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Friday, 24 January 2025

THE SUPERIOR GENERAL ON VISITATION IN CAMEROUN AND BURUNDI



Frs Emile Kouma, Martin Simna, John Larsen and Kenneth Akua visiting the site of the proposed new Marist school in Bambili

Fr John Larsen has been visiting Cameroon this week. He has met with both the District Council and the Formation Council, and he also had a conference with the twenty-five Marist students in philosophy in the recently renovated seminary. He also visited several of the developing projects within the District: Obili, where our team in the parish is re-building the parish church and a function hall to cater for more than 1.000 people; the Laudato Si' ecological farm in Yaoundé and the Marist community in Bambili, in the north of Cameroon, where his visit included seeing the new electricity solar panels to serve some of the study needs of the local university students and the site for the proposed new secondary school.

Today he travels, accompanied by District Superior Fr Martin Simna, to Bujumbura in Burundi for the official inauguration of the new Marist school which is already catering for more than 500 students.

YOUTH AND VOCATIONS DAYS IN PERU

the Youth and Vocations Team of the District of South America has recently organised two “youth and vocations” days in Peru; one in Callao and one in Sullana. The aim of these encounters is to help young people to strengthen their Marist identity, to promote fraternity among them and to discover their vocation. Both gatherings were very successful and have been encouraging many young people to live their faith in a more active and committed way. The participation and enthusiasm of the young people have been very encouraging for the Marist community, which continues to promote vocations and accompany young people on their journey of faith.



YOUTH MINISTRY IN NEW ZEALAND



Marist Youth Leader, a leadership programme for 17–18-year-olds from the nine Marist Fathers and Sisters schools in New Zealand was held from 16 to 22 January; 105 students and 20 staff attended the programme. The programme is a process of personal and team development using a pattern of input, reflection, interaction and practice. The participants learn about liturgy, the foundations of good leadership and had outdoor activities promoting teamwork and personal challenge. This year the programme

welcomed Fr Daniel Fernández and two lay Marist collaborators, Sebastian Aguilar and Enrique Campos from Mexico as observers; they are pictured here with Fr Mark Walls who is the director of the program.

New Zealand confreres Frs Neil Vaney, Frank Bird and Hayden Powick were recently involved in two national Catholic Church programs, “Hearts Aflame” and “Lifeteen”. They gave talks and supported the participants with their Marist presence. *Hearts Aflame* is a ten days program for young adults and *Lifeteen* is a Summer camp which was attended by 340 teenagers.