



The Marianists

BRO. ROBERT RESING

50 years of profession

I was the fifth son born to my parents, Albert and Elizabeth Resing. I perceived us as a “typical” family in our mainly German ancestry neighborhood of Covington, Kentucky. My father operated a lathe in the candlestick factory for a few years, and then worked at Bavarian Brewery until his retirement. My mother was a stay-at-home mom. Both, for me, were great examples of faith-filled people.

Our parish (St. John’s) was an integral part of our life — both socially and spiritually — and laid a good foundation in faith. The Church was part of our everyday life. Plenty of externals: daily Mass as part of the school day, Sunday Mass as a family, Benedictions, Holy Hours, parish missions, May crownings, building May altars ... even our high school report cards were given to us *in church by* the pastor *after* attending Sunday Benediction.

My mother always said a prayer that one of her sons would become a priest. But, Sr. Mary Reina, SND, was the first one to plant the idea of becoming a religious into my mind. She was my art teacher. At Covington Catholic, I met the Marianist brothers and priests for the first time. They witnessed what a community of faith could be. I joined the sodality and was an aspirant during my senior year. Howie Knachel (then a Marianist brother) was the person who’s responsible for “recruiting” me through a personal invitation.

My life since that invitation has been amazing. I have experienced and been gifted with so much since my initial “yes.” I have been challenged and changed beyond what I could have imagined. The faith foundation planted in my early years has been nourished along the way by the opportunities granted me (teaching and living in Australia for 17 years being a prime example), the many people put in my life and the experiences to which I have been exposed, and it has held me well. I still have room to grow as a Marianist, and, with Mary to help me along the way with her grace, I will continue, please God.