

BRO. JAMES CONTADINO

50 years of profession

Thank you, Lord.

Thank you, Lord for helping me to choose to remain a Marianist religious, a member of a community of men as part of the larger Family of Mary, consecrated to her, calling others to work together, to bring life.

With Mary as our model, we are helped to carry in us the care and tenderness that welcomes and heals, the courage to “Do whatever He tells you,” and the faith and endurance to stand at the foot of the cross.

My life has been blessed by the communities with whom I have lived, by the teachers and administrators, the students and their parents with whom I have learned and worked.

Marianist mentors along the way broadened my understanding of me and the world: Fr. Charles Hofstetter during the novitiate; Bill Kiefer and Fr. Leonard Fee in the scholasticate; Bro. Paul Boeckerman in Pittsburgh; Dick Strathern in Covington and Bros. Bob Kelly and Bill Callahan in Ireland. Add to this my close friend and advisor, Madeleine O Shea. My life has been made richer through their presence.

For the life and work we have shared over the past 42 years, I owe special thanks to the religious and lay members of our Marianist Family in Ireland.

My gratitude also extends to my family: to my parents, aunts and uncles (most of whom are already with the Lord); to my brothers and sister and their families and my 25 cousins and their families.

I have learned that we are not alone in this world. We are all in this together. If we are to do good, it will be by working together, building together.

May the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit be glorified in all places through the immaculate virgin, Mary. Amen.