9° International Meeting of Marianist Lay Communities

Dear CLM National Officers,

It is with great enthusiasm and joy that we contact you to invite you to participate in the **9th International Meeting of Marianist Lay Communities**, to be held in **Bogota**, Colombia, **August 17-22**, **2026**.

This meeting represents an invaluable opportunity to strengthen our fraternal bonds, share experiences and renew our commitment to the Marianist mission. Under the motto "*Called by Jesus, in Alliance with Mary*", during the meeting we will explore our yes to the call, how we live and grow in this journey, to finally go out to the mission by the hand of Mary.

In this journey we will be accompanied by the results of the <u>survey</u>, of which we already have many responses, but we are extending the deadline until <u>June 30. 2025</u> and we encourage you to get as many as possible.

During the meeting we will also work on our being in the Church, as members of the **Marianist Charismatic Family**. We are in an important moment to continue deepening and growing around it.

We are preparing an agenda full of inspiring activities, enriching workshops and moments of reflection that will undoubtedly help us grow as a community, and of course, also moments of conviviality and tourism to relax and enjoy together.

Each day will be organized by a Region. Your regional leader will contact you to distribute and prepare the various activities for your assigned day.

Next, we present the **logo of the meeting**. The main concept is the CLM and its presence, the Marianist cross embracing the world, using soft colors: the blue and green color in the world, depicting that: "we are the life and hope of the world", and the red color means the presence, the holy spirit in our midst.



In order to prepare the meeting as well as possible, we would need to confirm the **number of attendees** in September. Please find attached at the end of this letter the number of delegates per country. Please let us know as soon as possible how many of your delegates are expected to attend the meeting, as well as if your national advisor is coming as a guest.

As in previous meetings, we want **young people** to share with us this important meeting; therefore, up to three young people from each region can participate. Please think about which young people you would like to nominate from your country, so that you can coordinate with your regional leader for the final selection from among all the other countries in your region. In this regard, it is important that they speak English, which will be the language of their activities.

Finally, we would also like to take this opportunity to remind you to begin discernment on the presentation of a **candidate** from your country for the position of regional leader or president of the association. These can be presented up to six months before the meeting.

We look forward to your presence and encourage you to prepare your heart and spirit for what will be a transformative experience.

May Mary, our Mother, accompany us on this journey and inspire us to move forward with courage and love.

With fraternal affection,



Boris Giambanco

Presidente,

Comunidades Laicas Marianistas

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MEETING PLACE

RETIREMENT HOME LOS PINARES BOGOTÁ

Address: CALLE 195 # 56-66 El Cerezo Bogotá Capital District

Colombia

ANNEX: Number of delegates per country. Total 43 delegates

AFRICA	10
Ivory Coast	3
Zambia	1
Kenya	1
Togo	1
Benin	1
Democratic Rep. of Congo	1
Malawi	2
ASIA	4
India	1
Japan	1
Korea	2
EUROPE	13
Austria-Germany	1
Spain CEMI	1
Spain Madrid	3
Spain Zaragoza	3
France	2
Italy	1
Poland	1
Switzerland	1

LATIN AMERICA	11
Argentina	2
Brazil	1
Chile	2
Colombia	1
Cuba	1
Ecuador	1
Mexico	1
Peru	2
NORTH AMERICA	5
USA	4
Canada	1