

SMbulletin

Friday, 29 September 2023

MARIST MISSION STUDIES WORKSHOP

During September the first “Marist Mission Studies Workshop” was held in Thailand to “inflame the passion for Marist mission”. Participants were confreres George Baruka (PNG), Floyd Kanongi Gatana (PNG/Australia), Epokifoou Okusitino (Tonga/Vanuatu), Iosefo Amuri (Fiji/Mexico), Bill Herket (Vanuatu/New Caledonia), Ailto Gonçalves Ferreira (Brazil), Lauro Da Silva Ferreira (Brazil), Orlando Orosco Rojas (Peru), Akua Kenneth Njong (Cameroon) and Youssouph Stev Youm (Senegal).



The workshop started in Bangkok on 6 September in the presence of the Superior General. The participants were welcomed by Frs Larry Sabud and Ricardo Navarrete who have been preparing and leading the program. Fr John Larsen shared about the mission experience in the Society and presided over the Eucharistic Celebration. Several intercultural and inter-religious visits took place around Bangkok and the group received inputs about the mission of the Church, especially in Asia. On 10 September the group moved south to Ranong, where daily conferences took place in the Harmony Centre on themes such as Theology of Mission, Marist Charism, Biblical Foundations of Mission, and Marist Missionary Spirituality. In the afternoons there was time to get familiar with the work of the Marist Mission Centre, the Marist health team and the Marist presence at the Thai/Myanmar border. During a meeting in Ranong, the participants had also the opportunity to interact with religious leaders from different faith traditions: Buddhist monks, Muslim Imams and Ustadz (teacher), the local Catholic bishop, and Marist, Diocesan and Stigmatine priests and the RNDM Sisters.

The workshop concluded this week with a two days’ mission retreat in Bangkok during which the participants had time to reflect and integrate the rich experiences of their journey.

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NEW PARISH IN BRAZIL



On Sunday, 24 September a new Parish in Guanambi, Bahia, Brazil was officially opened by our confreres from the District of South America: São Francisco de Assis. The Bishop of Caetité, Mgr José Roberto Silva Carvalho, confirmed that the new Parish as part of the ministry of the Marist Mission Community of Bahia and Fr Leandro Martins was installed as the Parish Priest. The celebration was attended by a big crowd of faithful and Fr Arnaldo da Silva represented the District Superior. Also the other members of the mission team in Bahia were present as well as some diocesan priests from Caetité.

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LET US PRAY

**THAT OUR DECEASED CONFRERES
MAY REST IN PEACE**

P. Thomas Ellerman

United States of America

01.05.1940 - 09.09.2023

P. André Lamontagne

Canada

06.08.1935 - 10.09.2023