



VIA LATINA 22

299 - April 2021

News from the General Administration of the Society of Mary

General Council Visitation of the Region of Togo

From February 27 until March 21, 2021, all four members of the General Council conducted a canonical visitation of the Region of Togo. The leadership of the Region and its members were generously open to the re-scheduling of this visit, ahead of the originally scheduled time, due to changes required by the COVID-19 pandemic. For this flexibility, we are very grateful.



Members of the Region and the General Council at the Special Regional Assembly held during the visitation.

The Region consists of 40 religious, the vast majority of whom are engaged in the works of the Region in Togo and Benin. Some others are in formation or other assignments located in other countries. The Region runs three schools and a spiritual centre. All these works are quite vibrant and well-respected throughout the countries in which they are located. In addition, there is a pre-novitiate community on the grounds of Collège Chaminade in Kara. The Region has several candidates in all levels of formation.



Raising of the flag of Benin at the weekly assembly of students at Collège Chaminade in Natitingou, Benin.

Because of the member's relative youth, and their clear orientation toward the mission of education, there is a predominate enthusiasm for working with young people, for vocation ministry, and for the expansion of their mission. At the same time, both the youth of the Region and scope of the mission bring challenges as well. Areas such as ongoing formation, leadership and finances are gradually solidifying, and the General Council has encouraged continued development in these areas. There is much to hopeful about in this Region.



Students of Collège Chaminade, Kara greet the General Council

The General Council is very grateful for the welcome received and excited about what was observed. We asked Mary's continued guidance on our brothers as they faithfully advance the life and mission of the Region.

Bro. Timothy Driscoll Appointed to Second Term as Provincial

In a meeting held on March 29, 2021, the General Council unanimously reappointed Bro. Timothy Driscoll, SM, as Provincial Superior of the Province of Meribah. This will be his second mandate of three years starting on June 1st, 2021.



The support for Bro. Timothy as superior was extremely clear in the consultation. The members of the Province were very appreciative of the work he had done during his first term and strongly favored his continuing to serve in leadership. In a spirit of Faith and of service to the Society of Mary, Bro. Timothy has accepted his nomination. The General Administration thanks Bro. Timothy for his positive response to the call to fraternal service.

Patronal Feast of the Marianist Family at Via Latina 22

From ancient times, the Christian Churches have celebrated the Mystery of the Incarnation of the Word on March 25, Feast of the Annunciation (the beginning of spring and the rebirth of life). The eternal Logos of the Father, assuming human nature, divinizes it, and thus we are saved. Jesus Christ is the new man, who renews all of creation as well as salvation history.

This mystery of salvation has been chosen as the Patronal Feast of the Marianist Family, because the “Yes” of the Virgin Mary was the door for the Word to assume our human nature. Thus, He entered into our history and redeemed it. Under the inspiration of Mary, the Marianist Family wants to open the doors to Christ and proclaim him to all peoples.



The two Marianist communities (General Administration and Seminary), who live in the house of Via Latina 22, came together on the afternoon of March 25 for a prayer service, using the prayers prepared for this occasion by the Marianist Lay Communities. Praying in the three official languages of the Society, in addition to Italian, the language used in our two communities, we contemplated the four "yeses" of Mary: a yes that gives a "beginning", a yes to "daily life", a yes in the moment of "suffering" and a yes "to life".

A great YES to the lordship of Jesus over our lives and a faithful YES to the men and women who share with us the adventure of life and the hope of salvation.

Fr. Vicente López de Uralde: *A face of the merciful Father*

Vicente López de Uralde is a Spanish Marianist, whose cause for beatification is underway. After the completion of the diocesan phase in January 2010, the *Positio* is now at the Congregation for the Causes of Saints. Next December the Theological Consultors of that congregation will examine it.



Our Brother Vicente was born in Vitoria (Spain) on January 22, 1894. He led a simple life, not brilliant, but tremendously fruitful. He distinguished himself by his kindness and his balance. With his positive attitudes, and without attracting attention, he was a community builder. His priesthood developed, above all, through the sacrament of Reconciliation to which he dedicated a large part of his day. He was an tireless confessor, welcoming and merciful, for the many people who came to him to receive that sacrament.

He lived most of his life, 62 uninterrupted years, in the city of Cadiz (Spain). The people of that city loved him very much. They awarded him various public and private tributes. He had a great reputation for sanctity. Vicente died there on September 15, 1990 at the age of 96.

[Click to know more about Fr. Vicente](#)

G.A. Communications recently sent

- **Death Notices: N° 4-5**
- **Mar. 26: S.M. 3 Offices # 156 - *To serve him in holiness and righteousness, in his presence all our days***, in three languages, to all Marianist religious, sent by Fr. Pablo Rambaud, SM, Assistant General for Religious Life.



On the occasion of Easter Sunday, 2021, Via Latina 22 sends to its readers our warmest greetings with a prayer that the Risen Lord may bring Peace to all peoples around the world.