

**BRO. BOB DONOVAN**  
*Celebrating 25 years of profession*

I grew up in a very Catholic family. My parents and relatives, and the schools I attended in my youth, were instrumental in my faith formation and in drawing me to religious life. I looked into religious life many times over the years, but when I was closer to deciding I already had a career, so I was looking for an order that would support this career as ministry. Particularly the constancy of prayer in religious life drew me. I looked at several orders, but it was what I saw in Marianist life that attracted me, and my aspirancy with the Terrace Avenue Marianist Community firmed it up.

Novitiate year in Dayton was one of the best years of my life. After many years of intense training leading up to a degree in medicine then busy practice, having the time to prayerfully consider my call in the openness of novitiate was just the right thing. It also built my appreciation of silence.

During my second year of novitiate in Cleveland with St. Al's Marianist Community, I began looking for a ministry opportunity. I checked in many cities where there were Marianist communities, particularly in the south since warm weather is much more beneficial to my mood! However, Providence had something else in mind. A contact I had from private practice in Cincinnati found that the Health Care for the Homeless Program was just starting up and that became the basis of my ministry for these 25 years.

The development of the Findlay Street Marianist Community was a grand piece of my Marianist life. I came to understand the broadness of what Marianist community is as we hosted urban plunges from many of our schools and had monthly gatherings with members of the State Community and Anawim.

The length, breadth and height of being Marianist has been a guiding light on my spiritual and life journey, as I pray it will continue to be.