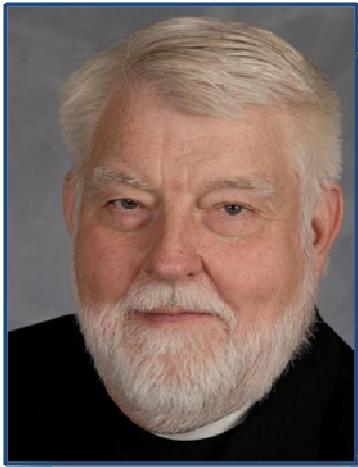


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May 2, 2013

**Death Notice No. 11 (To all Unit Administrations):**



The Province of the United States of America recommends to our fraternal prayers our dear brother, **JOSEPH LACKNER**, priest of the Center Marianist Hale Malia Community (Honolulu), who died in the service of the Blessed Virgin Mary on April 28, 2013 in Seoul, South Korea, at the age of 71 with 52 years of religious profession.

Fr. Joe was a beloved teacher, homilist, administrator and campus minister. He held several advanced degrees and especially enjoyed teaching and ministry in developing regions. He was returning to the United States from teaching at a University of Dayton program in Bangalore, India. He had stopped in Seoul to visit the Marianist brothers there when he suffered a heart attack. Resulting complications led to his death.

Born on February 11, 1942, in Cincinnati, Ohio, Fr. Joe was the oldest of three children of Joseph and Anna (Hayward) Lackner. He attended Cardinal Pacelli grade school and Purcell (now Purcell Marian) High School in Cincinnati, where he first encountered members of the Society of Mary.

Fr. Joe professed his first vows on August 22, 1960, in Marcy, New York, and his perpetual vows on August 15, 1965 in Dayton, Ohio. He was ordained a priest on January 22, 1972, in Cincinnati, Ohio.

In his early career, Fr. Joe taught at high schools in Kentucky and Ohio. He began teaching at the university level in 1969, with positions at Parks College in Illinois, Saint Louis University in Missouri and Thomas More College in Kentucky.

In 1976, he began what would become a long association with the University of Dayton. At UD, he taught religion and education classes, and served as director of campus ministry from 1980 to 1988, and as a residence hall campus minister from 1988 through 1993.

Over his long career, he also taught at Xavier University in Cincinnati, St. Mary's University in San Antonio, Texas, and Chaminade University in Honolulu, Hawaii.

An insatiable learner, Fr. Joe earned several college degrees over the course of four decades. He held two bachelor's and a master's degree from the University of Dayton, a master's in Biblical languages and literature and a doctorate in historical theology from Saint Louis University, as well as a doctorate in private school education from the University of San Francisco, which he completed in 1997.

Fr. Joe combined teaching, learning and ministry with extensive travel. He spent time in England, Ireland, France, Germany and Austria, as well as Kenya, Zambia, Malawi, Nigeria, Japan, India and South Korea.

Fr. Joe served as Assistant Provincial and Director of Education for the former Cincinnati Province from 1997 to 2002.

From 2002 to 2010, Fr. Joe was the Assistant for Developing Regions in the newly created Province of the United States. It was a role well suited to Fr. Joe's love of education and other cultures.

"Few people can take meticulous scholarship and speak it in such a way that the people listening hear the images and stories of a poet's heart," said Bro. Steve Glodek, who was the first Provincial of the new U.S. Province. "Joseph Lackner's love for and challenge to the brothers in Korea, Eastern Africa, India and Mexico contributed greatly to their development and maturity. His wisdom, good humor and largeness of heart were inestimable gifts," said Bro. Steve.

Fr. Joe spent the second half of 2010 on sabbatical, traveling the Silk Road – the historical trade route from China to Europe. He spent 2011 and 2012 teaching at Chaminade University and in the UD program in Bangalore.

While Fr. Joe was an accomplished educator and scholar, many will remember him best for his warmth and sense of humor.

"I will miss Joe's enthusiasm for the mission and his great fraternal spirit! He was a wonderful brother in community," said Fr. Jim Fitz, vice president for mission and rector at UD. "Fr. Joe's presentations on Marianist education and spirituality will be a lasting legacy to us all. It has been a privilege to share Marianist life with him over the years," said Fr. Jim.

The Marianist community in Seoul provided Fr. Joe with a traditional Korean memorial service, including chanting of the litany of the saints by a number of groups. The visitation April 29 lasted from 8 a.m. until after 9 p.m. "It was an overwhelming day of support and love for Joe and for the Marianists around the world," said Bro. Dennis Schmitz, who went to Seoul to be with Fr. Joe when he was hospitalized. "How appropriate for Fr. Joe to die in a foreign land in a large city. He was among the people and the tall buildings he so dearly loved," said Bro. Dennis.

Bro. Darwin Joseph was among the Marianist brothers in Bangalore who worked with Fr. Joe as part of the UD program. "I have lost a good friend, a teacher and a brother," said Bro. Darwin. "He was very supportive of me in running the UD program and in helping me grow spiritually and intellectually. He was a big man and he had a big heart for God, the Society of Mary and for me."

May his soul rest in peace."