

PASTORAL EXPERIENCES FOR YOUNG PEOPLE OF THE EMMAUS PIARISTS

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In the Province of Emmaus, we work with young people who want to deepen their vocational discernment as followers of Jesus Christ from the two pillars of the Piarist charism (Piety and Letters / Faith and Culture / Experience of God and Formation Process, we say today) as we explain in our educational project of the Calasanz Emmaus Movement.

[Movimiento Calasanz - Pastoral de los colegios \(escolapiosemaus.org\)](http://escolapiosemaus.org)

To achieve this objective, one of the keys that enrich our pastoral itineraries are the foundational experiences that we propose taking advantage of the summer vacations.

These experiences range from unique retreats, social volunteer camps, joint meetings, and community experiences... Through them, we work intensely with young people to share life in a group, the care and spiritual growth of each one, the commitment to the most disadvantaged, and an alternative lifestyle to today's society.

On our website of the Emmaus Province, there is a section in which we collect these Piarist experiences coordinated from the Calasanz Movement and Itaka-Escolapios along with other nearby entities. Any young person who meets the general profile requested by each experience can see the diversity of proposals and can sign up.

[Experiencias de MC | Provincia Emaús \(itakaescolapios.org\)](http://itakaescolapios.org)

Every year, we update this website so that those accompanying the young people can evaluate which experiences to carry out according to their personal situation and their moment in the pastoral process.

An essential aspect is that many of these experiences need one or more meetings before and after the experience itself for preparation and assimilation from the faith to get the most out of the proposal.

Another fundamental aspect is that the young people are protagonists and involved in the experience's development and realization as active subjects of the mission with their voice and co-responsibility in the proposal, as we were encouraged to do by the 2018 Youth Synod.

And a final aspect is that they are experiences that try to respond to the calls of God in today's world, seeking the signs of the times with new languages and ways to connect young people with the message of the Gospel incarnated in reality. We intend that the young people in our groups go from consuming experiences to consuming personal and spiritual growth processes that transform them and shape them as Christians.

From this vision, this summer, in addition to the usual camps with children and adolescents, some groups of young people from various Piarist presences will meet in Taizé at the end of July to deepen their interiority. About 15 young people will travel for a month to the Piarist Provinces of Mexico, Cuba, Bolivia, and Brazil to share the Piarist life and mission there. More than 20 young people will participate in two volunteer camps with other young migrants from Itaka-Escolapios homes. Another 12 young people will go to Ceuta, Spain's border with Morocco, to support the reception of young migrants crossing the fences at the Temporary Stay Center for Immigrants (CETI). Other young people will participate in volunteer camps of other institutions with prostitution and minors (Oblates, Jesuits...). And other young people will be preparing for personal spiritual retreats, community experiences of everyday life for a few months, joint meetings, and daily volunteering...

May Calasanz accompany them all on their journey.