



**para el mundo - pour le monde - for the World - para o mundo - per il mondo**

The identity of the Province has been formed with the charismatic imprint of the French, Spanish, Italian and Swiss Brothers together with the own sensitivity of the Uruguayan, Argentine and Brazilian Brothers.

Grateful for our history and its protagonists, we want to continue with creative fidelity the mission that the Brothers

## Province Our Lady of Hope

and laity who preceded us began and built with love. The shared charism and mission are for us a novelty of the Spirit and an expression of the signs of the times, which invite us to redefine our being Brothers on the horizon of a new eclesiality together with the laity.

As brothers disciples-missionaries we believe that fraternity is the richest and most valuable gift that we have to offer to the Church and to society.

The priority objective of the mission of the Brothers today is to be an animating and evangelizing presence, which accompanies us in all our educational and apostolic spaces. We want to be a response to the conditions and demands of a particularly secularized environment, in search of meaning, affected by the crisis of values. We aspire to be attentive to the "existential peripheries".

The Church-communion has provoked the need for greater dedication to Youth and Vocation Ministry, to the transmission of Spirituality and Charism, to the joint formation of Brothers and Laity, to the accompaniment and formation of the members of the Sa-Fa Family, to the creation of animation structures. They are actions and steps that we are taking to give continuity in our works to the mission and charism received. The development of the Nazarene Fraternities and the adhesion of so many lay people help us and encourage us to continue betting on this path of hope.

We participate in the pastoral work of the Church mainly through Christian education, catechesis, liturgical animation and being sensitive "to all kinds of good works."

The name "Our Lady of Hope" indicates the underlying motivation that animates us in our mission and charism in this continent and Church of Hope.

The Province has carried out two important processes in recent decades: firstly, the union of two Provinces and a Vice-Province and, on the other hand, the growing participation and responsibility of the laity, which today represents the new reality of Sa-Fa Family": **"New paths, one single Family"**.



### HISTORY OF THE PROVINCE

**1889:** Foundation in Montevideo (Ur). **1908:** Foundation in Tandil (Ar). **1923:** American Province.

**1953:** Prov. San José (Ur-Ar). **1963:** Prov. Ntra. Sra. Luján (Ar). **1963:** Foundation in Marau (Br).

**1975:** Vice Prov. Nsa. Sra. Aparecida (Br). **2010:** Prov. Nra. Sra. Esperanza (Ur-Ar).

**2016:** Prov. Ntra. Sra. Esperanza (Ur-Ar-Br).

Brothers and Fraternities		Mission of the Sa-Fa Family			
Brothers	31	Schools in Uruguay	7	Schools in Argentina	7
Communities	8	Schools in Brazil	4	University Centre. Brazil	1
Bros. outside the Province	3	Total students	11500	University Residence	1
Nazarene Fraternities	28	Lay teachers	1658	Living houses, sports...	13

# Nuevos CAMINOS, una sola FAMILIA

## NEW PATHS, ONE SINGLE FAMILY

The Brothers arrived in Uruguay in March 1889 and on July 1 of that year the first school opened its doors, with just 7 students.

Today, 132 years later, the humble seed planted by those intrepid Missionary Brothers has developed as a mustard seed. Its branches have spread in large and small centers, nursery schools and the University, in formal and informal education, in the center of cities and in the peripheries, in the classroom and courtyards, as well as in missions and volunteering.

The appreciation of the lay vocation, the need for more and more specialized educators, together with the decrease in the number of

Management Team Meeting. Argentina



Management Team Meeting. Brazil



Brothers, have been the reasons why the centers have been enriched with the invaluable collaboration of the laity. The "network" of Brothers has been transformed into a "new network" although with the same charisma: the Sa-Fa Family.

Naturally, this journey has required continuous accompaniment, taking care that the educational tradition, the values of the centers and the charisma that permeated them were assumed by all and enriched with careful adaptation to new social and pedagogical circumstances. In progressive and careful steps, pedagogical and charismatic training, shared responsibility and the creation of new structures of animation have been favored that will allow the continuity of our works.

In this perspective, for years, teams of lay people have been created for pedagogical, pastoral and management animation of educational centers. Today they are these: Provincial Directive Council (Uruguay); Board of Directors of the A.S.F. (Argentina) and "Equipe de Titularidade" (Team Ownership. Brazil). These Teams work in a network, in each nation, but also at the Provincial level with the local teams.

In the Works where there is no religious community, a Brother or a lay representative of the provincial community, appointed by the Provincial Council, form part of the Board of Directors. Careful support and adequate institutional training make it possible for the centers to have a strong identity of belonging to the Sa-Fa Family.



Management Team Meeting. Uruguay



# DISCIPLES AND MISSIONARIES



**Youth Camp. Argentina**

This is the common thread of our history. Important events stand out along this path: the foundations in Uruguay, Argentina and Brazil, the missionary impulse, the gestures and works of solidarity, the renewal of catechesis, the progressive incorporation of the laity into tasks of animation, management and responsibility, the birth of the Nazarene Fraternities or the care of youth ministry.

The Province has aimed at networking, strengthening the formal channels of articulation and communication, creating meeting spaces (face-to-face or virtual today) between the pastoral leaders of each sector. It provides subsidies and promotes training at the service of the advertisement, taking into account the diversity of youth cultures.

As disciples and missionaries, members of the Church, we assume the appeal of Pope Francis to go out to the peripheries, creating concrete services and walking towards schools in a key of solidarity. We seek new paths and to be faithful to the legacy of Bro. Gabriel we seek to stimulate catechesis and youth ministry, trying to make it interesting, lived, attractive and captivating.

With this perspective, missions, camps and co-existence are organized as privileged moments to discover Jesus and share the experience of faith with others.

In them, three dimensions are offered and developed in the young person: Home, Workshop and Mission. All aspects related to personal and group growth are integrated, to tasks and activities that allow the solidarity approach to different social realities, specific jobs in Homes, campaigns to get clothes or food, longer-term commitments with neighborhood or parochial picnic areas, work support in schools, tasks within the school itself or other commitments that the members of the groups define together with the animators. Always with the commitment to go to different places in each country so that the Good News reaches children, youth and adults.

**Young Brazilians in mission**



**Home, Workshop and Mission: young people from Uruguay**





## A reorganization experience

The union of the Provinces (San José, from Uruguay, N<sup>a</sup> S<sup>a</sup> de Luján from Argentina N<sup>a</sup> S<sup>a</sup> Aparecida from Brazil), has strengthened the growth in the sense of charismatic identity of Brothers and laity as the Sa-Fa Family. There were many difficulties in this process of uniting the Provinces, however, the positive expectations and hopes were stronger, as they opened up horizons of spiritual revitalization, enrichment of the fraternity and renewed apostolic and missionary fruitfulness.

Starting in 1963, although the Provinces were separated (Luján and San José), close relations were promoted between the two, sharing pastoral spaces and spaces for the formation of Brothers and laity. Efforts were joined, integrating the Brothers and the laity in common tasks in order to align ourselves in the achievement of the same objective.

In 2010, the Provinces of Uruguay and Argentina were reunited under the name of “Nuestra Señora de la Esperanza”. An invocation that indicates what animates us as a Latin American Church, a Church of hope and reflects the spirit of hope, hopes and positive expectations with which we have started this path even in the midst of our poverty and weaknesses. The relationships were extended to the communities of Brazil until full integration in 2016.

**A retreat of Brothers from Argentina, Uruguay and Brazil in Passo Fundo**



## Growing up as a Sa-Fa Family

From the paths travelled in recent years, from the provincial life projects and various expressions of a renewed charism, Brothers and laity, we are growing in mutual knowledge. We value the charismatic particularities developed over time. Thus, the presence of each of the works is a significant presence in its environment, such as the Sa-Fa Family.

The Province fulfills its ecclesial, educational and evangelizing mission in intimate communion with various civil entities that make up the Sa-Fa Family. On the one hand we are the communities of Brothers in the 3 countries; the Nazarene Fraternities and the 3 Animation Teams of the Works named on page 2. In addition, works from the CODOMI and COPROMI Cooperatives (Minas) are part of the Sa-Fa Family; COPROSAJO, (San José de Mayo) and COOEDUCA, (Canelones) and by the Institute “Pequeñas Hermanas de la Sagrada Familia de Castelleto” (CAIF San José, Progreso), through duly established and signed agreements.

**“Encuentro con el H. Gabriel”: Brothers and lay people from the three countries**



We feel the urgency, as the Sa-Fa Family, to live and make explicit the kerygma as a fundamental element to redefine our pastoral work, strengthening catechesis, the Areas of the Sa-Fa Network with emphasis on the Pastoral Area, Volunteering and advancing towards development of a Family Pastoral.



**“Called to walk together in a participatory style”**