

BRO. ROGER BAU
50 years of profession

My journey as a Marianist Brother has been a life of constant change in many areas. The novitiate introduced me to the life of faith that has deepened and taken on new meanings as I traversed the many challenges of 50 years. Realizing an ever deeper sense of faith more recently has been a joy and daily challenge.

Prayer has been a constant presence in life but from varied perspectives. From charismatic prayer of years ago to a more quiet and meditative centering prayer along with *Lectio Divina* are now what feeds my soul. I often use these meditative approaches with the daily scripture readings and various books I read.

I was first introduced to the System of Virtues in the scholasticate and periodically have found this process a spur to spiritual growth. Often in unexpected ways through the virtues I have realized the manner in which Fr. Chaminade and Mary lived their lives.

Living in two different cultures, India and Mexico, have been an enriching experiences. These different life situations have showed me that being open to varied ways of living, other religions and persons of faith who come from completely different backgrounds can affect my life of growing in faith. Living in Mexico for nine years helped awaken in me the meaning and place of Mary in my life. Our Lady of Guadalupe in Mexican culture helped advance and stimulate this reflection. I am deeply grateful for having lived in different cultures and continue to draw spiritual culture meaning for my life.

Community life has been mostly a joy for me. I believe community is what one makes of it and I have found challenges and joys in offering my talents and interests to the brothers with whom I have lived. Every community has had its personal supports and community short comings but I believe this is part of religious life and helps us, me grow in virtue and personal holiness.