



SM bulletin

FOURVIÈRE 1816 - 2016

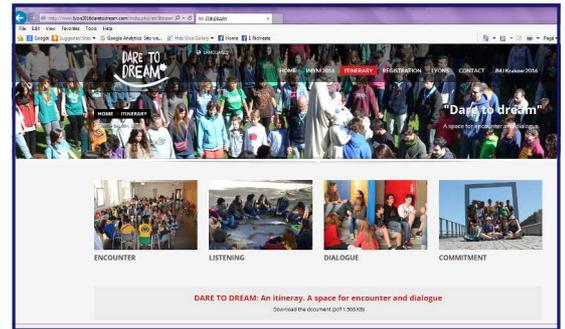
Friday, 16 October 2015

General Administration

Returning from La Neylière after a successful ARC meeting, the GA has been meeting to address the important issues which resulted from ARC: vocations, the selection of important works of the Society of Mary, the distribution and training of personnel throughout the Society, an Endowment Fund for international formation, a survey in preparation for the General Chapter, and amendments to the Child Protection policy.

DARE TO DREAM

At the end of September a meeting took place to make further preparations for the International Marist Youth Meeting which will take place in Lyons, France, from 17 to 23 July 2016. The Youth meeting is a joint initiative of the different branches of the Marist family, in occasion of the bicentenary of the Fourvière pledge.

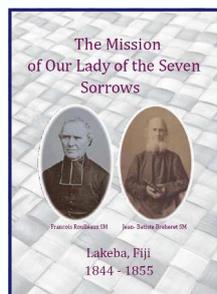


Fr Alejandro Muñoz, our coordinator in the preparatory committee, reports that so far 80 young people will participate from our branch, coming from 9 different provinces and districts. The hope is that the youth groups can consecutively participate in the WYD in Krakow, Poland. A website has been developed to promote the event: www.lyon2016daretodream.com/index.php/en/

SPECIAL PROJECTS FUND

The Society has a Special Projects Fund to help meet costs arising from the Society's ministry, especially with the poor and disadvantaged. Major superiors may apply for a grant from this fund on behalf of a community of their province/district or on behalf of an individual Marist. Requests for 2016 must be submitted to the bursar general by 30 November. Among previous recipients was a children's band in the San José school in Peru.

THE MARIST MISSION IN LAKEBA, FIJI, 1844-1855



This week in Suva, Fr John Crispin's book "The mission of our Lady of the Seven Sorrows" was launched. The book contains the journal and letters of Frs Breheret and Roulleaux while they were in Lakeba in Lau. When the first Missionaries arrived in Fiji in 1844, this was the only missionary station. The small group of missionaries, Frs Roulleaux and Breheret and Brs Annet and Pachase, worked in a difficult context, but they were able to make new converts. A few years later nearly all of them became Wesleyans, as the chiefs wanted unity of religion as part of the unity of the Vanua. The mission was finally closed in July 1855. The journal and letters of Frs Breheret and Roulleaux provide us with a story of hopes raised and hopes dashed, a story of sickness, hunger, discouragement but also a story of faith, courage and perseverance. The book has been translated from French sources by Fr John Crispin.

