

"To bring Jesus Christ to all people, especially by initiating, forming & animating lay faith communities in the Marianist tradition & charism."

The month of September has great significance for the Society of Mary. The early members made a "foundational" retreat—according to Fr. Chaminade's words—from Aug. 31 to Sept. 5 in 1818. Chaminade wrote to the Archbishop of Bordeaux: "if the good spirit which animates our retreat ants continues, they can all be regarded as founders of the Institute of Mary." (Letter no. 103) At the end of the retreat five men professed perpetual vows and two professed temporary vows.

In modern time, many Marianists have professed their vows on Sept. 5 or close to that date. The church has allowed the Society of Mary to celebrate the Feast of Mary, Queen of Apostles on the 5th since 1921. The title of the feast tells what the vision, hope and intention was in the mind of Bl. William Joseph Chaminade when he founded the Society of Mary.

I have noticed recently that Ansenry.com is doing a great deal of advertising on the internet. They can help you trace your family's history. As one who has spent hours and days turning the crank on a micro-film reader at the federal archives in New York to find the name of my grandfather on a ship list in the 1880s, I can appreciate the ease with which professionals do the search. I never did find the ship or my grandfather's name.

However, family history has always been very important to me. Knowing our roots, our reasons for coming to America, the hardships endured, the faith and determination to be successful in this new country always impress me. (Visit Ellis Island here in NY) Knowing the struggles of my grandparents, makes me understand the hopes of the Mexicans, Dominicans, Chinese, Koreans, and all the others who are our recent immigrants. It does amaze me that there is an anti immigrant stand amongst some Americans for we are all visitors.

One more thing about history and the importance of knowing our story: NACMS has this project: Lest We Forget. Ray McCracken, the assistant director of NACMS, is the project director of the project. I have been blessed to be his assistant. The project is interviewing all the members of the Society of Mary for their own story—their personal and Marianist history. How blessed I am to have listened to the story of men of faith

who have a difference in the lives of many here in the US and in other countries. Bl. William Joseph would be proud---humanly speaking of course. (NACMS also offers a Virtual Learning Course about the Founders of the Marianist Family.)

Why not trace your own family story?

Feasts in September

September 3: (Blessed William Joseph Chaminade was beatified on this day)

September 5: Queen of Apostles

September 8: The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin

September 9: St. Peter Claver

September 12: Holy Name of Mary—patronal feast of the Society of Mary

September 14: The Exaltation of the Holy Cross

September 15: Our Lady of Sorrows

September 18: Memorial of Blessed Carol Erana, Bl. Frd'el Fuidio and Jesus Hita, martyrs. They were shot in 1936 during the Spanish Civil war because they were religious educators.

September 21: St. Matthew, apostle and evangelist

September 27: St. Vincent de Paul

Marianist World Day of Prayer: South Korea

This year the Marianist Family will gather on Sunday, Oct. 9, at the Nam Yang Shrine of the Blessed Virgin Mary in South Korea for the Marianist World Day of Prayer.

Marianists throughout the world are encouraged to hold regional celebrations so as to make a spiritual pilgrimage of prayer with our South Korean Marianists.

The Marianist World Day of Prayer is an opportunity for Marianist communities to gather to pray, celebrate and join in a unique, international event. We have prepared a prayer service that you might use with your community, church group or family to reflect on the needs of the world, of the Marianist family and especially those of the people of South Korea.

Steve Rizzoli of the CMSC Board is preparing this year's materials. To receive a copy of the prayer service, please contact Cathy O'Rourke at cmsccathy1@aol.com or call (215) 634-4116

Marianist NGO Update from the UN – “Millennium Development Goals +5”

by Bro. Steve O'Neill, SM – Marianist NGO Delegate to the United Nations

On Sept. 14-16, the United Nations Headquarters in New York will host a high-level gathering of many heads of state to review progress on the commitments made five years ago at the Millennium Summit. All 191 countries of the UN General Assembly, committed to achieving these 8 Millennium Development Goals by the year 2015:

- 1. Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger.**
- 2. Achieve universal primary education.**
- 3. Promote gender equality and empower women.**
- 4. Reduce child mortality.**
- 5. Improve maternal health.**
- 6. Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases.**
- 7. Ensure environmental sustainability.**
- 8. Develop a global partnership for development**

Each of these goals also have measurable outcome targets. For example, under Goal 1 the target is to reduce by half the number of people living on less than a dollar a day. For more details visit the UN website for the MDGs, www.un.org/millenniumgoals . At that site you can link to the report of the [Millennium Project](#) committee, chaired by Professor Jeffery Sachs of Columbia University, who were given the task of evaluating progress on the MDGs by the Secretary-General. In March 2005 the Secretary-General published his preparatory document for the September Summit called, "[In Larger Freedom](#)." In that document he focuses on 4 main areas:

- 1. Freedom from Want – Development and the MDGs**
- 2. Freedom from Fear- Peace and Security**
- 3. Freedom to Live in Dignity – Human Rights**
- 4. Strengthening the United Nations**

In June the President of the General Assembly held special hearings for NGOs (non-governmental organizations), civil society, and the private sector to voice their concerns about the September Summit to those member state delegates in attendance. You can view the summary document of those meetings at the [Marianist NGO website](#). Also, on the same page you can download the working document of the General Assembly for the September Summit.

Last week, President Bush appointed John Bolton as the US Ambassador to the UN while Congress was in recess. Mr. Bolton stated at the press conference for the appointment that he was ready to promote the President's and Ms. Rice's agenda at the UN. Fortunately, the checks and balances of our government allows the peoples voice to be heard through our elected Congressional representatives. Senator Lugar (R.) of Indiana has sponsored a bill (S. 1315) called The International Cooperation to Meet the Millennium Development Goals Act of 2005. If you want to help put pressure on Mr.

Bolton and President Bush to live up to the United States' commitments towards achieving the MDGs send a letter to your Senators asking for their support of the Lugar bill. You can go the [Faithful America](http://FaithfulAmerica.org) website to send their prepared letter.

CMSC Activities

- September 9-11** Marianist Ministry Development Program at the Franciscan Retreat House in Aston, Penn. This weekend is designed for the Marianist Ministry teams which are doing Marianist Family Retreats in parishes.
- September 13-15** Bro. Walt participates in the meeting of the advisory board for the Marianist Volunteer program. The meeting is in San Antonio.
- September 17** CMSC provides a family retreat for clients of the Elizabeth, N.J. Coalition for Housing the Homeless. Members of MLC Cor Maria and the Durand family will participate.
- September 18** The Marianist Ministry team for Long Island meets to plan their year of parish family retreats.
- September 24** The Marianist Ministry team for Central, New Jersey meets to plan their Year of parish family retreats.

Please Pray for:

Archbishop Ray Roussin, SM

Elmer Dunsky, SM, who has prostate cancer

Bro. Thomas Spring, SM, Bro. Paul Naomi, SM, Mr. Ron Grossi and Mrs. Joyce Breen who are all dealing with melanoma.

Mrs. Marie Moyer who is very ill.

Katie Eisenhuth and Adam Jones who were recently married.