

club that is on the verge of closing. Choices aimed at survival can only retard the degradation. One must wager on creation, finding a future for the mission that is visible.

The fruits depend on many factors but above all on the sowing. More than ever before it is necessary to be clear on what we sow. In the pastoral four verbs are key-verbs: **to go out** [to the 99 (lambs), because henceforth there will be but one left in the house], **interrogate** (to be interested in others), **listen, pro-**



La Pasqua Juvenil reunites, during the Easter week, a large number of youths from our schools in Spain.

Here, a brother animates a meeting with some youths.

pose. Do not improvise. Continue to create a road, knowing well that we shall meet obstacles.

It is indispensable to create possible conditions. One must not go «alone in life»; it is the time to go in community.

Conditions for a community to favor vocations:

- Manifest passion for the Gospel and for Jesus. Find joy in following Jesus.
- Have an open community where we can enter and leave.
- Have open doors, a transparent life. Be at home. Share all that we are. Go ahead of.
- Have a praying community.
- It is urgent to cultivate in the communities the culture of «benediction», have more words of benediction than of «fratricide correction».
- It is necessary to «desire vocations» and starting from this to offer collaboration.
- We cannot permit having isolated communities, preoccupied only with themselves and their «little problems».
- Joy is essential, as well as the fact of transmitting it; we must be seen as being enthusiastic and happy when we talk and live with Jesus and of what concerns Him.

H. Alfonso Blazquez

David Gonzalez, a Chilean Postulant's testimony (May 2007)

I WOULD LIKE TO GIVE A BRIEF ACCOUNT of my experience at the Culiprán Postulate. I think and I know that it has helped me greatly in the steps so far taken in my personal and vocational calling. It is an experience which permits me to discover numerous novelties, favourable to the discernment of my vocation.

I cannot deny that it was rather difficult for me to get used to the lifestyle lived here at the College, the more so that it was not like the one I had known at the Postulate of Santiago these last two years.

In the Community, it was not difficult, on the contrary, granting that I had the habit of living with the Brothers. I think that all of us are different (some compared to others), that all bring something for the

building of the Community, that all of us are capable of mutual love despite the differences in age and nationality.

At the University, at the beginning, I experienced some difficulty to start studying again after several years of interruption, without fearing however, knowing that I could make it. Besides, I have companions on whom I can rely and who I can help in return. We help one another; better still, we have created a new climate which favours our choice of religious life and enlightens us on the way of making such a choice a sign for the others.

The course of studies I am following helps very much to clarify things, in particular, thanks to the theology, to the study of the Old Testament (which



made me reflect and question myself on my knowledge), to the workshop of personal development and theory of education. I follow this programme with enthusiasm, knowing that it is for the better service to the children and youths that the Lord brings into my life.

Thanks to my Formator, I continue growing in order to become a person freer from my own wounds and from my false ideas about myself. Actually, we are preparing for a time of retreat to continue discerning if the Lord is calling me to live a Mennaisian life at the service of the children and youths.

Finally, I would like to mention that I am happy that the Lord has sent me to Culiprán, and I am pleased with the vocational training I am going through with Lord.

David Gonzalez, Postulant

Prayer for the Vocations

Jesus, Son of God,

*in whom resides the plenitude of the divinity,
You call all the baptized «to go ahead».*

*Implant in the heart of the youth the desire
to be the witnesses of the strength of your love
in the world of today.*

*Fill them with your Spirit of strength and prudence,
so that they may be able to discover the full truth
of themselves and their own vocation.*

Our Savior,

*sent by the Father to reveal his merciful love,
give to your Church the gift
of youths, ready to advance
to be among their brothers a manifestation
of your presence that renovates and saves.*

Holy Virgin, Mother of the Redeemer,

*assured guide on the road to God and the neighbor,
You have kept his words in the intimacy of your
heart,*

*sustain through your maternal intercession
the families and the
ecclesial communities,*

*so that they may
help the adoles-
cents and youths
to answer gene-
rously to the
call of the
Lord.*

Amen.

