



**REGION OF NORTH AMERICA, ASIA,
AUSTRALIA, IRELAND**
Summary of National Responsible's Reports
Regional Responsible: Susan Vogt, susanvogt1@gmail.com

2012 - November

AUSTRALIA

NATIONAL RESPONSIBLE: Mrs Julie Aherne

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1 MLC 13 Lay Marianists

CITIES: Victoria



SUMMARY:

We have only one MLC community now, named *The Immaculate Heart of Mary* which has 13 members. Six of our members are over the age of 80 years, and love being part of the Marianist Family. 7 members are affiliates.

When the SM Community left Australia in 1985 they were sadly missed but the Family of Mary has continued even though as each year passes some of our members have gone to God. Some of our members are still very active in the parish with pastoral care, hospital visitations, St. Vincent de Paul, social groups, Eucharistic ministers etc. We have a very caring parish community, and the charisms of the Marianists still live on here, even though we have no vowed Religious with us now.

DUES:

CANADA – QUEBEC

NATIONAL RESPONSIBLE: Josée Roberge

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Quebec, CANADA

G0R 3E0

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English/French Translator: Richard Thibault tiboge88@hotmail.com

1 (3) MLC 11 (44) Lay Marianists

CITIES: Quebec City



SUMMARY: Although there is only one formal MLC in Quebec City, *the Centre Marianiste d'Éducation de la Foi*, (*Marianist Center for Faith Education*) has produced a variety of faith renewal groups and there is a growing interest from some members of these groups to be part of an MLC. This past year we worked on a document to clarify what is a lay Marianist in Quebec. We hope this will allow us to officially recognize more lay Marianists.

DUES:

CANADA – Winnipeg

NATIONAL RESPONSIBLE: **Urania Carvalho**

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Winnipeg Manitoba R3T 3H6 CANADA

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4 MLCs 55 Lay Marianists

CITIES: Winnipeg, Neepawa, Stratford, Toronto

MLCs:



SUMMARY: The Marianist Lay Communities in Winnipeg, Canada trace their roots to the late 1970's. They were founded by the Marianist brothers in St. Boniface. Today there are four MLC's.

Faith and Family members were part of a student community in those early days. Today, they are all parents of young adults. Some are even grand-parents.

Magnificat was also formed at this time. It began with parents of those same students, and other friends of the Society of Mary community.

Our Lady of Peace began as an off-shoot of an Archdiocesan renewal program in the 1980's.

Circulo de Boa Nova, our newest community, is a Portuguese MLC.

Winnipeg is also represented in the international online MLC, **Our Lady of the Round Table**, by Isabella Moyer.

Each of these communities was represented at a gathering on October 20th to celebrate the Marianist World Day of Prayer. We united spiritually with our Marianist sisters and brothers in Togo by praying with the resource they provided for us. It helped us to learn more about the reality of Marianist life in Togo. Our next Winnipeg Marianist Family Council meeting will take place on November 3rd.

DUES:

HAITI – (information from 2011 report)

NATIONAL RESPONSIBLE: **Wesly Etienne**

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? Petion-Ville 6111
HAITI

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5 MLCs 86 Lay Marianists

CITIES: Port au Prince (Foyer Chaminade & St Charles,)
Diocese des Gonaives (St Marc-Foyer Adelle)
Diocese de Fort Liberte (Foyer Notre Dame de Douleurs)



SUMMARY: The January 2010 earthquake, not only shook Haiti's geography but also the MLCs. There has been a reorganization of the MLCs from 8 to 4. The local and Canadian SMs have assisted the communities in reforming and developing better practices of accountability and improved formation.

DUES: Not applicable

INDIA

NATIONAL RESPONSIBLE: **Jinius Bara**

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4 MLCs 35 Lay Marianists (43 if counting occasional attendees))

CITIES: Ranchi, Kolomba, Singhpur

ASSESSOR: Fr. Ignase Arulappen aruliggie@yahoo.com



SUMMARY:

2012 Successes or good news

- That we could start a new mlc group in Ranchi, and they are very active and promising
- Joining with the SM and FMI for different occasions like Marianist World Day of Prayer, Vow Day, and Founders Day celebration.
- We look forward to start a new group in Binda
- The SM and FMI aid us and are great guides to us

2012 Challenges

- The Ranchi MLC lost some members because either they got married and shifted to new place or got new jobs and transferred to a new city.
- I could not organize all the groups to gather and have something jointly

Do you find the monthly *Gifts & Tasks* and *Friday Magnificat* emails helpful?

- Yes

DUES:

IRELAND

NATIONAL RESPONSIBLE: **Susan Buckley**

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Ireland

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0 MLCs 10 Lay Marianists

CITIES: Dublin



SUMMARY:

No MLC formally gathers any more but there are a number of lay people who still maintain a Marianist identity and gather periodically with the SMs to join them for celebrations and prayer. The National Responsible is a member of Our Lady of the Round Table, a Lay Marianist Cyber community.

DUES: Not applicable

JAPAN

NATIONAL RESPONSIBLE: **Hiroshi Kawaguchi**

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Japan

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English Translator: pending, email

14 MLCs 82 consecrated Lay Marianists (125 total)

CITIES: Tokyo (9)

MLCs: Itosugi no kai, Olive no ki, Sharon no hana no kai, Sodality, Fiat, Magnificat, Étoile Adèle, Regina Coeli, Rosa Mystica

Saitama Pref. (1), MLC: Nard no kai (temporarily inactive)

Kanagawa Pref. (4) MLCs: Zion, Stella Maris, Maria no ko no kai, Millennium

Hokkaido (1) MLC: Sodality Sapporo

FORMATION RESOURCES: A handbook of MLC Japan/The Rules of MLC Japan



SUMMARY:

2012 successes or good news

- Supporting needy children in Philippines and India (Ranchi)
- NEACFM North East Asia Council Family of Mary) was held from October 12-14 in Chofu-shi, Tokyo (FMI).
- We spent the Marianist World Day of Prayer with the councilors of Marianist Family of Korea. We are grateful to have had such a meaningful 3 days.

2012 Challenges

- lack of motivation among members as well as human resources.
- We have difficulty communicating with the international MLC because of language. It's really difficult to cope with this matter. Many members of MLC Japan still don't know how to use automatic translation, even though that would not be good enough. Actually, many of them aren't even connected to the Internet. However, I cannot push them to start using computers. This is one of the big obstacles for MLC Japan in not being able to communicate with Marianist Families around the world.

Is there any way that I or the International Team can help?

- The important thing is to encourage members to understand better our Founders spirituality. For that reason, I would appreciate your helping us at that time.

Do you find the monthly *Gifts & Tasks* and *Friday Magnificat* emails helpful?

- Yes, I immediately forward them to each community in Japan, BUT, unfortunately, nobody has time and skill to translate these from English to Japanese. However, every time we receive them, it lets us recognize that we are connected to Marianist Families around the world.

DUES: \$300 paid

KOREA, SOUTH

NATIONAL RESPONSIBLE: **NAM, Jung Hyun (Peter)**

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Seoul, Korea 121-825(zip-code)

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English Translator: 이진봉 (Sebastian: Jin Bong Lee) jblee9@hotmail.com

22 MLCs 220 Lay Marianists

CITIES: Seoul (14), MLCs: Bordeaux, Zaragoza, Adèle, A Flame of the Spirit, Stabat Mater, Périgueux, Trenquelléon, Chaminade, Mussidan, Madeleine, Pillar, Agen, Giovanni (young adult group), Simler (Mokpo City)

Incheon (8), MLCs: Cana, Lady of Pillar, Roseraie, Stella Maris., Holy family, Adèle, Immaculate Conception (Cheongju City), Agen (Cheongju City)

ASSESSOR: Dominic Park, SM bropark@hotmail.com



SUMMARY: The South Korean MLCs are very active and growing. They are very organized and are also concerned about attracting young adults to the Marianist life. They are excited about hosting the IO-MLC in Korea in 2018. To prepare for this they will be sending as many delegates as possible to the next international meeting in Peru.

DUES: Will send \$1,000 with Sr. Susana Kim FMI when she returns to Rome in November

PHILIPPINES

NATIONAL RESPONSIBLE: **Johneleen T. Lardera**

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Davao City, Philippines 80000

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2 MLCs 30 Lay Marianists

CITIES: Manila and Davao



SUMMARY: 2012 Successes or good news

- MLC Davao: The good news is that for 5 years we are still alive and kicking even though there are times that everybody is busy with their work, family and school but we still have time for our Marianist lay life.
- MLC Manila: Still intact after more than 10 years. They continue to grow in faith. Fr. Pablo Rambaud, SM and Sister Fumiko Yamada, FMI are helpful with formation.

2012 Challenges

- There's been a change in the number of Davao MLC members. Marianela Sotto left the group to focus on a new project. Some members (like the college students) found time management difficult with their studies. The same 5 people come to our monthly formation and other activities. We are trying to plan how to attract more young adults.

Is there any way that I or the International Team can help?

- Everything is good at the moment.

Do you find the monthly Gifts & Tasks and Friday Magnificat emails helpful? YES

DUES: Not yet paid but we are working on it.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

National Responsible: **Rudy Reyes**

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USA

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94 MLCs 1516 Lay Marianists

CITIES: 40 plus 12 national or cyber communities

Community Development contact: Kay Stone, kastn_1999@yahoo.com See [map](#)



SUMMARY: 2012 Successes or good news

- The rise of young adult initiatives such as the Mission of Mary Cooperative (an urban farm in Dayton, Ohio)
- A number of recent graduates of the 3 Marianist Universities have passionately embraced the Marianist charism and are forming intentional MLCs. Some participate in the Marianist Lay Formation Initiative.
- Marianist laity have been a driving force behind organizing more Marianist Family Councils across the country (especially on the East Coast and Midwest) thus increasing the responsibility and equal partnership for the lay branch of the Marianist Family.

2012 Challenges

- Identity: Individual and communal identity as Marianist laity need to be clarified. Who is a lay Marianist and what qualifies a community as an MLC?
- Organizational structure: Many lay Marianists do not feel connected with the Marianist Lay Network of North America (MLNNA)
- Although the regional Marianist Family Councils are a strength, they are not meant to be the voice of the laity – rather the laity are but one voice among the branches there. As regional affinities become more solid, national/international ones become more tenuous.
- Because of the above challenges, fundraising is difficult. A major fundraising drive will start November 15.
- As our membership shifts more toward young adults, we have the challenge of keeping in touch with them as they move often, and they are often connected more electronically than in local physical MLCs.

Plans to address these challenges

- Instead of MLNNA's usual Continental Assembly in summer of 2013, we will hold a "Delegate Assembly" with representatives from each MLC. The purpose of this Assembly will be to work at resolving the identity, structural, fundraising, and membership challenges listed above.

Is there any way that I or the International Team can help?

- I hope to have more contact with the IO-MLC in order to learn from the experiences and challenges of other national groups.

Do you find the monthly *Gifts & Tasks* and *Friday Magnificat* emails helpful? YES

- *Gifts & Tasks* is full of wisdom about strengthening community life. The *Friday Magnificat* is read, but has less relevant to one's community life. It is nice, however, to see examples of good works throughout the Marianist Family around the world.

DUES: \$1,000 paid

- In principle, I affirm our desire to support IO-MLC, however, fundraising remains a challenge. The amount MLNNA can contribute is unclear. (The notion of "dues" is a new one to me. Some of the leadership struggle with it. We welcome an opportunity to discuss further the relationship from MLNNA to the IO-MLC.)

EMERGING MLC

INDONESIA

NATIONAL RESPONSIBLE: **Heribertus (HB) Denny** (acting)

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? MLC 15 active community members, 50-75 volunteers



SUMMARY:

HB Denny had been considering a vocation to the SM when he needed to return to his native Indonesia to help his family. He then gathered a group of young adults to do service in Jakarta, Indonesia hoping that they might eventually evolve into an MLC. According to HB Denny, the group of young adults is still discerning whether they want to become a formal MLC. “Most of them want to have their own format instead of MLC. Currently we are temporarily collaborating with Congregation of Passionist.” HB is willing to stay in contact with me as their direction becomes more clear.

2012 Successes or good news

- We still focus in social justice area by visiting and helping orphans, the elderly and the needy.
- We also sponsor 40 poor children a year at \$120 per child.

2012 Challenges

- Discerning what direction we going to go in the future.

Do you find the monthly *Gifts & Tasks* and *Friday Magnificat* emails helpful?

- Yes.