



VIA LATINA 22

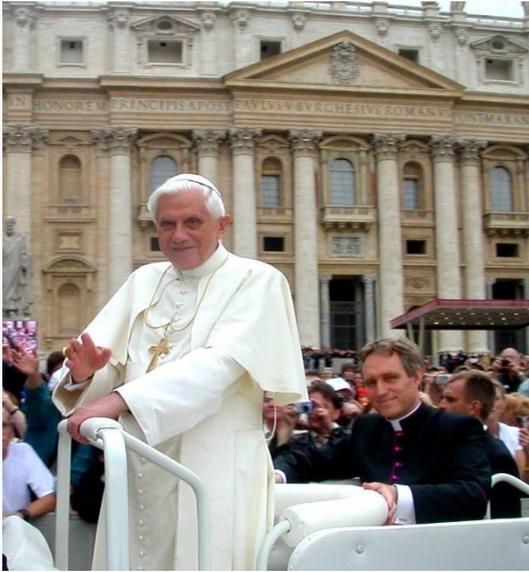
317 - January 2023

News from the General Administration of the Society of Mary

INDEX

- [Pope Benedict XVI: Requiescat in pace](#)
- [Perpetual Vows in the Region of Eastern Africa](#)
- [Appointment in the Province of USA](#)
- [General Council Visitation to the Province of Meribah](#)
- [Continental Phase of the Synod on Synodality \(October 2022-October 2023\)](#)
- [Long Live Soccer](#)
- [Prayer for Suffering Children!](#)
- [Necrology 2022](#)
- [Jubilarians 2023](#)

Pope Benedict XVI: *Requiescat in pace*



On the announcement of the death of Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI, the Society of Mary joins its prayer with that of the entire Church. He was a theologian and teacher recognized and admired for his intelligence and the clarity of his thought. In this respect, he leaves a considerable body of work. He was above all a servant of the Church

throughout his life. He showed this constantly in the different responsibilities that were entrusted to him.

At the inaugural Mass of his pontificate on April 24, 2005, he said: *"My real program of governance is not to do my own will, not to pursue my own ideas, but to listen, together with the whole Church, to the word and the will of the Lord, to be guided by Him, so that He himself will lead the Church at this hour of our history."*

He also said, referring to the recent death of his predecessor, Pope John Paul II: *"The Church is alive – she is alive because Christ is alive, because he is truly risen. ... throughout these days we have also been able, in a profound sense, to touch the Risen One. We have been able to experience the joy that he promised, after a brief period of darkness, as the fruit of his resurrection."*

Such is his experience today. We join in the Church's prayer of thanksgiving and intercession. May Pope Benedict XVI rest in peace!

Perpetual Vows in the Region of Eastern Africa

The Marianist Family of the Region of Eastern Africa on December 10, 2022 held the ceremony for the Perpetual Profession in the Society of Mary by Bros. Joel Kaira, SM, Elvis Mwewa, SM and Philip Adoka, SM. The colorful and joyful celebration took place at St. Joseph Chapel ground, Matero Boys' Marianist Secondary School, Lusaka Zambia. The Regional Superior, Father Stephen Wanyoike, SM, presided over the Eucharist and received the vows on behalf of the SM. All the Council Members of the Region of Eastern Africa were present. Several other religious from Zambia and Malawi, who came to support the three Brothers, were also present. The Archbishop of Lusaka was represented in the ceremony by the Vicar General.



Bros. Joel Kaira, SM, Elvis Mwewa, SM and Philip Adoka, SM, surrounded by concelebrating priests

It was also the occasion to celebrate and give thanks to God for the Silver Jubilee of religious profession of Fr. Callistus Jeje, SM, and Bro. Patrick Kagai, SM.

In his homily, Father Stephen talked about the faithfulness of Abraham and how a Christian must place total trust in God. He encouraged the professing Brothers to remain faithful and committed, and never to deny our Blessed Mother their

cooperation, because God is calling them to faith and trust. While recalling that the perpetual profession of vows as not a "graduation," he reminded everyone that a religious vocation and the professing of perpetual vows is a continuation and confirmation of the life one has already been living. It is a call to deepen one's vocation and grow deeper in the love of our Blessed Mother, the Church and the Society of Mary.

Among those present were the members of the Marianist Family, the faithful of the St Joseph Chapel and Matero Parish, parents and relatives, friends and acquaintances of the professed.

The ceremony ended with a well-organized sumptuous festive meal that was served at Matero Boys main hall. A group of alumnae of Matero Boys also entertained the guests with their poetic artistry skills.

Appointment in the Province of USA



The Superior General, Fr. André-Joseph Fétis, SM, with the unanimous consent of the General Council, has re-appointed Bro. Bernard Pleoger, SM, to a second term of three years as Assistant Provincial of the Province of United States of America. His second term will begin on July 1, 2023. It will last for three years. Bro. Bernie received overwhelming support from the

membership of the Province, most sighting his good work during the first term, his fraternal closeness to the religious and his good teamwork with Fr. Oscar Vasquez and the Council.

The General Council is very grateful that Bro. Bernie has generously accepted this reappointment and offers him their sincere commitment toward assisting the leadership of the Province.

General Council Visitation to the Province of Meribah

From December 1-19, the four members of the General Council were welcomed by the communities and works of the Province of Meribah, in New York, USA. There are three communities in the Province, two of which are connected with their educational works, and the third is a retirement community. The Province runs three large schools: Chaminade High School (Mineola), Kellenberg Memorial High School (Uniondale) and St. Martin de Porres Marianist School (Uniondale). They are assisted by extraordinarily dedicated lay collaborators. Together, there are more than 4500 students receiving a Marianist education on Long Island. In addition to the schools, the Province runs five retreat houses. Two on Long Island for each of the high schools, and one that is shared between them, located about 3 hours to the north of New York City. During the course of the school year, more than two hundred and fifty retreat programs are held for classes, school clubs, school sports teams, former students and



Snow-covered Founders Hollow, Marianist Retreat House

vocation ministry. The Province is comprised of 34 members, 29 lay religious and 5 priests. Of these, 27 are active in the school ministry, while 5 are retired and 2 are serving at the General Administration in Rome. Approximately two years ago, the Province answered the petition of the local bishop to take responsibility for the revitalization of all Catholic primary education in the diocese. So, in addition to their own primary school, St. Martin de Porres Marianist School, members of the Province oversee the *Morning Star Initiative* in conjunction with the Diocesan

Office of Education. This gives them responsibility for more than 30 elementary schools throughout the diocese.



**Visiting with students of St. Martin de Porres Marianist School
as they prepare for their Christmas Concert**

They were even able to open a new school, Our Lady of Guadalupe School, the first bilingual Catholic elementary school in the diocese. It is located in an area with many immigrants from Latin America. It is lay run by a very competent team, and together with the confidence generated by the guidance of the Marianists, the school has grown into beacon of light throughout the diocese.



**Fr. André delivering greeting Kellenberg Students
on the Feast of the Immaculate Conception**

The Province lives an intense community and spiritual life, which they freely share with their students and collaborators. They also engage in much vocational ministry, particularly with their current and former students. Accompanying them through the discernment process is enabled by multiple and creative ways of maintaining relationships that begin in school, and continue long after graduation. In recent years, the Province has been graced with several younger vocations. They recently had a perpetual profession, the third in the last two years. There is currently one religious with temporary vows, and one novice.



Members of the General Council modelling jackets received at their “farewell” dinner.

The General Council was pleased to spend these weeks with the members of the Province. It was a special time, as they were also able to experience the Advent season together. We are grateful to the Province for their fraternal hospitality and assure them of our prayers for their members and apostolic works.

Continental Phase of the Synod on Synodality (October 2022-October 2023)



Last October, the synodal phases dedicated to diocesan and episcopal conferences were concluded. The synodal journey has now entered the continental phase. It still concerns all the people of God, but it is now coordinated according to seven continental assemblies (North America; Europe; Asia; Middle East;

Latin America and the Caribbean; Africa and Madagascar; Oceania).

The objective of this next phase is to deepen the discernment on what has emerged from the previous stages of local and national listening: open questions, insights, and the big picture, especially from a continental perspective. This is a very interesting level of reflection for all of us since it is at the same level as our Zones. You can see a brief and clear description of this continental phase at the following address:

https://www.synod.va/content/dam/synod/common/infographic_continental/EN-Infographic-Continental-Stage-Synod-2023.png

The working document for the Continental Phase: "*Enlarge the space of your tent*" (Is 54,2), summarizes the reflection carried out to date, citing interesting contributions received from a number of places in the world. It helps us to enter more deeply into the synodal spirit, on this "path of conversion and reform". Communities are encouraged to discuss this enriching document on their own or as a Marianist Family.

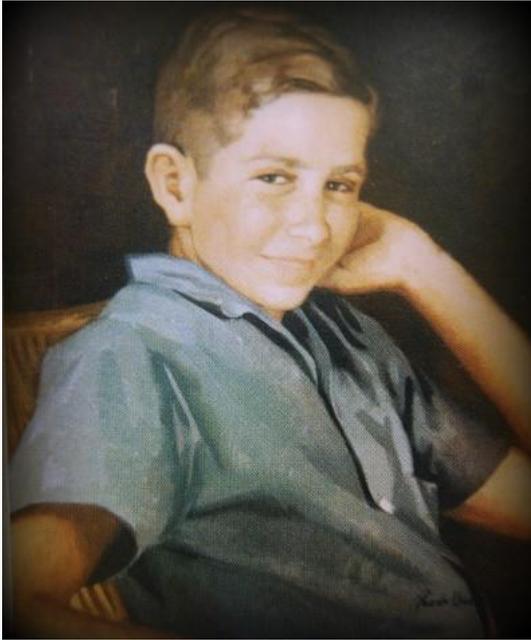
You can download The Discussion Paper in a number of languages at this address: <https://www.synod.va/it/synodal-process/la-tappa-continentale/risorse-e-strumenti/documenti.html>

Good luck to all in continuing the synodal journey: let us enlarge the space of our tent!

Long Live Soccer

Beyond the polemics surrounding the World Cup, the players who are sold or who sell themselves, and the business of big money; soccer unites, fascinates, and makes you happy, provided you are a good winner and a good loser!

Many do not like the "shoot-out," but there has to be a winner who rejoices. Faustino certainly lived the ups and downs with his team!



In his diary, Faustino recounts his day-to-day life, a few notes about his relationship with God, with others, with himself, and with soccer: "Too bad I didn't take communion. I said my rosary in the morning. I spoke with Christ for 10 minutes in the afternoon. Too bad they beat us 6-4. In the afternoon, we were shown 3 films about the atom for the good of humanity, the Vanguard satellite and the AX-80. I turned off the light around 11:15."(November 18, 1960).

Faustino is determined, he wants to finish what he has started, and despite his advancing illness, he sets himself specific "shots on goal":

- Daily Rosary;
- 10 or 20 minutes of prayer;
- daily soul-searching;
- the consecration to Mary in the morning and the three-o'clock prayer;
- seeing all men as children of God, beginning with my sisters;
- accepting suffering for love;

This whole program requires serious practice to achieve the winning goal: "Getting to be holy. To be holy is to love God and this is easier with the Virgin."

Let us not forget to make Faustino known to those around us and to ask for graces through his intercession.

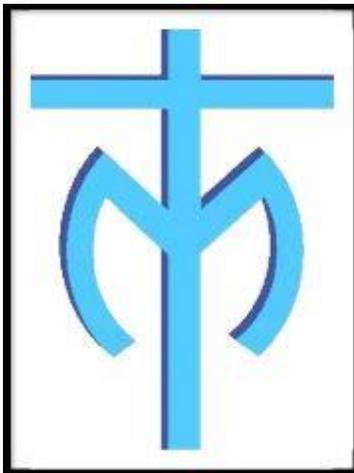
Prayer for Suffering Children!

There are still millions of boys and girls who suffer and live in conditions very similar to slavery. They aren't numbers: they are human beings with names, with a face of their own, with an identity that God has given them.

Too often, we forget our responsibility and we close our eyes to the exploitation of these children who don't have a right to play, to study, to dream. They don't even enjoy the warmth of a family.

Each marginalized child, abandoned by his or her family, without schooling, without healthcare, is a cry! A cry that rises up to God and shames the system that we adults have built. An abandoned child is our fault. We can no longer allow them to feel alone and abandoned—they are entitled to an education and to feel the love of a family so they know that God does not forget them. Let us pray for children who are suffering, especially for those who are homeless, orphans, and victims of war. May they be guaranteed access to education and may they have the opportunity to experience family affection.

Pope Francis, November 2022.



Prayer for suffering children!

Lord, look at our world.

*You wanted justice and peace to reign there.
However, in our midst, so many children are suffering:*

*Vulnerable, refugees, displaced, abandoned,
often abused or exploited.*

*Deprived of hygiene and education, they are the
first victims of war,
or natural disasters, or climate change.*

*Lord, do not allow us to be indifferent to the
situations closest to us,*

*where tensions, violence, separations, divorce,
undermine the harmony of living together.*

*Following your example, may all people take care
of the children in need!*

Thy Kingdom come!

Amen

Necrology 2022

#	Name	Date	Place	Age	Prof.	Un
1	*Philip Karl Eichner	Jan. 1	Kingston, NY	86	67	ME
2	*Joseph John Uvietta	Jan. 9	San Antonio	90	71	US
3	*Harold James Bartlett	Jan. 10	Dayton	85	63	US
4	*Juan Cruz Perea Armentia	Jan. 15	Madrid	75	57	ES
5	Carmine Thomas Annunziata	Jan. 15	Nairobi	90	71	EA
6	*Cipriano Gutiérrez Riocerezo	Feb. 19	Santiago de Chile	85	67	CH
7	Francisco José García de Vinuesa	Zabala Feb. 21	Santiago de Chile	84	66	CH
8	Francis Spaeth	Mar. 16	Cupertino	98	72	US
9	*Robert Edward Hackel	Mar. 20	Cupertino	89	70	US
10	Ignacio Teixidor De Otto	Mar. 30	Vitoria-Gasteiz	89	69	ES
11	*Marcel Boisselier	Apr. 4	Bordeaux	89	69	FR
12	Peter A. Pontolillo Fensore	Apr. 12	San Antonio	83	64	US
13	*Stephen Tutas	Apr. 16	Cupertino	95	77	US
14	Akli-Esso Moïse Kola	Apr. 18	Lomé	30	3	TO
15	*Masahiro François-X. Tomiki	Apr. 25	Sapporo	89	70	JA
16	Jean-Paul Federneder	Apr. 28	Sion	80	59	SU
17	N'dri Aka Ferdinand	May 23	Abidjan	50	14	IV
18	*José Ramón García-Murga Vázquez	May 27	Madrid	85	66	ES
19	Normand Audet	June 12	Saint-Anselme	92	74	CA
20	*Roger Geysse	June 28	Rodez	99	81	FR
21	Robert Hanss	July 10	San Antonio	88	66	US
22	Jerome Matz	July 12	San Antonio	81	62	US
23	René Schauer	July 12	Issenheim	95	62	FR
24	*Bernard Vial	July 13	Pessac	97	80	FR
25	Josef Grünstäudl	July 16	Tragwein	81	63	OE
26	Francis Joseph O'Donnell	July 22	Baltimore	79	62	US
27	*Patrick Bernard Philbin	July 25	Orange	89	69	US
28	Robert John Juenemann	July 28	Cupertino	87	66	US
29	Julio Manrique Hierro	July 30	Madrid	81	64	ES
30	*Franz Ketter	Aug. 4	Rainbach im Innkreis	83	62	OE
31	Ángel Aguillo Martínez	Aug. 22	Madrid	80	62	ES
32	Chung Han Beda Ahn	Aug. 30	Incheon	76	43	KO
33	Harry Cornell	Sep. 19	San Antonio	81	63	US
34	James Maus	Oct. 26	San Antonio	79	60	US
35	Gregorio Larrea Urtaran	Nov. 5	Madrid	89	72	ES
36	*Yoshihiko John Yamasaki	Dec. 15	Himeji	88	65	JA
37	Ignacio Calzada Varona	Dec. 24	Logroño	83	65	ES
38	Rudolf Plötzeneder	Dec. 24	Linz	83	35	OE

JUBILARIANS 2023

January 20

(50° ordination)

*Janson, Christian Aloysius (US)

February 2

(25° profession)

Kim, Chang-Sup Paul (KO)

February 11

(60° profession)

Nussbaum, Donald Robert (ME)

Smith, Donald Louis (US)

March 19

(75° profession)

*Maegawa, Iwao Pierre (JA)

March 24

(50° ordination)

*Battiston, Dino (IT)

March 25

(60° profession)

*Aoki, Isao Jean-Baptiste (JA)

Nakaki, Kumao Michel (JA)

March 30

(60° ordination)

*Atucha, Juan Bautista (ES)

*Bielza, Enrique (LA)

May 1

(25° profession)

Ambrose, Arokia Doss (IN)

Ekka, Sanjay (IN)

*Kandulna, Rajesh Kumar (IN)

Kerketta, Oscar (IN)

Minz, John Gracious (IN)

June 6

(25° ordination)

*Boffelli, Gianpaolo (IT)

June 9

(50° ordination)

*Heft, James Lewis (US)

June 27

(25° ordination)

*Rambaud, Pablo (ES)

June 28

(25° profession)

*Bamana, Sylvain (FR)

*Kouao Akobé, Noël Dominique (IV)

July 21

(50° ordination)

*Arens, Eduardo (LA)

July 26

(60° ordination)

*Gastaminza, Fermín (ES)

*Otaegui, José Ángel (ES)

August 1

(25° profession)

*Mburu, Stephen Wanyoike (EA)

Ndung'u, Paul Kagece (EA)

*Ochieng', Michael Otieno (EA)

Okoth, Joseph Maricky (EA)

August 15

(25° profession)

García, Régulo (US)

(60° profession)

*Floriani, Loris (IT)

(70° profession)

Brisendine, DuWayne (US)

*DeLong, James Allen (US)

*Kaczkowski, Conrad (US)

*McMenamy, Alvin (US)

Schrader, Richard Joseph (US)

(75° profession)

*Hakenewerth, Quentin (US)

Kuntemeier, Albert George (US)

Larochelle, Jean-Marie (CA)

August 19

(50° profession)

Markel, Joseph John (US)

August 22

(60° profession)

Burkholder, James Francis (US)
Campbell, William (US)
Genovese, Joseph Anthony (ME)
*Long, Garrett John (ME)
Longbottom, Edward Joseph (US)
McBride, Lawrence (US)
*Royer-Chabot, Florian (CA)

(75° profession)

Hughes, Howard (US)

(80° profession)

*Jansen, Anthony Gerard (US)

September 5

(25° profession)

Dieste, Miguel Ángel (ES)
Gaztelumendi, Lander (ES)
*Pajuelo, Daniel (ES)

September 7

(25° ordination)

*Cho, Moon Hwan Louis (KO)

September 12

(60° profession)

*Amigo, Lorenzo (ES)
*Briones, Joaquín (ES)
Cuesta, Vicente (ES)
Gómez, Isaac (LA)
*González, Antonio (ES)

*Gutiérrez, José María (LA)

Hernández, Daniel (ES)

*Iceta, Ramón María (ES)

Marquínez, Tomás (ES)

*Orbegozo, Jesús María (ES)

*Osborne, José María (ES)

*Pardo, Ángel (LA)

*Tolsada, Diego (ES)

(70° profession)

*Giraud, Patrick (FR)

*Torres, Enrique (ES)

*Vega, Vicente Carlos de la (ES)

*Vicario, Julián (ES)

October 14

(50° profession)

Arsuffi, Giorgio (IT)
Bordignon, Roberto (LA)

October 21

(70° profession)

Landuré, Théophile (FR)

November 12

(75° profession)

*Vázquez, Fernando (ES)

December 26

(25° ordination)

*Betancur, Rodrigo Antonio (LA)

G.A. Communications recently sent

- **Death Notice: N. 36-38**
- **Dec. 6: *Request for information for the 2023 Marianist Education Directory***, in three languages, sent to Assistants for Education of the Units, from Bro. Maximin Magnan, SM, Assistant General for Education.
- **Dec. 12: *The Madeleine***, in three languages, sent to Superiors of the Units, from the General Council.

G.A. Calendar

- **Jan. 28 - March 25:** The General Council visits the Province of United States.

Change of Adresse

New address of the Marianist community of Sion (Switzerland):

Communauté marianiste
Foyer "Les Creusets"
Rue Saint-Guérin 36
1950 SION, Suisse

Happy New Year 2023!

"Behold, I'm doing something new: it's already sprouting, can't you see it? Yes, I am going to make a path through the desert, rivers in dry places".

(Is. 43,19).

The Via Latina communities wish all members of the Marianist family a Holy and Blessed New Year. May the Lord bless us and through the intercession of the Virgin Mary, Star of the Sea in the storm, may we find serenity in our mission.

