



Bordeaux, France
July 29, 2005

To all **members of Marianist Lay Communities** throughout the world
And the **World Council of the Marianist Family**.

We wish to announce with joy the successful completion of the 4th International Meeting of Marianist Lay Communities, held in Bordeaux our birthplace, in France, from July 23 to July 29, 2005.

At this meeting delegates and observers from 24 of 28 countries attended. What a Pentecost we lived! We also had the grace to meet the members of the World council of the Marianist Family and the Brothers of the group Horizon 2005.

During the week together delegates worked on their understanding of who Mary is for Marianist Lay Communities in the 21st century. The result of this reflection is the document entitled **Alliance with Mary**. This document will be shortly posted on the web site www.marianist.org under the section Marianist Lay Communities.

The assembly voted on ten challenges that will guide our decision making over the next four years. These challenges can also be viewed on the web site.

Another happy occurrence during the week was the constitution of the new African Region composed of Ivory Coast, Togo, Malawi, Kenya, Zambia, Congo and the Democratic Republic of Congo that was unanimously adopted by delegates.

Still another positive occurrence was the presence of an observer from Haiti. In the past four years there has been a rapid growth of MLC in Haiti, with seven communities presently existing. Haiti is receiving support from the Quebec MLC in terms of the formation of MLC. We expect that Haiti will in four years time join the region composed of the U.S., Canada, Ireland, Australia, Japan, Korea and India.

A new International Team was elected at this meeting. The new president is Tony Garascia from the U.S. And the responsible are: Ezequiel Reggiani, from Argentina, Ana Blazquez, from Spain, Lorna Mueni, from Kenya and Isabella Moyer, from Canada.

Please help us communicate the good news of our recently concluded meeting by informing your own regions, provinces and units so as we could build together a more Marial Church.

Sincerely,

Anthony Garascia CLM
President
of the Marianist Lay Communities

Ana Blázquez CLM
Regional Responsible
of the MLC of Europe

Isabella Moyer CLM
Regional Responsible
of the MLC of North America, Asia, Australia and Ireland

Lorna Mueni CLM
Regional Responsible
of the MLC of Africa

Ezequiel Reggiani CLM
Regional Responsible
of the MLC of Latin America