

BLESSED WILLIAM JOSEPH
CHAMINADE

April 8, 1761 - January 22, 1850



Founder of the Marianist Family
To Jesus Through Mary

AND NOW?

Yes..., **now, after the Chaminade Year, what else is new?**

*But above all, **what is new in me and in each one of us?** After 12 months of celebrations, what new motives do I have for rejoicing in my vocation and my mission and in those of my brothers? After having lived through this time of enthusiasm and fervor, do I feel myself more apt to speak about Marianist life with a legitimate pride? How can I show my joy in having been called personally to follow in the footsteps of Father Chaminade? How am I going to be able to gain new disciples for him today?*

To these first questions, the beginning of Lent and the approach of the General Chapter bring others: how rekindle in myself the fire of the Marianist life? What needs to be done so that within me, within all of us, that fire blaze up and engulf others?

*On Sunday, March 25, we will celebrate the first **MARIANIST VOCATION DAY**. That will be an ideal moment to think about all this: **to celebrate** the gift given to us, to thank God for it, to work to deepen it and to **revitalize** it and above all to take the means to **share** it. It will be a moment for doing it personally, in community and in union with all the Marianist Family for so many vocations given to the Church for the good of all!*

When Mary said yes, everything within her became joy, proclamation, an excitement to share and to proclaim, a song of happiness so that all around her were brightened by the new spirit that emanated from her!

"The Lord has done great things for me, holy is his name!"

André Fétis, sm

REMINDER: MARIANIST FAMILY PLANNING WORLD DAY OF THE MARIANIST VOCATION

The *Annual Message* from the World Council of the Marianist Family established March 25, feast of the Annunciation of the Lord, as **THE WORLD DAY OF THE MARIANIST VOCATION**. We make special mention of this now because it is important for all to prepare for this commemoration, both on local and Unit levels. Particular prayer, presentations and sharing about the Marianist Vocation, art work, etc. are all good ways to promote and celebrate our common and individual gift of a Marianist vocation. As always, we at *Via Latina 22* would love to hear about your activities and receive photos or any materials you may produce.

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Next issue:

MAY 2012

*Send me news and photos of
your activities, texts, docu-
ments, ... **Thank you!**
(genrelsm@smcuria.it)*

Summer activities in ARGENTINA



MISSIONARIES OF THE PARISH

In Argentina we finished the Chaminade Year with a summer of intense activities in Youth and Vocational Ministry, in which we sought to accompany the growth of our young people through mission and service.

During the month of January, some 60 Marianist youth members of the **Missionary Groups** traveled to various parts of the country doing community work and sharing the good news of the faith. In urban areas of the Province of Buenos Aires, and above all to rural areas of our parish in Patagonia – which covers a wide expanse of arid plateau – the young people returned again, living an experience that was enriching and transforming, not only for them, but also for the people whom they visited.



WALKING THE PATAGONIAN PLATEAU

Besides those, a group of 20 young persons, the majority from our schools, carried out their first missionary experience, also in our parish, which we call the **“School of Mission.”** Living in community for ten days, combining times of formation and spirituality with excursions into the barrio and missionary activities, these young people dedicated part of their vacation to discovering what that “summer mission” was all about, and above all to discovering the value of life in community, of communitarian commitment and of shared faith.



SCHOOL OF MISSION

And already in February, another group of 20 young persons – this time students in the last year in our school in Buenos Aires, along with some alumni – participated in **“Project Serve.”** Among buckets, shovels, bags of cement and lime, bricks and scaffolding, they did construction work for ten days in the community room of a chapel situated in a barrio of the city of Nuevo de Julio. These “little builders,” living through ten days of austerity, fraternity, and manual work in solidarity, also brought their grain of sand to make present the Kingdom of God, besides discovering some great values for their own life projects.

Federico Nantes, sm



MISSIONARIES IN THE MOSCONI BARRIO



PROJECT SERVE

USA: Vocation promotion materials



TWO NEW POSTERS: *Could this be you?*, featuring our one first-year and six second-year novices; and *Wear the Ring: It's our habit*; a DVD of the new video "A Day in the Life of a Marianist Novice"; and brochures promoting Marianist life. (*Vocation News* – October 2011)

A NEW WEBSITE/video: Please check out our new vocation website, (<http://www.marianist.com/vocations>) part of the newly integrated and updated Province website. On the vocation site, you'll find our new vocation video, *A Day in the Life of a Marianist Novice*. It's worth a



look! (<http://wn.com/A Day in the Life of a Marianist Novice>)



Schooling of the Heart

The magazine *ALIVE* is published by the Province of the United States for wide distribution among their collaborators and friends. In the last issue of

2011 (Vol. 8, no. 3), a major article is consecrated to the novitiate: "Schooling of the Heart." In the editorial of that issue, Father Martin Solma, the Provincial, writes:

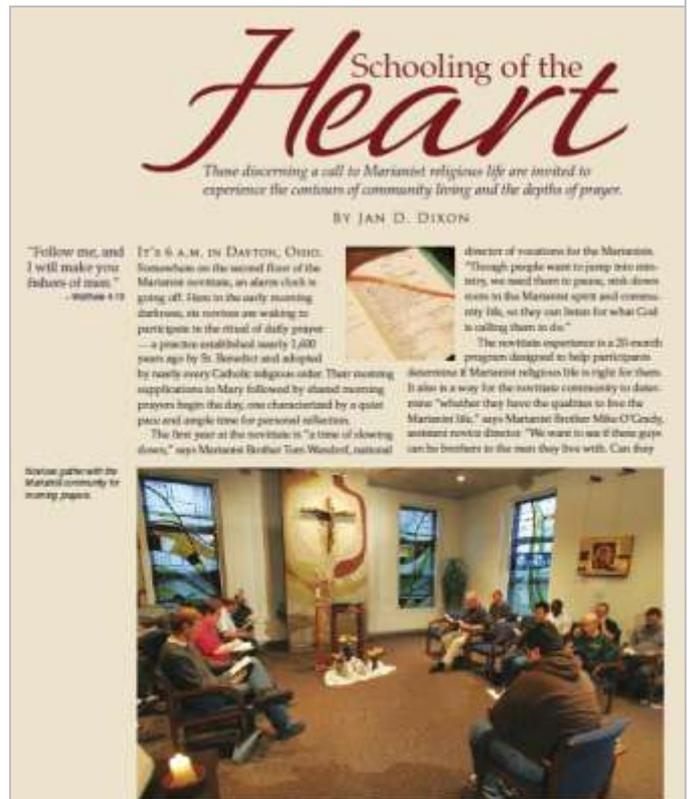
In this issue of ALIVE, you will learn more about these Marianist novices and their experience of discerning a call to religious life in an article called "Schooling of the Heart." I hope you will pray for them and all those who desire to give their lives to Jesus in service to others.

The article describes the path of a novice and gives the witness of the experience of the seven current novices in connection with the video: two documents worth becoming acquainted with. And the article concludes:

The answer they all are wrestling to discover: Why become a Marianist?

Father Chris mulls the question over, looking for the right words. "Why?" he repeats the question. "At the risk of sounding flip, because it's a good life. It's a good fit. It makes sense and there's something about me that comes alive at the prospect of this life. Perhaps it's a path to happiness. It has been that for me, a life of fullness and joy. That's what we are inviting novices to discover. Is this that path for them?"

(<http://www.marianist.com/alive>)



RELIGIOUS AND RAPPER: EVANGELIZING AND GIVING LIFE THROUGH RAP!

Last February 1, the Roman agency *Romereports* put on line an interview they had done with our Brother Dani Pajuelo, to ask him about his evangelizing activity with rap. Here is an extract from the text. You can also watch the complete video with the musical score: Spanish: <http://bit.ly/w9CekE> ; English: <http://bit.ly/zTDdKC>



February 1, 2012. (Romereports.com) Born 33 years ago in Valencia, Spain, Daniel Pajuelo is a computer engineer, a member of the Marian Society, and a rapper.

He works as a teacher and his dedication to young people encouraged him to get a microphone and start rhyming. In his concerts he found a warm welcome from the audience but also some surprise.



Daniel Pajuelo - Religious Rapper: *"It's easy for young people to learn by memory. They find it easy to learn phrases that have a message behind it. Nowadays, they don't learn the Creed, but they can learn a rap song that length wise, is basically the Creed six times over."*

Known as SMDANI, in 2009, he released his first album 'Giving life 3^N' which can be downloaded on his website. He says he's not looking for fame, but only hopes to continue helping people through his lyrics.

Daniel Pajuelo - Religious Rapper: *"I hope there is a restlessness in my heart to explore this concern because you can't only do rap. You need something to talk about and that something, in one way or another is always Jesus."*

For this religious rapper, the New Evangelization means to speak about God in new and different way and that includes rapping to the beat of music.



UNITE OUR FORCES AND SHARE OUR IDEAS: MEETING OF THE VOCATION DIRECTORS OF EUROPE

A first and fruitful meeting took place in Antony (France) from November 30 to December 3, 2011.

It brought together Father Salvatore Santacroce (Italy), and Brothers Rogelio Núñez (Spain), Jean-Paul Federneder (Switzerland) and Charles-Henri Moulin (France, coordinator). Helmut Brandstetter (Austria-Germany) was unfortunately unable to join us.

The welcome by the Antony community and the daily schedule allowed us to work together in a very enjoyable and fruitful manner. But what did we decide upon? Our proposals will be sent first to the European Marianist Conference and then.... We'll tell you more about them.

So, ... to be continued!



Extracts of the MESSAGE OF POPE BENEDICT XVI
FOR THE 49th WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS (29 april 2012)



VOCATIONS, THE GIFT OF THE LOVE OF GOD

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

(...) The profound truth of our existence is thus contained in this surprising mystery: **every creature**, and in particular **every human person, is the fruit of God's thought and an act of his love**, a love that is boundless, faithful and everlasting (cf. *Jer 31:3*). The discovery of this reality is what truly and profoundly changes our lives. (...)

Every specific vocation is in fact born of the initiative of God; **it is a gift of the Love of God!** He is the One who takes the "first step", and not because he has found something good in us, but because of the presence of his own love "poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit" (*Rom 5:5*).

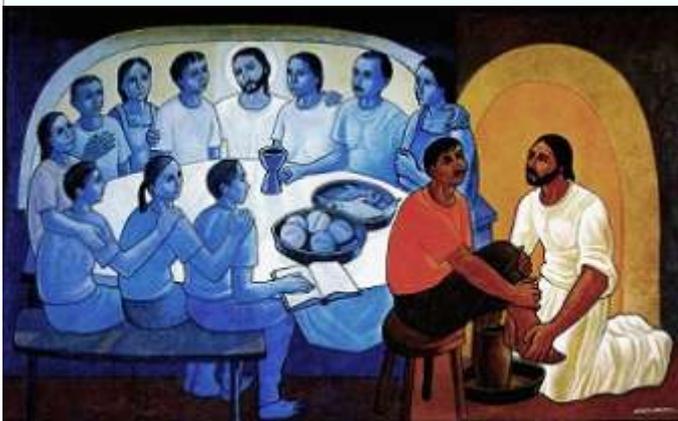
In every age, the source of the divine call is to be found in the initiative of the infinite love of God, who reveals himself fully in Jesus Christ. (...)

The love of God is everlasting; he is faithful to himself, to the "word that he commanded for a thousand generations" (*Ps 105:8*). Yet **the appealing beauty of this divine love**, which precedes and accompanies us, **needs to be proclaimed ever anew, especially to younger generations**. This divine love is the hidden impulse, the motivation which never fails, even in the most difficult circumstances. (...)

We need to open our lives to this love. It is to the perfection of the Father's love (cf. *Mt 5:48*) that Jesus Christ calls us every day! The high standard of **the Christian life consists in loving "as" God loves**; with a love that is shown in the total, faithful and fruitful gift of self. (...) "Think nothing else but that God ordains all, and where there is no love, put love, and there you will draw out love" (Saint John of the Cross, *Letters*, 26).

It is in this soil of self-offering and openness to the love of God, and as the fruit of that love, that all vocations are born and grow. By drawing from this wellspring through prayer, constant recourse to God's word and to the sacraments, especially the Eucharist, it becomes possible to live a life of love for our neighbours, in whom we come to perceive the face of Christ the Lord (cf. *Mt 25:31-46*). (...)

It is important for the Church to create the conditions that will permit many young people to say "yes" in generous response to God's loving call.



The task of fostering vocations will be to provide helpful guidance and direction along the way. Central to this should be love of God's word nourished by a growing familiarity with sacred Scripture, and attentive and unceasing prayer, both personal and in community; this will make it possible to hear God's call amid all the voices of daily life. But above all, **the Eucharist should be the heart of every vocational journey: it is here that the love of God touches us** in Christ's sacrifice, the perfect expression of love, and it is here that we learn ever

anew how to live according to the "high standard" of God's love. Scripture, prayer and the Eucharist are the precious treasure enabling us to grasp the beauty of a life spent fully in service of the Kingdom.

It is my hope that the local Churches and all the various groups within them, will become places where vocations are carefully discerned and their authenticity tested, places where young men and women are offered wise and strong spiritual direction. In this way, the Christian community itself becomes a manifestation of the Love of God in which every calling is contained.

From the Vatican, 18 October 2011

BENEDICTUS PP. XVI

http://www.vatican.va/holy_father/benedict_xvi/messages/vocations/documents/hf_ben-xvi_mes_20111018_xlix-vocations_en.html

THE YEAR OF FAITH (October 11, 2012 – November 24, 2013)

« that all consecrated men and women may enthusiastically engage in the New Evangelization »

This year, as every year, the Pope met with religious men and women on the occasion of the Feast of the Consecrated Life (February 2). Among other topics, he spoke to them about the Year of Faith that is coming up: what they can get out of it and what they can give to it. Let's listen to him:

On the occasion of the 50th anniversary of the opening of the Second Vatican Ecumenical Council, I announced — as you know — the Year of Faith, which will begin this October. All the faithful, and in a special way the members of Institutes of Consecrated Life, have welcomed this initiative as a gift, and I hope that they will live the Year of Faith as **a favourable time for interior renewal**, of which there is always need, with a deepening of the essential values and needs of their own consecration. In the Year of Faith you, who have welcomed the call to follow Christ more closely through the profession of the evangelical counsels, are invited to increasingly deepen your relationship with God. The evangelical counsels, accepted as an authentic rule of life, strengthen faith, hope and charity, which unite one to God. This profound closeness to the Lord, which must be the priority and characteristic point of your existence, will lead you toward a renewed adherence to Him and will have a positive influence on your special presence and on the form of your apostolate among the People of God, through the contribution of your charisms, in fidelity to the Magisterium, to be witnesses of faith and grace, credible witnesses for the Church and the world today.

The Congregation for Institutes of Consecrated Life and Societies of Apostolic Life, with the means it seems appropriate, will suggest guidelines and will do its utmost to encourage this Year of Faith to be, for all of you, a year of renewal and of fidelity so that all consecrated men and women may enthusiastically engage in the New Evangelization.



Don't forget!


March 25, Annunciation of the Lord
WORLD DAY OF THE MARIANIST VOCATION


VOCISM — NEXT issue: May 2012.

THANK YOU for sending news and photos about your activities, suggestions of texts, of documents, of websites.... Thanks! (genrelsm@smcuria.it)