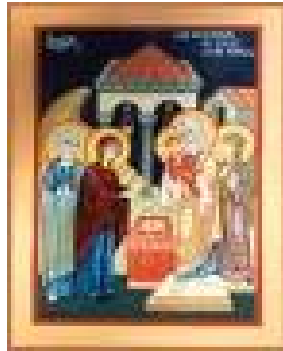


MARIANIST SPIRITUALITY Enews
February 2007



Artist, Andrew Wei

February 2-Presentation of JESUS & FIRST Commitment of Sodalists to Bl. Chaminade,

On this day in 1801, the Presentation /Purification of Jesus, Bl. Chaminade received his first twelve sodalists.

The Marianist Family was thus born. Significantly, the first sodalists were laymen. It is doubtful that Bl. Chaminade even intended to form a canonical religious society. One author, Roger Bichelberger, explains: "...the first sodalists were laymen whom Fr. Chaminade dreamed of forming into 'missionaries' in their milieu of life." (*Walking with William Joseph Chaminade*, NACMS, 2003, xii. To obtain a copy: <http://www.nacms.org/>)

February 11-Our Lady of Lourdes

Almost all Catholics know the story of the apparitions at Lourdes, France, of Mary to St. Bernadette. One of the most readable and comprehensible sites that I recommend is: <http://mb-soft.com/believe/txo/immacu.htm>

February 14-Saint Valentine's

There are various stories about the person, Valentine. Without doubt this one of the most celebrated days in the year. Very few would not recognize the universal symbolism of the heart. Christians can easily identify with the notion of love, especially human love. Many years ago, when I was in the seventh grade, I received a valentine card from one of the girls in my class. A short time back I came across it (I'm a collector), and although I don't remember the girl, the sentiments expressed touched me. Maybe too much money is spent on Valentine's



Day, but if it brings joy to someone, fine. I send only one card and have been doing it for seventeen years. I've never heard her complain.

Prayers

Graham, chemo for mouth cancer.

Ray Ledunsky, a former student, who died. RIP (A teacher shouldn't go before his teacher.)

Robert Loeber, a former Marianist, who died suddenly.

Bro. Dan Stupka, recovering from an angiogram.

Fr. Mathew Kohmescher, lung and brain cancer.

Bro. Paul Merland has requested prayers through the intercession of Ven. Adele Tranquelleon, founder of the

Daughters of Mary. The prayer for this purpose is:

**O God, source of life and holiness,
We thank you for filling the heart
Of your servant Adele de Tranquelleon
With an ardent missionary spirit
And a deep filial love for the Virgin Mary**

**We thank you for the enthusiasm
With which she tried
During her short life, to spread faith
And love for Christ and his Mother,
Especially among the young and
Those most in need.**

**Lord, help us to follow her
In being a sign of your love
For our sisters and brothers.
In order that she may be glorified by
Your Church,
Grant us through her intercession
The favors that we ask of you
(in particular....).
Through Jesus Christ. Our Lord. Amen.**

From The Marianist Prayer Book

Donald Boccardi, S.M., editor

Resources

[Read Alive](#) magazine, published three times a year, featuring stories about how Marianist brothers and priests make a difference in the world. [Subscribe](#)

"A Moment with Mary"

This is a brief daily email sent free of charge by the "Mary of Nazareth" Association, to discover each day a new aspect of the Mother of God. Subscription is FREE

<http://www.mariedenazareth.com/7110.0.html?&L=1>

Utube

An up- to-date online site featuring information and photos of interest to all who share a common interest in the Family of Mary:

<http://www.youtube.com/profile?user=marianists>

Events

PROMOTE A MARIANIST ARTIST VOCATION

The Province vocation office announces a retreat for those involved in the visual arts. The retreat is scheduled for Feb. 16 to Feb. 18, 2007, at the Marianist Retreat & Conference Center in Eureka, Mo. Invited to attend are Marianist artists, practicing artists, committed high school or college art students, art teachers in our high schools and colleges, and those interested in promoting the Marianist artist vocation. To register or for more information, e-mail Bro. Charles Johnson or call 314.533.1207.



Flowers created by Bro. Gerry Hyland

Below is the "poster" design for the Retreat:

It's art ... for God's sake.



If you are an artist and would like to explore the possibility of religious life, the Marianists (Society of Mary) would like to hear from you. We are an international Roman Catholic order of brothers and priests founded in 1817 by Blessed William Joseph Chaminade and have a strong tradition in the arts. Through a life of community, prayer, and service we "bring beauty to space to lift up spirits."

For more information, contact Bro. Charles Johnson, SM, Vocation Director, at cjohnsen@sm-usa.org or 314.533.1207 or visit www.marianist.com/vocations.



Reminder

Lent begins on February 21.