



# Conseil Mondial de la Famille Marianiste

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## World Council of the Marianist Family Consejo Mundial de la Familia Marianista

**TO: All the members of the Marianist Family**  
**FROM: World Council of the Marianist Family**  
**DATE: November 5<sup>th</sup> 2010**  
**RE: Year report**

### **To all the members of the Marianist Family**

Rome, November 5, 2010

The World Council of the Marianist Family met in Rome November 3-5, 2010.

At the beginning of our meeting we shared what things are sources of joy in our belonging to the Marianist Family. The personal and spontaneous expressions from one another brought out, like a great mosaic, the richness that makes for the unity of our Family around its charism and our founders.

In this report, we would like to emphasize what are those sources of joy and of hope.

### **News of the Family**

The MLCs were happy to receive the first circular from their international leader, supporting our Family spirit; it was also a pleasure to learn of the first beginnings of the MLCs in Poland. Furthermore, this year the MLCs set up three international committees (youth, justice and peace, formation), thus involving more persons in leadership. The Alliance Mariale has begun celebrating Jubilees of members (Ivory Coast yesterday, Togo tomorrow), as well as its own corporate Jubilee next February. The Daughters of Mary Immaculate will soon open a new community with a health center in Kpatchile (Togo). In Campinas (Brazil) they had a very hope-filled meeting with the Brothers for planning the future. In India, their establishment at Ranchi is a source of joy. The Brothers are happy to communicate the renewal of their activities in Haiti, the opening of a second community in Cuba, and the upcoming merger of the two provinces in Spain. There was great joy at Pentecost when they celebrated the independence of the Region of East Africa (Kenya, Malawi and Zambia).

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The Council then discussed the progress towards the [goals of 2010-2013](http://www.marianist.org), and would like to share with you some ways to continue to put them into practice ([www.marianist.org](http://www.marianist.org)).

***Vocations: to work together to deepen and live our particular vocations as well as our common vocation***

The Council took time to reflect and exchange views on the text prepared and presented by Father M. Cortés about deepening the expression “Common Mission.” We will pursue it further next year.

Our meeting was also the occasion for a long exchange of views about the Chaminade Year. We are pleased with the many possibilities for deepening our charism that are offered by this celebration of the 250<sup>th</sup> birthday of our common Founder. It will also be an opportunity to make him better known in our surroundings. In order to assist our reflection and our prayer a calendar has already been produced and distributed. It should be used in conjunction with the documents posted on our website [www.marianist.org](http://www.marianist.org). We are pleased with all the local initiatives undertaken for the year 2011. We invite you to share them with everyone by sending throughout the year all the news and documentation to Michael McAward, SM ([gensecsm@smcuria.it](mailto:gensecsm@smcuria.it)).

This year some proposals were sent by the Society of Mary for the **World Day of Prayer for Vocations**. We will follow up on that initiative in the years to come. For the day of May 15, 2011, we will be receiving some items for prayer and reflection from the Marianist Sisters.

The Society of Mary has continued to put in place continental centers of formation. Some just recently saw the light of day, as in Africa and in Asia (India). You will shortly be receiving further news about them. These centers will be able to service formation projects for all the Marianist Family.

***MISSION: contribute to the support and development of our mission in the church and in the world.***

We were pleased to see how the “Magnificat” of the 1<sup>st</sup> Friday of every month is now coming to an ever greater number of persons within the Marianist Family. That publication is an invitation to join Mary in the view that she has of history; to pray in communion with all that is being accomplished in the area of justice and peace, especially in mission locations of the Marianist Family. We want to keep the same objective for 2011. However, due to celebration of the Chaminade Year, that prayer will take on a slightly different hue because it will be related to the Marianist theme proposed for each month. Is this not an invitation to us to recall how our Founder sought to renew French society after the French Revolution? He summons us still today. To be faithful to what he began, what can we do to build, in our own living situations, a society which allows each person to flourish in his dignity as a human being? If you know of persons who might be interested in the 1<sup>st</sup> Friday “Magnificat,” please do not hesitate to subscribe them.

At the time of the earthquakes in Hawaii and Chile, we were amazed as we witnessed the faith and courage of the people of those countries. At the same time all the Family felt touched and there came out beautiful exchanges of friendship, of support and of concrete solidarity. We felt that calling ourselves a Family took on all its meaning.

In order to pursue and deepen our involvement for justice and peace, we invite you to make known and to share all that you can undertake in this area. The successes of some can elicit ideas or at least provide food for prayer. In the sharing that we had on the subject of solidarity, we were happy to learn that the Family Council of Spain had set up an NGO, “Marianist Action for Development,” with its own juridical status. It seems to us that this is an initiative to encourage and promote, so that the Marianist Family might continue to respond to new missionary projects. Do we have perhaps other sources of financing to explore? Already, our sharing brought us to discover that there are many things being done in the area of solidarity; it would be interesting to compile a list of these activities so that we can go even further.

## Communications

The Council also considered what efforts to pursue to encourage and stimulate the existence of national councils at the level of each country where the branches of the Marianist Family are represented. To support the dynamism of these councils and to assure that communications reach everyone, the Council urges that address lists be brought up to date. It invites all the members of the Family to visit the website where news and information can be found to help one to be in communion with the whole of the Family all throughout the celebrations of the Chaminade Year. ([www.marianist.org](http://www.marianist.org))

For the year 2010-2011, Sr. Marie Joelle Bec, FMI, will take over the presidency of the World Council of the Marianist Family. She will be assisted by Christiane Barbaux, Responsable Générale de l'Alliance Mariale, who will preside in 2011-2012.

The next Council meeting will be held in Rome, at Via Latina, November 2-4, 2011.

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