

FamilyOnline

A monthly email newsletter for The Marianist Family



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UD STUDENTS DELIVER SCHOLARSHIPS TO ZAMBIAN YOUTH



University of Dayton senior Elizabeth Abrams gathers with young friends in Lubwe, a village in Zambia. A group of 10 from UD visited the village and worked with local officials to deliver scholarships for needy youth.

In Zambia, school is mandatory. But there's one big problem: It's not free.

"Although school is required, many poor families can't afford the fees, so their children don't attend," said **Jennifer Morin-Williamson**, campus minister at the [University of Dayton](#). Lack of education often locks these children into a future of continued poverty.

This summer, Jen traveled with seven UD students and two campus ministry leaders to Zambia for a cultural immersion experience and to award scholarships from money the UD students had raised.

The group's efforts focused on Lubwe, a village in northern Zambia. They worked with local schools to award scholarships for 178 children. The funding, which ranged from \$4.50 for a young child to \$120 for older students, will cover tuition for the next year and a half. They hope future UD groups will continue their efforts.

The travelers made another simple yet impactful contribution in Lubwe, according to Jen.

The group also visited Matero Boys' Secondary School, a Marianist school in Lusaka.



UD senior *Abbey Saurine* captures a lively moment with friends in Lubwe, a village in northern Zambia.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR 2017 LAY ASSEMBLY

The [Marianist Lay Community of North America](#) encourages you to plan now to attend the 2017 Marianist Lay Assembly July 13 – 16 at the University of Dayton.

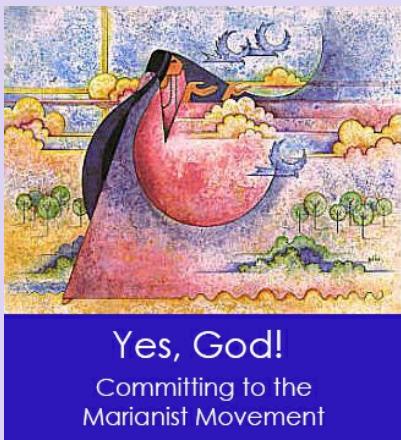


Image: "Day Blessing" by G.E. Mullan

The assembly's theme is "Yes, God! Committing to the Marianist Movement." Organizers are working to create a fun, spirited, faith-building weekend that's affordable for families.

The assembly committee invites individuals and groups to submit proposals for workshops and keynote presentations. [Learn more](#).

This event promises to be an engaging way of saying, "yes, God," as Mary did. Watch for more information in the coming months.

THREE QUESTIONS WITH ...

Bro. Jack Somerville

Bro. Jack Somerville is director of facilities at [Mount Saint John](#) in Dayton. The 150-acre MSJ campus is home to six Marianist ministries and welcomes thousands of visitors each year.

What do you want Mount Saint John to be?

Exactly what it is: a beautiful, ecologically diverse property. Mount Saint John is a place of welcome, peace, learning, formation and solitude. It's a place for the Marianist Family to grow in Chaminade's vision.

What's one of the oddest situations you've dealt with at Mount Saint John?

In the 1980s, we put drop ceilings in all the bedrooms at [Bergamo Center](#). Over time, the weight of the light fixtures began taking a toll. One day, while one guest was at lunch, the entire ceiling fell in his room.* The moral is that lunch is a good thing – never miss it!

You're a musician and singer as well. What do you gain from this ministry?

I am able to pray, play guitar and sing at the same time. What a pleasure! While I'm learning a new song, I reflect on the words. I try to make the words my prayer so that the song becomes prayer.



* This issue was addressed. There are no more of these ceilings at Bergamo.

HONORING OUR BICENTENNIALS – A PAGE FROM THE FAMILY ALBUM

To celebrate the bicentennials of the Daughters of Mary Immaculate and the Society of Mary, *FamilyOnline* is featuring occasional peeks into the past.



DEFYING THE NAZIS: MARIANIST MARTYR FR. JAKOB GAPP

On Aug. 13, we will honor Marianist Fr. Jakob Gapp, an Austrian priest beheaded in 1943 for repeatedly denouncing Nazism.

Jakob was born in 1897 and served with distinction in World War I. Jakob entered the Marianist novitiate on Aug. 13, 1920. He professed first vows in 1921 and was ordained in 1930.

Fr. Gapp was a teacher and school chaplain. He came to the attention of the Nazis for denouncing Nazism as anti-Christian and for teaching that "God is your God, not Hitler."

In 1942, Fr. Gapp was abducted by Gestapo agents. He was taken to Berlin and interrogated.

Fr. Gapp's responses were unwavering: "... for me, what was most important was my Catholic faith and that is why I made every effort to halt the spread of Nazi thinking ... As a Catholic priest, I could not but be in opposition to National Socialism."

Fr. Gapp was convicted of treason and condemned to death. He was beheaded on Aug. 13, 1943, the anniversary of his entrance into the novitiate.

Fr. Jakob Gapp was beatified and proclaimed a martyr of the faith by Pope John Paul II in 1996. You can read a more detailed account of his life and death [here](#).



JUBILARIANS



Celebrating our Jubilarians

Each year, the Society of Mary recognizes the brothers and priests who are marking milestones of their first profession of vows or of their priestly ordination. This is the fourth group of 2016 jubilarians we honor as a special section of *FamilyOnline*.

FR. CHRIS CONLON – 50 years of ordination



Teaching high school was a real joy for me; in fact, I was surprised how much I enjoyed that ministry. During my early years in teaching, I was supported by the older monks who shared a lot of practical wisdom from their years of experience. In a subtle way, this supported our good community life. [Read more](#).

BRO. GARY MARCINOWSKI – 50 years of



profession

My place in life's unfolding. July 7, another day of violence and confusion in our country. At 50 years professed and age 74, I find myself reflecting on time passing. I spend more time admiring clouds and the beautiful blue sky forming the wonders of creation and the marvels of the universe. [Read more](#).



BRO. THOMAS OLDENSKI – 50 years of profession

"Surprised by joy" would characterize my dispositions of these past 50 years as a Marianist. Being brother to so many persons in my life is a great source of grace and joy. It is no coincidence that Pope Francis has proclaimed this year of my Golden Jubilee, a year of Jubilee of Mercy. This provides me the opportunity to reaffirm the mercies and love of God in my life. [Read more](#).



FR. JOSEPH TARRILLION – 50 years of ordination

I grew up in central San Antonio in a family steeped in our German heritage. My father was a leader of the famous *Liederkrantz* that sang at the Sunday high Mass and, most memorably, at Christmas midnight Mass. My family has been — and is — a marvelous support. [Read more](#).

WHO'S DOING WHAT AROUND THE PROVINCE



Pati Krasensky stepped down as associate director of the North American Center for Marianist Studies and director of the Marianist Lay Formation Initiative (MLFI) effective Aug. 1. "We extend deep thanks to Pati for her many years of dedication to MLFI," said Sr. Laura Leming, chair of the Marianist Family Council of North America, which oversees MLFI. Sr. Laura noted that Pati led 13 cohorts of Lay Marianists through a two-year formation process. Pati is moving to serve in the Diocese of Syracuse, New York.



Bro. Tom Wendorf recently returned from Krakow, Poland, where he attended World Youth Day as part of a contingent from the National Religious Vocations Conference. He participated in a "Vocations Café" for English-speaking participants. The six-day event drew more than 2 million pilgrims from across the globe. See [more photos](#).

"CHANGEMAKERS" MEET IN SAN ANTONIO

Nearly 80 social justice advocates met at [St. Mary's University](#) July 22 – 24 for the "Changemakers" event, sponsored by the [Marianist Social Justice Collaborative](#) and the Province Office of Justice, Peace and the Integrity of Creation. The group listened to a keynote speech by theological ethicist Cynthia Moe-Lobeda and discussed how they could enact change locally and nationally. There will be another Changemakers event Oct. 28 – 30 in Dayton. [Learn more.](#)



Some of the Changemakers participants visited "Say Si," a youth development program, as part of the weekend activities. The group included Brian Halderman, Sr. Gabrielle Bibreau, Bro. Brian Zampier, Tara Poling, Gerardo Oyervides, Jack Burke, Jenee Margo Gonzales, Phillip Welsh and Bro. Stan Zubek.

COMMUNITY CELEBRATES 43 YEARS OF SPIRITUAL NOURISHMENT

Spiritual nourishment. Friendship. Compassionate listening. Prayer. These are some of the benefits of belonging to the Maranatha Marianist Lay Community and why the group has endured in Chester, Pennsylvania, for 43 years.

"We challenge each other's beliefs and what it means to live one's faith every day," said **Linda Zappacosta**, one of the founding members.

The group began in 1973 when Linda decided to start an MLC and invited **Dave Scheid** and a few others to join her. They had met while taking classes at the local Marianist Center.

The group's size has ebbed and flowed over the years. Today it has six core members who gathered recently to celebrate their 43rd anniversary.

Many professed Marianists have been part of this group over the years, including the late **Bro. Walter Oberster** and **Sr. Laura Leming**.



Members of the Maranatha Lay Community gathered to celebrate the group's 43rd anniversary included Kurt Brenner, Marian Malfara, Dave Scheid, Jerry Malfara, and Linda Zappacosta.

FORMATION BLESSED BY MARY'S HAND



FROM OUR SPONSORED MINISTRIES

ST. MARY'S A 'BEST VALUE' SAYS MONEY MAGAZINE



[St. Mary's University](#) recently was named the best university in San Antonio, the fourth in Texas and 52nd nationally by Money magazine in its "Best Value Colleges and Universities." The rankings were based on quality, affordability and graduate success. [Read more.](#)

BRICK BY BRICK: A MODEL OF MARIANIST CREATIVITY



A show of hands, please, from those who recognize this iconic structure, rendered in — yup — Legos.

That's right, it's the [University of Dayton's](#) Chapel of the Immaculate Conception, created by UD mathematics grad, **Rafe Donahue**. The model includes a removable roof and a finished interior.

[Read more](#) about it from UD. Watch a [video](#) about the model.

PRAYERS FOR OUR FAMILY MEMBERS

WE ASK FOR YOUR PRAYERS



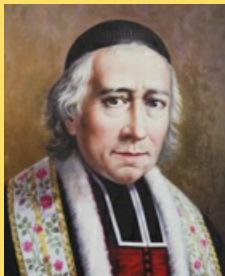
1980s



2015

◆ **Bro. Cletus Behlmann**, 82, died July 12, 2016, with 62 years of Marianist life. Bro. Cletus was a gifted and commercially successful artist known for his use of bold, bright colors. He was director of the St. Mary's University Art Center for nearly 40 years. Read his [obituary](#). See [more photos](#).

- ◆ [Recent deaths of Marianist Family members and friends](#).
- ◆ [Those in need of prayers for healing](#).
- ◆ [Obituaries of Marianist brothers and priests](#) (U.S. Province) since 2007.



A MOMENT WITH BLESSED CHAMINADE

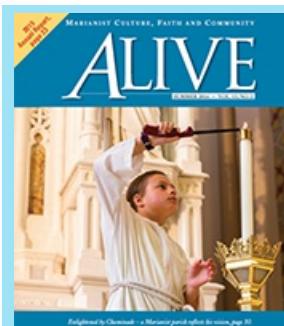
"It seems to me that we must not become discouraged if we encounter some obstacle in the way of necessary change. Never has change been done and never will it be done without difficulty."

RESOURCES

PRINTABLE VERSION OF FAMILYONLINE

To make *FamilyOnline* "shareable" with those who do not use a computer, we will be providing a link to a printable (pdf) version of the newsletter. Look for it every month in this section. Questions? Please contact [Carol Dexter](#), editor.

Printable *FamilyOnline*.



READ IT NOW: SUMMER ALIVE MAGAZINE

The summer issue of *ALIVE* magazine is now available!

You'll find lively stories about Marianist events and perspectives, as well as our annual report recognizing those who support Marianist ministries. Look for your copy in the mail, or read the issue [here](#).

To receive a *free* subscription, please send your name and mailing address to marianist@marianist.com.

UPCOMING FEAST DAYS



- Aug. 13: Blessed Jakob Gapp, priest and martyr
- Aug. 15: Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary
- Aug. 22: Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary
- Sept. 5: Mary, Queen of Apostles
- Sept. 8: Nativity of Blessed Virgin Mary

BLOGS

- [Bro. Phil Aaron](#)
- [Srs. Gabrielle Bibeau and Caitlin Cipolla-McCulloch](#)
- [Fr. Mike Nartker](#)
- [Fr. John Thompson](#)
- [Susan Vogt](#)
- [Bro. Brian Zampier](#)

NEWSLETTERS

- [Gifts & Tasks](#) from the International Organization of Marianist Lay Communities
- [Magnificat](#) from the World Council of the Marianist Family

MARIANIST BIRTHDAYS - [August and September](#)

MAY THE FATHER AND THE SON AND THE HOLY SPIRIT BE GLORIFIED
IN ALL PLACES THROUGH THE IMMACULATE VIRGIN MARY

[FamilyOnline production schedule](#)



Editor: **Carol Dexter**; assistant: **Ann Mueller**. This monthly email newsletter produced by the Society of Mary features news about the Marianist Family: Marianist brothers and priests (Society of Mary), Marianist Sisters; and Lay Marianists. **Fr. Martin Solma, SM**, provincial; **Bro. Joe Kamis, SM**, assistant provincial. Send news, digital photos and comments and suggestions to editor [Carol Dexter](mailto:Carol.Dexter@mariannist.com) using *FamilyOnline* as your subject line.

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