



VIA LATINA 22

281 - June 2019

News from the General Administration of the Society of Mary

Institution of new lectors and acolytes at the Marianist International Seminary in Rome



Left-Right. First row (from above): Bro. Renny Markose, SM (IN), Fr. Francisco Canseco, SM (ES), Rector of the Intl Seminary, Bro. Peter Heiskell, SM (US), Fr. André Fétis, SM (FR), Superior General, Fr. Pablo Rambaud, SM (ES), General Assistant for Religious Life and Bro. Lester Kaehler, SM (US), Vice-Rector of the Intl Seminary. Second row: Bro. Brandon Paluch, SM (US), Bro. Michael Chiuri, SM (US), Bro. David Kangwa, SM (EA) and Bro. Santhosh Savarimuthu, SM (IN). Third row: Fr. Antonio Gascón, SM (ES), Archivist and Postulator General, Bro. Elie Oka, SM (IV), Bro. Alejandro Borrella, SM (ES), Bro. Victor Ferreira de Aguiar, SM (ES-Brazil) and Bro. Cyprian Maingi, SM (EA).

On Monday, May 27, five of our brothers from the Chaminade International Seminary in Rome were installed as lectors and four were installed as acolytes. The new lectors are: Alejandro Borella (ES), Victor Ferreira de Aguiar (ES), David Kangwa (EA), Cyprian Maingi (EA), and

Santosh Savarimuthu (IN). The new Acolytes are: Michael Chiuri (USA), Renny Markose (IN), Elie Kouakou Oka (IV), and Brandon Paluch (USA). The ceremony, presided over by the Superior General, took place during the Eucharist on Monday evening. As a matter of common practice, the Seminary Community and the General Administration community participate together in the Monday evening Eucharist. The evening ended with a festive meal enjoyed by both communities together.

On the path to the priesthood, these ministries are the occasion for each seminarian to become more deeply aware of the role of the Word of God and the Eucharist in their lives. The tasks that they are preparing to assume call them to live these two realities more deeply. They are called, in particular, to deepen their spirit of service for the good of the Christian community. This begins by the service they render to their Brothers in community. Let us pray for each of these men, as well as for the other seminarians. May they continue in their preparation for the service of their brothers in community! Let us pray also for their formators.

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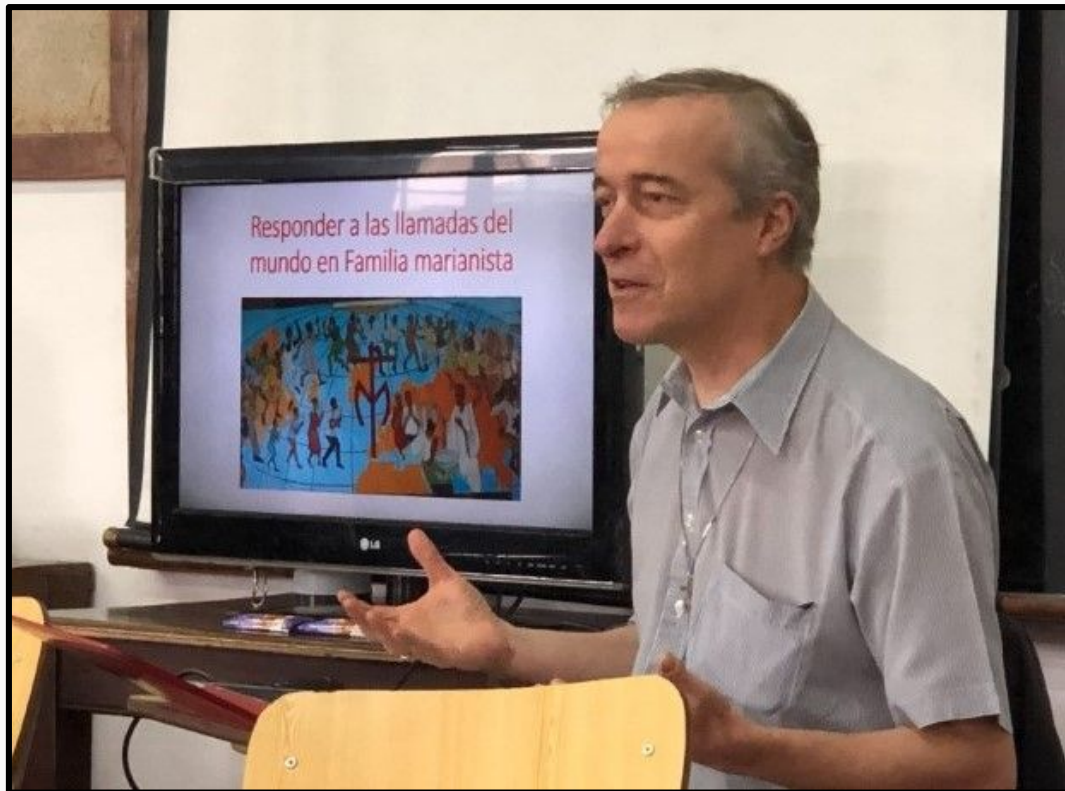
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General Council Visitation of the Region of Argentina



General Council and FMI Community celebrate the first Mass in their new chapel, Buenos Aires.

Two days after celebrating the Resurrection in Rome with Easter joy, the four members of the General Council made the long trip to Buenos Aires, Argentina to begin their visitation of this Region. They were welcomed by the SM religious at the community in the capital city and from there, began the 17-day visitation. There are 11 religious, in three communities within the region. These religious, along with members of the FMI and committed laypeople animate four large schools, two parishes and several social works of solidarity. Two of the schools are in Buenos Aires, and the others are located in Junín and Nueve de Julio. The sanctuary-parish of Our Lady of Fatima serves the faithful in the Villa Soldati section of Buenos Aires, a peripheral barrio with many difficult economic and social challenges. Nearby is one of the largest schools in the Marianist world, also named Our Lady of Fatima, with more than 3000 students! The Parish of the Risen Christ, located in the southern city of General Roca contains 16 different chapels, spread out over hundreds of square kilometers! In all these places and ministries, the presence and collaboration of many members of Marianist Lay Communities give living witness to the grace of our Marianist Charism lived as a Family.



Fr. André discusses responses to the Call of the Marianist Family.

As with some other Units in the Latin American Zone, the SM in Argentina faces the real challenges of aging and scarcity of religious personnel. The extensive missionary commitments of the Region are possible because of the involvement of many other collaborators who have assumed leadership roles and who, together with the religious, work hard to incarnate the Marianist Charism in all these apostolic works. The General Council was grateful for the kind welcome received by all these people, both religious and lay. We commend the future of this Region to the Blessed Mother, and pray that the Holy Spirit might guide them as they work to secure the future of the SM's mission in Argentina.



Primary school students celebrate with the Founders, Junín.

General Council Visitation of the Region of Chile



Members of the General Council and the Regional Council.

Having completed the visitation of the Region of Argentina, the members of the General Council made the relatively short trip over the Andes Cordillera, to Santiago de Chile to begin its next visitation there. The Region of Chile was last visited by the GA in 2014. As Spring temperatures began to rise in Europe, the Southern Hemisphere was moving steadily toward winter! So, this visitation would include near-freezing temperatures in the morning and evening, but pleasant, temperate days.

There are 19 members of the Region of Chile. In addition, one member of the Region of Columbia-Ecuador serves as Novice Director at the Latin American Novitiate located in Santiago. The Region's mission is heavily concentrated in education, with 5 colegios and the new Casa Estudio Chaminade. Four of these are located in the Santiago area, while the fifth school and the Casa are in Linares, several hours to the south. In addition, the Region engages in various other ministries, including 2 parishes, a university student residence and works of solidarity. In Santiago, there are 4 communities, and another one in Linares.



Casa Estudio Chaminade, Linares.

Like Argentina, Chile is challenged to animate its extensive apostolic mission, with limited religious personnel. But, once again, it is a Unit that collaborates very effectively with laypeople, including in the Chaminade Foundation, which is directly in charge of animating their educational works.

One feature that the General Council was very grateful to observe was the interdependence of all four branches of the Marianist Family in Chile. Together with the Marianist Lay Communities, the FMI and several members of the Alliance Mariale, the SM enjoys a very clear manifestation of the Marianist Family. The Council was pleased to participate in several events

where all four branches were represented, very much in the spirit of our recent General Chapter.

Let us pray for our brothers, and for all the members of the Marianist Family in Chile!



Oldest and Youngest Primary School students, Casa Chaminade.

Activities of the Postulator General

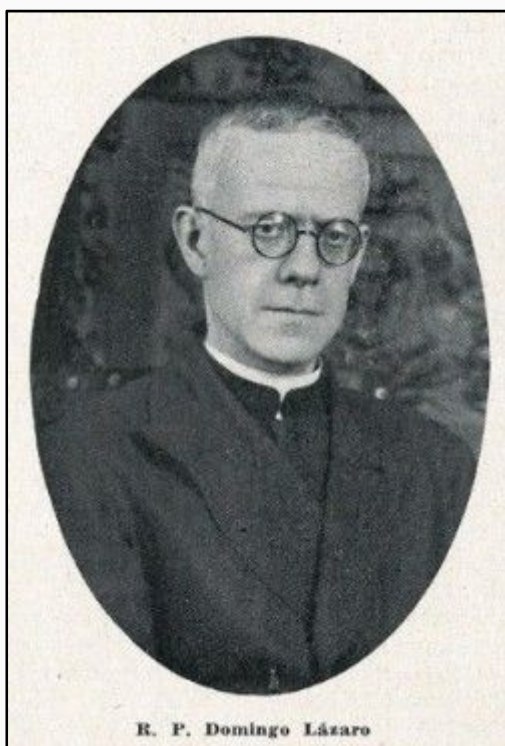
The Congregation for the Causes of Saints recently turned 50 years old. St. Paul VI, in the spirit of Church renewal after the Second Vatican Council, established this Congregation. In the Apostolic Constitution *Sacra Rituum Congregatio* (8-V-1969) he created the Congregation for Divine Worship and the new Congregation for the Causes of Saints. Originally, these two congregations were part of the Congregation of Rites. He divided the work of this newly born Congregation into three offices: The legal office, directed by the Secretary of the Congregation; the theological, chaired by the Promoter of the Faith; and the historical directed by the General Relator. St. John Paul II wrote two documents that further clarified the work of the Congregation for the Causes of Saints. These documents are the Apostolic Constitution *Divinus Perfectionis Magister* (25-1-1983) and *Normae Servandae in inquisitionibus ab Episcopis* (7-II-1983). In these documents, the Pope brought about a profound reform in the procedures for the Causes of Canonization. He overcame the legal and

contentious structure of the dicastery method by using a procedure based on criteria of a historical-theological nature.

This reform of the Popes has allowed the Congregation for the Causes of the Saints to make known the wide range of holiness in the Church's sons and daughters. The reform also makes canonized holiness an important pastoral and evangelical instrument.

On May 8, there was a solemn celebration at the Altar of the Chair in St. Peter's Basilica to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the formation of this Congregation. The presider for this celebration was Cardinal Angelo Becciu, Prefect of the Congregation. In addition to the Cardinal, 20 Bishops, 120 Priests and numerous faithful participated in the celebration. Among the numerous faithful were officers and employees of the Congregation. In addition, many of the postulants from various religious orders and their friends were present.

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A very important news item appeared in the bulletin *Sala Stampa della Santa Sede* of May 14 as well as in *L'Osservatore Romano* on May 15. This item appeared under the title "Promulgation of Decrees of the Congregation of the Causes of Saints." This news item mentioned that on May 13 Pope Francis authorized Cardinal Angelo Becciu, Prefect of the Congregation, to promulgate the decree on "the heroic virtues of the Servant of God Domingo Lázaro Castro."

Fr. Domingo Lázaro was a professed member of the Society of Mary, Marianists. Fr. Domingo was born in San Adrián de Juarros, Spain, on May 10, 1877. He died in Madrid, Spain, on February 22, 1935.

With this pontifical authorization, the first step in the process of canonization comes to completion. This step concerns the reputation for holiness and virtue of Fr. Domingo. His witness to us as an educator and as an evangelizer of young people will be of great value in our pastoral work with youth.

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On Wednesday, May 15, at the Gregorian University in Rome, there was a conference concerning a recently published book. The title of the book is: *The Catholic Church of Eastern and Central Europe Faced with National Socialism. 1933-1944*. The publisher of the book is the Gabrieli Editori publishing company of Verona. The year of publication is 2019. The moderator of this academic presentation was Fr. Marek Ingot, S.J. Among the people attending the conference were Cardinal Angelo Amato, Prefect Emeritus of the Congregation of the Causes of Saints, and Professor Jan Mikrut, coordinator of the project.



This voluminous 950-page book is a true “Martyrology of the twentieth century,” affirmed Cardinal Amato. The book gathers the names of the martyrs and faithful Catholics of all social classes. The names included come from all areas of ecclesial and cultural life. In addition, the book includes both sexes as well as people of various ages, young and old. The book is a listing of all of the victims of the perverse Nazi genocide and anti-Christian attitude in the countries of Central and Eastern Europe. Included in this cloud of witnesses for Christ is the martyrdom of Fr. Jakob Gapp. You will find his name and a short biography on pages 135 and 161. The research of Fr. Josef Levit, S.M. is the source for the article concerning Fr. Gapp.

Sr. Franca Zonta, FMI, Elected Vice-President of UISG



Sr. Franca Zonta, FMI (extreme right) attends meeting with Pope Francis.

During its Plenary Assembly held from May 6-10 in Rome, the International Union of Superiors General elected its new leadership team. Among those elected was the Superior General of the Marianist Sisters, Sr. Franca Zonta, FMI, who was chosen to serve as Vice-President. The UISG has a membership of over 1800 women's religious institutes. At the conclusion of the Plenary Assembly, they had the opportunity to meet with Pope Francis. On behalf of the SM, we congratulate Sr. Franca and offer our prayers for this important service in the Church.

General Chapter Message to Young People – English Version



The delegates of the XXXV General Chapter (July 2018) issued three special messages along with the official Chapter document. One of these, a *Message to Young People*, was drafted in text form, but the Chapter requested that its promulgation be made using other media which might facilitate the message's reception by young people. Thus, the various language groups were charged with the responsibility of preparing the diffusion of this message, in creative ways, and making it available to the youth of their countries. Through its cooperation with the Communications Department at the University of Dayton, the Province of the USA has completed the English version of this message. It is a video which is available for viewing [HERE](#). We thank all who collaborated on this, and ask those in English-speaking areas to help make this message known.

G.A. Communications recently sent

- Death Notices: # 16 - 17.

G.A. Calendar

- June 2 - 11: Bro. Max Magnan, SM, Assistant General for Education, attends meeting of the World Congress of the International Organization of Catholic Education in New York City.

Address Changes

- Bro. Thomas Farnsworth (US): thomasfarnsworth1965@gmail.com