacion](http://jpicformation.wikispaces.com/ES_creacion)

Français: [http://jpicformation.wikispaces.com/FR\\_creation](http://jpicformation.wikispaces.com/FR_creation)



## INFORMATION CHANGES:

- Pablo Rambaud (Philippines): [pablo.rambaud@gmail.com](mailto:pablo.rambaud@gmail.com) and [pablo.rambaud@marianistas.org](mailto:pablo.rambaud@marianistas.org)
- Emilio Cardenas (Poland): [chaminade@post.pl](mailto:chaminade@post.pl)
- Marianist Community in Albania:  
Comunità Marianista  
Shoqëria e Marisë – Marianistët  
Rruga Vellezerit Coku  
Lagjia SMT  
godina 163  
LEZHË, ALBANIA



# MARIANIST LAY COMMUNITIES TO HOLD INTERNATIONAL MEETING IN KENYA



The 5<sup>th</sup> International Meeting of Marianist Lay Communities will take place in Nairobi, Kenya from August 1-7, 2009. The theme of the meeting is: “*Marianist Lay Communities in the Church and in the World.*” The meeting brings together delegates from the Marianist Lay Communities from each country to learn from and share with each other, as well as to produce a document that is to be published. Delegates will also elect the members of the International Leadership Team who will serve for the next term.

The current International Leadership Team is organizing the meeting while Lorna Mueni (Regional Responsible for Africa), and the MLC of Kenya have graciously assumed responsibility for hosting the event. We offer our prayers for our sisters and brothers of the MLC

as they prepare for this important event.

## NEW PUBLICATION JUST SENT FROM THE GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

Now, in addition to *Via Latina 22*, you can look forward to receiving **VOCSM** from the SM General Administration. This newsletter will carry news about SM vocations and vocation ministry, as well as spotlight work that is being done throughout the world in this important area. The inaugural issue was sent a few days ago. It is anticipated that it will be published three times each year.

If you have anything to share in this publication, or a suggestion for it, simply contact Fr. André Fétis, SM at [genrelsm@smcuria.it](mailto:genrelsm@smcuria.it).

