



VIA LATINA 22

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News from the General Administration of the Society of Mary

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Bro. Thomas Terrill (ME) Professes Perpetual Vows

On Sunday, October 8, the Province of Meribah joyfully witnessed the perpetual profession of vows by Bro. Thomas Terrill, SM. The profession took place within the context of a special Sunday Eucharist at the Chaminade Marianist Community in Mineola, NY, USA. In addition to the religious of the Province, they were joined by Bro. Thomas' parents and family, as well as friends of the family and community. A special joy was to host two novices from the Province of the USA, who travel from Dayton for the event.



**Bro. Timothy Driscoll, Provincial, receives
the Perpetual Vows of Bro. Thomas Terrill, SM**

Fr. Thomas Cardone, SM, Assistant Provincial, presided at the Mass and Bro. Timothy Driscoll, SM, Provincial Superior, received the vows. A festive reception in a facility of Chaminade High School continued the joyful fraternity that characterized the whole profession.

Bro. Thomas, is a teacher and administrator at Chaminade. He is very active in all aspects of the school and has earned the respect and affection of both the faculty and students alike. Prior to joining the Marianists, Bro. Thomas studied law and later, passed his bar examination for certification as an attorney.



L-R: Bro. Timothy Driscoll (ME), Bro. Thomas Terrill (ME), Novices José Manuel Gutiérrez (Pepe) and Carlos Alexis Román of the Province of the USA

We wish Bro. Thomas all God's graces in the continued development of his vocation. Grateful for his generous commitment, we pray for abundant blessings for his life and mission as a Marianist, and ask our Blessed Mother for her perpetual protection! !

The Madeleine: Embracing Our Charismatic Dynamism

As many of you already know, the General Council and the Region of France, following discussions during the General Leadership Assembly (July 2022) have engaged in a plan to support the mission of the Chapel of the Madeleine and the Marianist Community located there. Already we have begun to implement steps to reinforce the life and mission of the Society of Mary there. We envision a dynamic and creative international community with ministry to the people of Bordeaux, but also to the global Marianist Family. We are excited about the prospects of a renewal of the original dynamic of this foundational place, and the diffusion of this grace over a much wider context. The Madeleine is so important in our heritage and a symbol of the Charism received from Blessed Chaminade,

which has animated Marianist life and mission for more than 200 years.

In September 2023, after extensive preparation beforehand, a meeting of the existing Association of the Madeleine met in general assembly. Fr. André and Bro. Max were present representing the General Council, as were members of the members from France and the Conference of European Marianists. At this meeting, the Association adopted new Statutes in line with the goals of its mission, and the new administrative structures which will guide it. In addition, the legal installation of appropriate members and officers of the restructured Association was approved. Furthermore, a financial structure is being shaped, guided by the General Council with the cooperation of the administration of the Madeleine and the religious community, so that their temporal needs will be met and the ability to carry their mission is assured. Part of this includes a special endowment fund established for the support of this mission, with the hope that, eventually, it may assist those who wish to spend extended time there deepening their knowledge and understanding of our Marianist Charism. Several Units in the SM have generously pledged ongoing financial support, for which we are grateful.



Meeting of the Madeleine Association, September 2023

Bro. Hervé Guillo du Bodan, SM, has been appointed Rector of the Madeleine. He will oversee both the pastoral and charismatic formation programs there. Specifically, he will coordinate the pastoral ministry for the faithful of Bordeaux. He has also accepted the responsibility to serve as community director. Fr. Emilio Cárdenas, SM, will act as the director of the formation section. Responsibility for both the ministry and community at the Madeleine will shift to the General Administration, with the support of the Region of France. Members currently present in the community will remain in place. The community has already begun to take on an international character and, in time, we hope that this grows. Likewise, we look forward to sharing the resources at the Madeleine with the entire Marianist Family, including a special cooperation in formation with the FMI in Agen.

There are still steps to be taken in this transition, but we are grateful to all who have assisted so far. We expect that the new structure will be in full operation for the beginning of the new year. We ask you to keep this in your prayers and we invoke the special intercession of our Blessed Founder, William Joseph Chaminade, for the success of this great mission which he began and has left to our care.

Chaminade International Seminary in Rome



Second row, standing: Frédéric Bini, Vice Rector (Togo, Region of Togo); Messi Loubiya (Congo-Brazzaville, Congo Sector, Region of France); Gilbert Okade (Kenya, Region of Eastern Africa); Epidius Ngosa (Zambia, Region of Eastern Africa); Showrry Ravulapalli (India, District of India, Province of the United States); Claudel Noël (Haiti, District of Ivory Coast, Region of France); Miguel Ángel Cortés, Rector (Spain, Province of Spain); Yves Agbadou (Ivory Coast, District of Ivory Coast, Region of France).
Front row, kneeling: Raoul Rouamba (Burkina Faso, District of Ivory Coast, Region of France); Christophe Mbonde (Congo-Kinshasa, Congo Sector, Region of France); Patrick Cahill (United States, Province of Meribah); Daniel Orellana (Chile, Sector of Chile, Region of Latin America)

This year the community of the Chaminade International Seminary in Rome has grown in number and in the diversity of the origin of its members, as can be seen in the photo: 12 brothers, from 12 countries, and belonging to 8 different Units of the Society. That is why one of the important objectives of this year's community goals reads as follows: ***"In a multicultural and international community, we want to live diversity as a richness and commit ourselves to building fraternity, putting all our personal gifts at the service of others."*** The year began with two activities planned for September: a course on the *Letters of Fr. Chaminade* given by Fr. Enrique Aguilera, SM, of the Province of Spain, and the annual retreat in the house of the Marianist community of Pallanza preached by Fr. Eddie Alexandre, SM, from the Region of France. In addition, the community has been gradually organizing itself in all aspects: from the elaboration of the community goals to all practical organizational issues. Classes at the universities started on October 4.

Nazareth Program for the training of the New Formators

On October 27, the Nazareth Program for the training of new formators for the FMI and the SM ended. The meeting brought together 28 Marianist religious men and women from 12 different countries for almost 10 weeks.

As reported in the previous issue of VL22, the program began on August 15, the Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin, at the Dimesse Sisters' retreat house in Nairobi (Kenya).



The Nazareth program group (participants and team) with Fr. Manuel Cortés, SM, and Bro. Timothy Phillips, SM, at the end of the sessions dedicated to Marianist history and formation.

The group of participants consisted of 8 FMI sisters from the Units of Japan (Vietnam), India, Africa (Malawi and Ivory Coast), USA, and Latin America (Colombia and Ecuador), and 20 members of the Society of Mary from the Units of Korea, India, East Africa, Togo, Ivory Coast, Congo and Latin America (Colombia-Ecuador).

A group of five Marianist religious coordinated the program: Sisters Teresa Ferre (India) and Prudence Adoki (Assistant General for Religious Life - Rome) and Brothers Martin Solma (USA), Ignace Pagnan (Togo) and Pablo Rambaud (Assistant General for Religious Life - Rome). The initial team that prepared the program also included three other religious from East Africa (Eric Otiende), Ivory Coast (Noël Dominique Kouao) and Congo (Romuald N'Lumbu).



Fr. Ignace Pagnan addresses the students of Our Lady of Nazareth School in Nairobi, in the presence of some of the participants and staff from Nazareth, and Bro. Timothy Driscoll, SM:

The content of the program was developed around the fundamental themes of Chapter 1 of our *Rules of Life*, devoting a week (or two) to each of the themes: faith, consecration-Mary (vows, stability...), community of life and mission, Marianist family. At the heart of these themes were two weeks dedicated to deepening certain aspects of the charism, such as the historical evolution of formation, the System of Virtues, mixed composition, the Three Offices, and a general presentation of the writings of our founders. The program also included a week dedicated to prayer and reflection.

Each program theme was coordinated by one or more religious. Members of the team coordinated some of the weeks, such as the week on faith (Ignace Pagnan) or the retreat (Martin Solma). Other guest religious presented various topics. Bro. Timothy Driscoll (Meribah) and Fr. Calistus Jeje (East Africa) coordinated the weeks on consecration and Mary. Fr. Manuel Cortés organized the two weeks on charism and formation history. Bro. Chola Mulenga with Frs. Joseph Mwaura and Michael Otieno (East Africa) presented the topics on community of life. Bro. Thomas Giardino (USA) coordinated the week on mission life.



The Nazareth group on Crescent Island in Naivasha during an excursion

Along with these guest speakers, many other religious, men and women, have participated, either in person or virtually. In addition, two brothers from Togo, Lucien Gnakou and Ignace Gueba, were instrumental in the work of translation.

Thanks to the efforts of all of them, it has been possible to develop this program successfully, which we hope will soon bear fruit. Another large part of the program's success is due to the seriousness and commitment of the participants themselves. All of them, guided by the Spirit, with the active presence of Mary and the silent collaboration of St. Joseph, made this meeting possible.

Tribute to the Marianists of Saint-Anselme (Québec, Canada)

On October 8, a day of celebration was held in honor of the 85th anniversary of the presence of our Marianist brothers in the Municipality of Saint-Anselme in Quebec (Canada). Indeed, because their property was becoming too difficult to maintain, last July the four brothers left their home to move into nearby retirement homes. Three of the four brothers will provide pastoral service from their new home, continuing to serve the people of God in the area where the brothers first arrived in 1938.

This celebration, organized by the lay elders of the school and parish, formerly run by the brothers, shows the depth and quality of what they have received over

the years. A message from the General Council of the Society of Mary and a video message from Cardinal Lacroix, Archbishop of Quebec, were shared during the celebration:

"I would like to express our gratitude for all the good you've done for us. At Saint-Anselme and elsewhere, thank you for enriching our diocesan community with your love of youth, your faith and your Marian spirituality, as well as your love of the families with whom you have worked. You continue to be luminous witnesses to the Gospel among us. May the Lord bless you and be with you."



Father Florian Royer-Chabot, superior of the SM Community of Canada

A dynamic Marianist Lay Community has taken over responsibility for the *Centre Spirituel Marianiste St-Henri* (<https://www.centremarianiste.org/>). They run it with the collaboration of the brothers. Marianist life goes on! CLM chair Josée Roberge explains:

"A team from St-Anselme organized a beautiful feast of gratitude for Marianist religious on Sunday, October 8, 2023. A whole page of history is being turned after 85 years in this very town. Around 400 people attended the ceremony. Many former teachers and students, distinguished guests and parishioners gathered

for a festive mass followed by speeches, testimonies and a meal. The parish priest urged us not only to savor the good fruits that the religious have borne, but above all to keep the seed to make it bear more fruit. Indeed, is it not up to us to bear fruit now? »



Assembly. In the front row (L-R) the Marianist brothers: Florian Royer-Chabot, SM; Gérard Blais, SM; Raymond Boutin, SM; Eugène Côté, SM; Paul-Arthur Gilbert, SM. (absent: Jean-Charles Casista, SM; Jean-Marie Larochelle, SM)

Continuing our Preparation for the General Chapter

Once the communities and Units have completed the first phase of preparation for the Chapter, the Editorial Commission (RedCo) will prepare a first draft of the *Instrumentum Laboris*, using the responses received. RedCo is composed of Brothers Timothy Driscoll (Meribah) and Rogelio Núñez (Spain-Brazil).

We would like to acknowledge and thank all the communities that have participated, as well as the many groups (lay collaborators, young people...) who in various ways have contributed to enriching this first phase of the process.

Once the first draft has been received, the Chapter Preparatory Commission (PrepCo), in dialogue with the General Council, will prepare the document to be sent back to the Units for the second phase of this synodal journey of preparation. The members of PrepCo are: Brothers Kondwani Nalivata (East Africa), Dennis Bautista (USA) and Father Pablo Rambaud (Assistant General for Religious Life - Rome).

We present here the proposed logo for the Chapter, prepared by Bro. Sergio de Miguel (Spain), centered on the idea of a community gathered around Jesus, with Mary and Joseph, where the youngest should be placed closer to the Lord Jesus and accompanied by adults.



XXXVI
GENERAL CHAPTER
SOCIETY OF MARY

As on other occasions, we propose a prayer for your use as we prepare for the Chapter as well as during the Chapter itself. The author of this prayer is Fr. Luis Fernando Crespo, SM, (Spain).

*Mary, to you,
who always gives us Jesus,
who bore him in your womb,
who accepted us as children at the foot of the cross,
we pray for our General Chapter.*

*Open us to the action of the Spirit,
so that the Chapter
may be a time of discernment and encounter.
Help us to know young people better,
that we may share with them the Gospel of joy,
the joy of living centered on Jesus Christ,
the living Gospel,
and thus, be able to offer better,
without exclusion,
the gifts of our Marianist religious life to all,
and attract others to collaborate with us
in building a more just and fraternal society.*

*Holy Mary, Mother of God,
Mother of the Marianist Family
Pray for us!*

25th Anniversary of the Death of Michel Quiroga

Our young brother Miguel Angel Quiroga (Michel) was assassinated on September 18, 1998 in Lloró (Colombia) by paramilitaries for defending a group of catechists. Michel was 26 years old at the time of his death. In March 2019, the Marianist Postulator presented to the then Diocesan Bishop, Msgr. Juan Carlos Barreto, the request for the opening of Michel's Cause by way of offering his life in an act of heroic charity. However, the transfer of Msgr. Barreto to the Diocese of Soacha, in June 2022, has left the Diocese of Quibdó without a bishop. That is why it has not been possible to begin the Cause of Michel.

Nevertheless, Michel's memory remains very much alive among the people of Lloró and grows stronger as the years go by. For this reason, the 25th anniversary of his death was celebrated in Lloró in 2023. On Saturday,

September 16, a car with loudspeakers drove through the streets of the town inviting the neighbors to attend the Mass for the repose of his soul. At the same time, they distributed prayer cards with the prayer for the success of Michel's cause. The Eucharist was celebrated the following day, Sunday the 17th, in the Parish of the Immaculate Conception in Quibdó, presided over by the Bishop of the Diocese of Istmina-Tadó and Apostolic Administrator of the Diocese of Quibdó, Msgr. Mario de Jesús Álvarez. The concelebrants were the pastor, the Vicar of the Diocese, the diocesan delegate for youth ministry and, on the Marianist side, Father Carlos Julio Barragán, S.M. A large crowd of faithful and members of the youth groups that Michel created in the Parish also attended the Mass. The following Monday, the 18th, a pilgrimage was made in boats on the Atrato River, to the place where the cross that marks Michel's murder is erected.

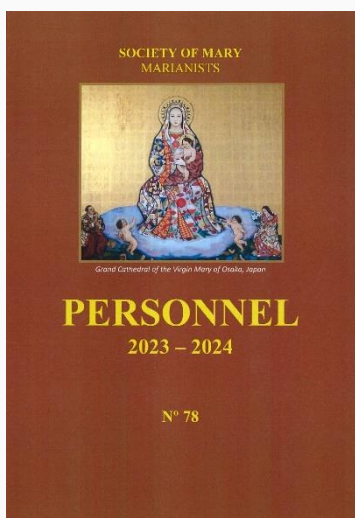


**Holy Mass in memory of the 25th anniversary of the murder of Michel Quiroga, S. M.,
celebrated Sunday, September 17, 2023
in the Parish of the Purísima Concepción de Lloró.**

There, Msgr. Mario Alvarez led the prayer and highlighted Michel's life and dedication. Father Carlos Julio Barragan took advantage of the occasion to meet with young aspirants to the Society of Mary and members of the "Michel Vive Youth Group" of the Immaculate Conception Parish. The events were made possible thanks to the collaboration of the superior of the Colombia-Ecuador Sector, Bro. Pedro Castañeda, SM, Fathers Jesús Obando, SM and Rodrigo Betancur, SM, and Bro. José Reinol Quintero, SM.

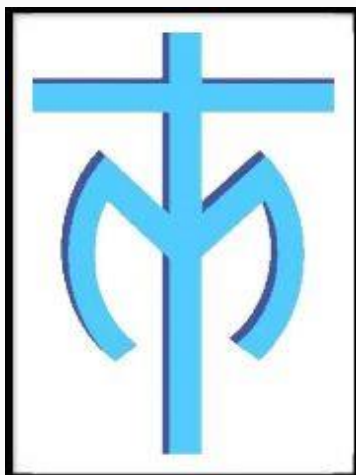
Michel's example of vocational enthusiasm, apostolic zeal and dedication of his life to youth continues to be very much alive among the faithful. We hope that soon a new diocesan bishop will be appointed and be able to open the Cause of the heroic act of charity of our young brother.

2023-2024 International Personnel To Arrive Soon!



This year's edition of the *International Personnel* has been printed and mailed to all Unit Administrations. When the copies actually arrive will depend on the various postal and courier services involved. We sincerely hope that these arrive soon. Once they have arrived to the Unit Administration, they should be distributed, as usual, throughout that Unit.

A day to Give Thanks!



On October 18, 1973, the Sacred Congregation for the Causes of Saints decreed the title of Venerable to Father William Joseph Chaminade. The news was a cause of great emotion among the Marianists and those close to them. The decree approved by Pope Paul VI stated: "*It is evident that the Servant of God Guillaume Joseph CHAMINADE practiced to a heroic degree the theological virtues of faith, hope and charity, towards God and towards his neighbor, as well as the cardinal virtues of Prudence, Justice, Fortitude and Temperance.*" We propose to commemorate this anniversary in the Marianist family by reprinting here the prayer, while also asking for the grace of Blessed Chaminade's canonization.

*Lord,
You are always at work in your Church
and manifest your Spirit for the good of your people through individuals and
communities.
You, Lord, in a singular way, granted your Spirit to Blessed William Joseph
Chaminade,
so that, living with full fidelity to the Gospel,
he will give himself with enthusiasm to the salvation of mankind.
You yourself, O Lord,
you raised up various groups of men and women,
who, following in your footsteps, consecrated themselves to you
for the service of the Church at the command of Mary.
Grant us visible signs of their holiness,
grant us the graces we ask of you through their intercession. Amen.*



Prayer Intentions to Blessed Chaminade

We ask the Marianist Family for a novena of prayer to Blessed William Joseph Chaminade for the healing of these two people:

- **Maria Tomoko**, from the serious effects of a brain hemorrhage. It is an intention submitted by her uncle, Fr. Pierre Sukeo Karasuyama, SM of the Meisei Marianist Community in Osaka, Japan.

- **Martin**, nephew of the Marianist religious Gustav Arnold. Martin, 43, has been suffering from pancreatic cancer for 11 years. A few weeks ago, the doctors discovered that the cancer had metastasized. Martin must undergo a course of chemotherapy and surgery. This intention was requested by Gustav Arnold, SM, a member of the community in Sion (Switzerland).

Marianist World Day of Prayer

Here are some photos from the celebration of the Marianist World Day of Prayer throughout the world.



Marian Sanctuary of Our Lady of Mercy in Sotouboua - Togo



Colegio El Pilar, Madrid - Spain



Deepahalli - India



Ranchi- India



Saint Rita of Moukondo, Brazzaville - Democratic Rep. of Congo



Marianist Center, Goyang - Korea



Rome - Italy



Honolulu, Hawaii - U.S.A.



Abidjan - Ivory Coast



Novitiate, Limuru - Kenya

G.A. Communications recently sent

- **Death Notice: #14-19**
- **Sept. 25: *General Chapter Communication #1***, in three languages, sent to the Capitulants of XXXVI General Chapter from the Preparatory Commission
- **Oct. 30: *Bulletin #1 and Appendix #1 and #2***, in three languages, sent to all the religious of the Society of Mary, from the Preparatory Commission of the XXXVI General Chapter.

G.A. Calendar

- **Nov. 3-5** : World Council of the Marianist Family in Rome.
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