



Things Marianist Talking Points for Boards

A Publication of the North American Center for Marianist Studies

Who are the Marianist Saints?

Reflections on holiness and what it means in the Marianist Family.

Note: These reflection questions are based on the six different sections from this particular Things Marianist. You may go through each section or use this guide as a starting point for a board discussion. Copies of Things Marianist can be obtained at www.nacrns.org.

Opening Prayer. Take a moment and bring yourself into the presence of our loving God.

Prayer for Blessed Jakob Gapp, feast day August 13th.

Blessed Gapp was born in 1897 and was beheaded by the Nazis in 1943 for his unshaken defense of the faith. He was beatified on November 24, 1996, by Pope John Paul II

O God,
 You gave to Blessed Jakob the grace
 To fight strenuously for justice
 And to assert, even to death, the truth of the faith.
 Through his intercession and example,
 Help us also to remain true to your Son and
 To the Church by the integrity of our life.
 We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives
 And reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God,
 For ever and ever. Amen.

Reflection Questions

How can the board encourage the staff and the retreatants to listen to their "call to holiness"?

What does sainthood look like in today's world? How can our retreat center offer the opportunity for retreatants to become a "Spectacle of Saints"?

"As Marianist, holiness is not about doing extraordinary things. Instead, it consists in those who do ordinary things with an extraordinary love. We are all called to be people who through our words and actions transform society." When you look at the ordinary, where do you see holiness?

Suggested Closing Scripture

Who are the saints in your life?

"You have heard that it was said,

You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.

But I say to you, love your enemies

and pray for those who persecute you,

that you may be children of your heavenly Father,

for he makes his sun rise on the bad and the good,

and causes rain to fall on the just and the unjust.

For if you love those who love you, what recompense will you have?

Do not the tax collectors do the same?

And if you greet your brothers only,

what is unusual about that?

Do not the pagans do the same?

So be perfect, just as your heavenly Father is perfect."

(Matthew 5:43-48)