

MISSIONARIES OF THE SACRED HEART

May the Sacred Heart of Jesus be everywhere Loved!



Vol. 07/Nº 4 - October 2018

GENERAL BULLETIN

In this edition of our General Bulletin, we will be encouraged to stand firm in the missionary purpose our Founder had for our Society. Let us question ourselves as we reflect deeply on the lucid article on Fr. Jules Chevalier, offered by Hans Kwakman, for this edition of our Bulletin.

Celebrating the 111th anniversary of the death of our Founder, we are reminded that we are, at this moment in history, marked by the Missionary Charism and the Spirituality of the Heart, which drives our action towards all those who need the Heart of Jesus as a remedy for the evils of this time.

As Hans Kwakman reminds us, we are responsible for the formation and education of the young, lay people, our formandi and of ourselves, to attain the grace of being considered by the Lord as Missionaries of the Sacred Heart.

In addition to this article, that may be used in our October 21st celebrations, we

continue to keep our members and formandi, as well as members of the entire Chevalier Family, informed about the activities of the General Administration during our visits around the world. For our part, we will keep the flame of our Charism and our fraternity alive wherever we are, sharing experiences and supporting each confrere and each mission.

We are also pleased to share the report of the last Meeting on Justice, Peace and Integrity of Creation, promoted by Cor América in Quito last July. This article, written by Sister Carolin (Missionary of the Sacred Heart), should keep us connected with our purpose of finding solutions to the world in which we live.

I hope you enjoy the information we are pleased to share with you all and share the joy of being MSC with everyone.

In the desire to remain united and connected in the celebration of our Founder's day, let us pray for each other.

Fr. Humberto Henriques, MSC



Servant of God

Fr. Jules Chevalier, MSC

March 15, 1824 - October 21, 1907

PROVINCIAL CHAPTER OF THE USA PROVINCE

As a MSC Congregation we are on the way to learning about intercultural, interprovincial and therefore multicultural experiences. Therefore, one of the central themes of the Chapter was the discernment of how to continue being a multicultural Province that prioritizes the Mission and not only parish ministries. There is a path begun, more or less since 2011, that has to be valued but the, capitulars became aware of the need to update documents and take up issues such as: the Vocation Ministry, the priority of the Mission, the diversity of ministries, internal communication, etc.

Then we lived the process of election of the new Provincial who is Richard Kennedy and the configuration of the Provincial Council for the next 3 years. At the same time, we thank Raymund Diesburg for his leadership service for the past nine years. We pray that this new "multicultural face" of the MSC Province will continue. That they can make the obstacles medium for the mission. (J. Chevalier)

Fr. Abzalón, MSC



New Provincial and Council Team

From June 18 to 22, said Chapter was held. The environment and its development was very positive. A word that comes to my heart and my mind to in some way define this experience is "multiculturalism", a new configuration of the concept of "MSC Province". This being a group of missionaries from different parts of the world living the mission and facing their challenges in this multicultural territory of the United States.

PHOTOS OF POLCE'S VISIT TO PAPUA NEW GUINEA AND PACIFIC UNION



VISIT TO SOUTH KOREA PROVINCE

The MSC Philippine Region of Korea became a Province in its own right earlier this year. This meant they needed to hold their first ever Provincial Chapter to discern how to fulfil their mission as a province and carry out the Chapter mandate by electing their own Provincial Superior and Council. I was privileged to be there for that Chapter and to meet our men and see their places of ministry.

I was met in Seoul Airport by Matthew Park, MSC (Provincial) and Michael In-Jun Cho, MSC (Assistant Secretary). Their fraternal welcome was indicative of the hospitality I experienced throughout the province.

At the Provincial House I met, Matthew, Ludovico, Michael, Juanito, John and Benedict Lee, as well as Regina the cook and handyman husband Joseph. With Matthew and Ludovico, I went to the old novitiate

buildings at Paju. The Korean novitiate is now combined with that of the Philippines and Vietnam north of Manila. During the evening we walked around Seoul city. A memorial of great sadness is there for the hundreds, mainly school children, lost in the Sewol Ferry disaster four years ago. Next day we met with the Gyeongin MSC Scholasticate and Retreat House, with beautiful Sanctuary of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart, in Ganghwa. In the evening the Provincial Chapter preparatory committee met. I took the KTX Bullet Train travelling at 300km/hr, from Seoul to PyeongChang in the mountainous east where we met with the GangWon MSC at BongPyeong Retreat House. The chapel is stunning in simplicity. Korea culture emphasises harmony and balance. Life

here is best represented by circles rather than squares, movement rather than stasis. Here we received a warm welcome from John Chai, John Hwang and Augustine. Over the weekend we visited GyeongSang community in Ulsan, Yangsan and Pusan, as well as the MSC Sister's in Pusan. We met Gaspar Lee, Thomas Khan and Dominic and saw the two MSC houses for homeless boys in Ulsan and one in Yongsan. We spent time sharing with the boys and staff. In Pusan we met Joseph Kim who is chaplain to the MSC Sisters. Sr Gregoriana MSC the

Korean Provincial showed us through their spiritually Centre in Central Pusan. Back in Seoul we visited EomMaNe, Our Lady of the Sacred Heart, handicapped children center, where Fransisco leads a dedicated team.

On Monday the Inaugural Provincial Chapter began. The Province was officially erected April 28, 2018.

On Wednesday 27 June,

Fr. Benedict Ko MSC was elected Provincial Superior. We congratulate him and the Korean community and pray for him. We thank Fr Matthew Park MSC for his exceptional leadership over the last six years. We also congratulate the new Provincial Council; Fr Paul Kim, Br Gaspar, Fr Balthasar, and Fr Mikaele MSC (who is also now the Province Secretary). The Chapter concluded with a liturgy of commissioning.

After the Chapter we met with the Seoul LayMSC group who under the guidance of Balthasar, number about fifty. Next day was with Juanito who has a ministry in a Seoul hospital. Ignazio has been a patient in this hospital for two years with Parkinson's disease. May God continue to bless the ministry and community life of our confreres in South Korea.



VISIT TO UAF

On July 4th André Claessens left the general house for a Summer break of three weeks in Belgium. On August 2nd he set off for Congo-Kinshasa where he would remain the whole month for a visit to the confreres of this extended district of UAF. At first he crossed the river Congo and went to Congo Brazzaville, together with the district bursar Grevisse Bokuma, to visit the confreres living in the parish of St Ambroise in Nkoso, an expanding quarter at the outskirts of the capital. This area became recently an independent parish and was entrusted to the MSC. Till 2017 we were not present in this country, but we got some vocations there.

When he returned to Kinshasa a small aircraft brought him on August 9th to Boende in the Equator region of the country, near the river Tshuapa, for a week's visit to the sector of Upper-Tshuapa where 2 remaining Belgian MSC are still working in the mission (200 hectares) of St. Martin and its hinterland (2x surface of Belgium) together with a few African members of the UAF. Some of the MSC working in the missions of Bolukutu and Yalusaka in the neighbour diocese of Bokungu-Ikela came with their impressive Yamaha motos till Boende to meet André because of the short time available and the impossible roads in the bush. Also the district superior Fr. Dieudonné Kenda who visited this remote area came with them so that a meeting with most of the confreres of the sector could take place at the mission of St. Martin where all could share their joys and projects while rejoicing in the brotherly hospitality.

On Thursday 16th another aircraft brought André and Dieudonné to Mbandaka for a still



shorter visit because on the 18th they had to return to the capital Kinshasa. Unfortunately, as soon as he arrived in Mbandaka, André had to go to hospital for a few days treatment. He was even the first patient in a new building of the hospital Jules Chevalier of the Daughters of O.L.S.H. The meeting with the African confreres and one Belgian confrere working and living in Mbandaka was thus very brief. On Saturday afternoon he was able to continue his journey and returned to the 3rd Street in Limete where the district superior has his residence and all confreres find every necessary help when they come to the capital for one reason or another.

VISIT TO CANADA

"Something new is being born" or better said: "we are called to give birth to something new". Every life process involves dying to something which gives way to something new. Those are the sensations that I share with all of you, after visiting the MSC that live in Canada. After so many decades of pastoral and educational presence; of sending missionaries to the Dominican Republic and Mexico, now is the time to restart a future here that we still do not understand clearly but being instruments of the Kingdom of God, we can discover the way forward.

After living a wonderful missionary commitment, today there is a group of MSC living in the city of Quebec in two communities. Most of them live their well-deserved retirement but still alive with missionary spirit. There is an MSC community in the interior of Quebec where two MSCs from the Dominican Republic and one from Haiti make a prophetic presence in a large rural parish. One MSC alternates his Missionary work between Nicaragua and the city of Quebec. And in Montreal, there are four MSCs from Canada and two from the UAF, all of them living



a valuable diversity of ministries. There is also a member of this province who works in Portugal. God's grace allowed some of those who live in the

Dominican Republic and Mexico to visit during my days there.

Each and every one of them does his best to maintain the MSC prophetic presence in this challenging and secularized reality of Quebec. There are many ideas and projects for the future, we hope that the processes of discernment can be followed so that the life that today germinating in Canada can break through.



Fr. Abzalón, MSC

VISIT TO ECUADOR

The current mission in Ecuador began in 1996 as an Interprovincial Mission of the three provinces of Brazil (São Paulo, Rio de Janeiro and Curitiba). The first 3 MSCs that went to Ecuador, from these 3 Provinces were: Antônio Carlos (Province of São Paulo); Aílton Izaías (Province of Rio de Janeiro); and Moacir Figueiredo (Province of Curitiba).

Currently the mission counts on 8 MSC's, namely: From the Curitiba's Province, the Ecuadorians Marcelo and Gabriel and the Brazilians Moacir, Cicero and Zequinha; from the Rio de Janeiro's Province, Aílton Izaías; from the Indonesia's Province, Manu, Paco and Ricardo. Apart from these, there is still José Luiz Ruiz, an Ecuadorian, professed of temporary vows, who is doing a process of discernment in Curitiba.



During the days of July when I was in Ecuador, I visited the four parishes (Santo Tomas and San José de Chilibungo in Quinto, San Francisco in Tixán and Santo Domingo Gusmão in Chunchi) and the Formation House. The missionary group present in the mission of Ecuador has the mark of Internationality and Interculturality, since at the moment it is formed by members of 3 nationalities (Ecuadorians, Brazilians and Indonesians).

In these years of mission, the MSC's in the Equator have managed to form a good group of

Laity who are now part of the Chevalier Family. They are always in touch with MSCs for formation, needs and sharing. Congratulations to the missionaries in Ecuador for their missionarie force.

Fr. Humberto Henriques, MSC

SPIRITUALITY COURSE OF THE CHEVALIER FAMILY IN AMERICA



The aim of the course was: To deepen in the Spirituality of the Heart, as a source of LIFE, so that as a Chevalier Family, we be builders of Justice, Peace and Care for Creation. The methodology used was the method from Latin America: See, Judge and Act.

The number of participants ranged between 40 and 45. Intercultural richness was present with 11 countries, among them: India, Indonesia, Dominican Republic, Brazil, Paraguay, Argentina, Peru, Ecuador and El Salvador, among others.

On Sunday 15, our sharing as a Chevalier Family began with a lunch organized by the Laity and the MSC of Ecuador, in the Formation House.

The topics proposed for our reflection were during these 10 days were:

Day 16 (SEE) - For this part we were accompanied by Sr. Margarita, msc and Lic. Boris Tobar. Both presented the reality of Latin America, placing a particular emphasis on one or other country.



ARTICLE

FR. CHEVALIER AND THE MINISTRY OF FORMATION

Fr. Hans KWACKMAN

The first MSC Constitutions of 1877 clearly express Chevalier's expectations concerning the MSCs. MSCs are called "to imitate the virtues of the divine Heart and to propagate more widely the knowledge and veneration of this Heart." They should commit themselves to live the Devotion to the Sacred Heart in such a way that it becomes an effective remedy for the ills of the time. The best way to carry out this mission is, according to Chevalier, by the ministry of formation. Hearts afflicted by indifference towards God's commandments and by egoism to the needs of the poor, should be transformed into obedient and caring hearts, while taking the Heart of Christ as a model.

To reach that purpose, Chevalier declares that first of all the MSCs themselves should enter into an ongoing process of self-formation, while committing themselves, "to acquiring knowledge of devotion to the Sacred Heart," in the broad sense as understood by Chevalier himself. "We should certainly know what we are required to teach" he says.

Furthermore, the ministry of formation of the youth, Chevalier specifies as one of "the principal aims" of the congregation. He highlights "the sublimity of so great a mission," even if "human nature often may find (this ministry) unpleasant and unattractive." After all, he says, "the well-being of society, both civil and ecclesiastical, hinges especially on the Christian education of youth."

In the same Constitutions Chevalier declares that the formation of associated diocesan priests and lay people, might be done by founding aggregations as well as by giving retreats and offer Spiritual Exercises. To make this happen, he built a large compound in Issoudun. After all, there the many rooms would not only serve as residence for the MSC community, but also provide facilities for a formation and retreat center, as still is its purpose today.

Also the first draft of the Constitutions of the Daughters of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart, written in 1874, stipulates that education and formation should be the chief ministry of their apostolate of the Sacred Heart. Consequently, their first Constitutions, published in 1874, specifies that the Daughters would make "a thorough study of the devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus and of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart. For it is essential that they themselves know what they are to practice all their life and to impart to others." The Christian education of girls, Chevalier considered to be the basis of the Christian family and the very foundation of the regeneration of society.

However, since 1876 the French Republican Government started taking measures against teaching Congregations in France. Its regulations made the implementation of the ministry of formation as a special aim of Chevalier's congregations, at least in France, impossible.

In the MSC Constitutions of 1907, the ministry of formation is still mentioned among the special apostolic activities of the Congregation. However, in the missionary tradition of the MSC Congregation, another element of Chevalier's spirit, also included in the MSC Constitutions of 1877, began to predominate, namely that the members "must be ever ready to undertake any kind of apostolic ministry."

The renewed MSC Constitutions of 1985 only outline the internal formation of the members of the Congregation itself. Nothing is said on formation of our spirituality, today called a Spirituality of the Heart, as a specific ministry and missionary activity. Yet, in their latest editions of the Constitutions, the MSC Sisters and the Daughters of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart, still explicitly refer to education and faith-formation as one of the forms of their apostolic ministries.





In the 1st June 2018, the Cardinal Paul Poupard (President Emeritus of the Pontifical Council of Culture and President of the Jury) and the French Ambassador to the Holy See awarded the Special Mention of Henri de Lubac Award to our Confrere Christian Mongay Nyabolondo (UAF). He received this award for his Doctoral Thesis "Juridico-political Cosmopolitanism of Peace and Cosmopolitan Integration: Jean-Marc Ferry and the actuality of the Kantian Proposal". Congratulations to Father Christian.



Profession of Final Vows: Front—Br. Marisiale Weleca, Middle—Br. Tokabwe Kiaman, Far—Br. Gabriele Dulunaqio, Back—Witness Br. Laisenia Ralake, Main Celebrant PU Superior Fr. Tamati Sefo with Witness Fr. Patrick Tetiaua.

Last June, 2018, we celebrate the Final Vows of 3 of our brothers from Pacific Union: Marisiale Weleca (Fiji), Gaberiele Dulunaqio (Fiji) and Tokabwe Kiaman (Kiribati) at St. Agnes Parish, Samabula, Fiji. Congratulations to our brothers.

You, a member of the Chevalier Family, can also send your news to this section of our Newsletter. Send a short text with a photo to the e-mail address:

msc.ebulletin@gmail.com

We also congratulate the confreres who have made their perpetual profession in several countries!