



Via Latina 22

Società di Maria – Marianisti



1 November 2004

N° 131

1°) G.A. CALENDAR:

(N.B. For all trips, the final date shown is the date the person is back in Rome.)

- * 06/10-06/11: JA visits Eastern Africa.
- * 16/10-07/11: GJC in Baltimore.
- * 28/10-05/11: JMA in Spain.
- * 10-12/11: DF, GJC, JMA, JA, PP attend WCFM, Rome.
- * 13-21/11: JMA visits Togo.
- * 14-21/11: GJC visits Abidjan.
- * 19-22/11: DF attends USG Meetings, Rome.
- * 22-23/11: GJC attends CAM, Abidjan.
- * 22-26/11: JMA visits Poland.
- * 23-27/11: DF attends USG World Congress, Rome.
- * 25-29/11: GJC attends PREPCO, Dayton.
- * 29/11-22/12: DF, GJC make Official Visit to USA.
- * 12-14/12: DF in Vancouver, B.C.
- * 30/11-23/12: JA, JMA makes Official Visit to USA.

2°) G.A. E-MAIL, FAX & POSTAL MAILINGS:

Legend: em = E-Mail, fx = Fax, and pm = Postal Mailings

1-31/10: Death Notices Nos. 26-28; to all Unit Heads, etc. (em)

3°) CONGRATULATIONS:

Perpetual Vows

* A. Arockia Doss, Sanjay Ekka, Dennis Lobo, Rajesh Macwan, Simon Xalxo (IN) – October 12, 2004 – Ranchi, India.

First Vows

* Blaise Mosengo, Stanislas Arsène Makouaya, Firmin Kouadio Niamien, Lambert Kouassi Kouassi, Hervé Dagbo Ouraga, Patrice Ossey Yapi, Jean François Niambe Konin (CC) – July 17, 2004 – Abidjan.

Appointments

* Javier González – named Superior of the Brazil Unit by the Province of Madrid for a period of five years, effective January 1, 2005.

4°) THE WORLD PARLIAMENT OF RELIGIONS:

Held at Barcelona from July 7-13, this Parliament included the participation of Father José María Arnaiz as a member of the planning team and Father David Fleming as a representative of the Union of Superiors General. Several other Marianists were present, from Spain and from the USA. This meeting grouped about 6000 participants from around the world, representing all the major religions. Key themes: avoiding religiously-motivated violence, working to abolish unjust debts for Third-World nations, ministry to migrants, religious motivations for respect for the environment, the causes of fundamentalism and the proper response to it. (DF)

5°) CONGRESS 2004:

“Passion for Christ, Passion for Humanity” will be the theme of a World Conference of Consecrated Life organized by the Unions of Superiors General under the leadership of Fr. José María Arnaiz. The Conference will be held in Rome at the end of November. 800 delegates will participate, including about 500 Superiors General, the Presidents of about 100 National Conferences of Religious, the editors of important reviews, theologians and experts, and a group of younger religious. The goal is to articulate directions for religious congregations in the coming decades. 8-10 Marianists will participate in this Congress. (DF)

6°) VISIT TO THE PROVINCE OF MERIBAH:

From October 1-9, Fr. David Fleming, Br. José María Alvira, and Fr. George Cerniglia

visited this thriving Province, which focuses its ministries on the diocese of Rockville Center on Long Island in New York. At present the Province counts 39 professed religious and one novice.

They minister in two very large high schools and a new primary school. Chaminade High School (Mineola) enrolls some 1600 boys. Kellenberg Memorial High School (Uniondale) counts about 2500 boys and girls from the sixth grade till the end of high school. Since August, the Province has also taken responsibility for St. Martin de Porres Marianist School, a primary school now enrolling about 225 students, most of whom are recent immigrants from Haiti and the Caribbean. This new venture has consciously been undertaken in close collaboration with lay teachers and administrators, in order to maintain a Catholic school that was threatened with closure in a poor area. Each of the schools has an extraordinary program of extracurricular activities and a rich variety of initiatives in youth ministry. The Province directs extensive retreat programs for its students in centers named Meribah and Emmanuel on Long Island and at "Founder's Hollow," a beautiful wooded retreat center serving all its institutions in upstate New York.

In addition, one Marianist from Meribah works with the Marianists of the USA Province at Chaminade High School in Hollywood, Florida, and another works at the Marianist university program, Deepahalli, in Bangalore, India. During the summers, members of the Province serve in youth ministry and train Catholic

teachers in the Solomon Islands of the South Pacific.

The visitors felt warmly welcomed. The Province is characterized by many efforts to link the members of the various communities together and to cultivate prayer life and fraternal sharing in community. The visitors were impressed by the dynamic and well organized apostolates of this Province, both the long-standing ones and the new ventures. (DF)

7°) VISIT TO THE REGION OF CANADA:

Fr. David Fleming and Fr. George Cerniglia visited the Region of Canada from October 9-16, seeing all the religious of the four communities in the Archdiocese of Quebec. Two of the three religious living in Winnipeg, Manitoba also came to Quebec to meet with the visitors. At present there are 21 Marianists working in Canada: Archbishop Raymond Rousin in Vancouver, three in Winnipeg, and 17 in Quebec. In addition two Canadian Marianists work in Ivory Coast, one in the Philippines and one in Haiti.

Traditionally, religious were a massive presence in Quebec, especially in education, health and social services. Since the "tranquil revolution" in Quebec during the 1960's and 1970's, most religious schools and hospitals have passed into the hands of the government. Our men at present work in a variety of interesting apostolates: a Marianist spirituality center, a large group of rural and suburban parishes, hospital ministry, a pastoral center in a shopping mall, ecumenical work, youth ministry, the university apostolate, efforts to evangelize culture (a "Mass for artists" and a center for biblical study), a center for lay ministry. They accompany Marianist Lay Communities both in Quebec and in Manitoba, and serve numerous other lay faith-sharing communities. For the most part their work is individualized, since it is extremely difficult

to maintain corporate religious institutions. Their ministries put them in contact with many of the key trends in the Canadian Church today.

The religious are noteworthy for their warm family spirit and were generally in good spirits. Several are retired or semi-retired, but continue to remain active in a variety of ways. The visitors encouraged the members to deepen their specifically Marianist identity as a contribution to their local Church, and to enter into more frequent dialogue with and apostolic support for one another.

The Region has sponsored the encouraging beginnings of a new presence of the Marianist Family in Haiti, through many contacts at the level of Marianist Lay Communities and through the ministry of Fr. Florian Royer-Chabot, together with Bro. Hervé Guillo du Bodan from France and Bro. Stanislas Limdeyou from Togo. The visitors encouraged the Region in this challenging project, which has attracted much interest in the worldwide Marianist Family. (DF)

8°) NEW MARIANIST PRESENCE IN THE PHILIPPINES:

The new community gathered at the end of September in Davao City. Its first year will be devoted to learning the local language, Cebuano. Meanwhile, the Marianists have already agreed to take responsibility for BALAY PASILUNGAN, a center for street children established some years ago by the Marist Sisters and Fathers. The new community (Richard Joyal-Canada, Pablo Rambaud-Madrid, S. Victor Sahayaraj-India, Oscar Kerketta-India) will be accompanied by Father David Fleming for a week in late October, for a session of planning and community goal-setting. (DF)

9°) CLOSING OF COMMUNITIES:

The General Council has approved the closing of two Marianist communities: that of the parish María Reina in Egia (San Sebastián) in the Province of Zaragoza, and that of Monroe Avenue (Hollywood, Florida) in the province of the United States. In both cases, other Marianist communities still remain in the same city. (DF)

10°) CENTRAL EUROPE PILGRIMAGE FEATURES BLESSED JAKOB GAPP:

The Marianist Family in Austria took part as a group, along with thousands of others, in an international pilgrimage to Mari-azell, the national Marian shrine, on May 22. The pilgrimage brought together pilgrims from eight countries in the area, including several who have just entered into the European Union. Blessed Jakob Gapp was repeatedly mentioned in the public acts of the pilgrimage as a witness for God's Kingship, along with three or four other Christian witnesses from the era of Nazi persecution. (DF)

11°) PLEASE TAKE NOTE:

The following Personnel changes, corrections or additions have taken place recently. These are changes to the 2003-2004 International Personnel listings:

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