



The Marianists

BRO. THOMAS DEASY

60 years of profession

I first met the Marianists as a freshman at St. Joseph High School in Alameda, Calif., where the Marianist brothers and priests who taught me had an effect on my life. Mary also had an effect on my life during my senior year. That is when I discovered that I had a vocation to be a Marianist.

After one year in the novitiate in Santa Cruz, Calif., I spent 3½ years at St. Mary's College of California where I majored in history. In January of 1959, I moved to my first assignment at Junipero Serra High School in Gardena, near Los Angeles. There, I taught two religion classes, one history class and also worked in the library. In June of 1959, I was asked to start working on a master's degree in library science at Immaculate Heart College during the nights and summers; I completed this in the summer of 1964.

From 1959 to 1961, I lived in the city in which I was born—San Francisco — and ministered as assistant librarian under Bro. Richard Roesch at Archbishop Riordan High School. In 1961, I returned to Chaminade Prep in Canoga Park, Calif., as librarian and teacher of film appreciation and filmmaking. This is something I really enjoyed and that has influenced a life-long hobby. In 1973, I returned to Archbishop Riordan in San Francisco as an assistant in the business office, again, as librarian, and — in the mid-1990s a new venture — as archivist for the school as it prepared to celebrate its 50th anniversary in 1999.

Most rewarding to me during these 60 years as a Marianist has been living in community and working with my brothers, committed to embodying the spirits of Jesus and Mary in their lives and the lives of others. When I accepted my vocation, I told Mary I was hers, as long as she wanted me. Sixty years later, I believe Mary still wants me.