

# FamilyOnline

A monthly email newsletter for The Marianist Family



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## PERPETUAL VOWS: A SERIOUSLY JOYFUL EVENT IN ST. LOUIS



*Fr. Marty Solma leads the applause for Bros. Brandon Paluch and Michael Chiuri after their profession of perpetual vows at Our Lady of the Pillar Church on Sept. 24. Curt Dennison photos*

On the one hand, it is a serious event when a Marianist brother professes a lifetime commitment to religious life. On the other hand, there is much joy in his embrace of service to the Blessed Mother and the Church.

Joy seemed to have the upper hand on Sept. 24, when **Bros. Michael Chiuri** and **Brandon Paluch** professed perpetual vows in the Society of Mary. A beaming crowd of Marianists, family and friends witnessed the event at Our Lady of the Pillar Parish in St. Louis. **Fr. Martin Solma**, provincial, celebrated the Mass and received the vows. **Frs. William Meyer** and **Oscar Vasquez** concelebrated.

Bro. Mike, 43, is a native of Nairobi, Kenya. He left behind a successful business career and entered the novitiate in 2010. In recent years, he has taught middle school at [Mother Seton Academy](#) in Baltimore.

Bro. Brandon, 33, was raised in the Chicago area. He earned a bachelor's degree from the [University of Dayton](#), and entered the novitiate in 2010. He has been serving in campus ministry at UD.

Both brothers currently are studying philosophy at Loyola Marymount University in Los Angeles in preparation for eventually entering the seminary.

[See more photos. Watch videos from the event.](#)



Marianist religious congratulate the new perpetually professed brothers: **Bro. Frank O'Donnell** embraces Bro. Mike, while Bro. Brandon greets **Sr. Gabrielle Bibeau**.



After the service, it's selfie time! **Fr. Bob Jones** captures a trio of happy smiles. Our Lady of the Pillar is an appropriately glowing presence in the background.

### THREE QUESTIONS WITH ...

#### **Kathe Lehman-Meyer**

Kathe is director of the academic media center at [St. Mary's University](#). She's been a Marianist Educational Associate for eight years.

#### **What is one of the most "Marianist" situations you've encountered in your work?**

I took some students to conduct video interviews with alumni for a recognition program we were producing.

Every alumnus we spoke with attributed the success of his or her marriage to the "Marriage and Family" course taught by **Bro. John Totten**.

Later, the students said, "We need to get Bro. John\* out of retirement so he can teach that course again!"



Kathe Lehman-Meyer with Bro. John Totten.

#### **What do you want the media center to be for visitors?**

I want visitors to connect with the mission of the university by using technology. These tools can help us share **Fr. Chaminade's** vision. We often refer to ourselves as "medianaries" – missionaries using media.

#### **What does a Marianist Educational Associate do?**

MEAs strive to reflect the Marianist charism. For me, this means focusing on prayer, study and service to the community. When students notice the MEA plaque in my office, they may ask for prayer or want to talk about how they can integrate their spiritual life with their career or life mission.

\* Bro. John Totten turns 103 later this month.

### MARIANIST EDUCATIONAL ASSOCIATES RECOMMIT TO MISSION

Each year, Marianist Educational Associates at each of the three Marianist universities make a commitment — or recommitment — to work with members of the Society of Mary to strengthen and uphold the Catholic, Marianist traditions of the university.

At [Chaminade University of Honolulu](#), for example, 26 MEAs participated in a commitment ceremony at the start of the school year. An MEA may be from any area of the university faculty or administration. He or she takes part in an initial formation program with MEAs from other Marianist universities, as well as ongoing formation throughout the year. The Marianist Family currently has about 135 MEAs.

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



The Society of Mary had marked a mere 74 years of existence when this photo of Marianist teachers at St. Louis College was taken in Honolulu in 1891. Queen Lili'uokalani ascended the Hawaiian throne this same year; Hawaiian statehood was nearly 70 years in the future.

Marianists arrived in the Kingdom of Hawai'i in 1883 to assume leadership of St. Louis College, now [Saint Louis School](#). The frock coats worn by the brothers were a Marianist trademark well into the 20th century. One wonders how many brothers were lost to heat stroke in these early years on the island.

## WHO'S DOING WHAT AROUND THE PROVINCE



**Bro. Harry Cornell** recently received some well-deserved recognition. For nearly 50 years, Bro. Harry has been the “Voice of the Buttons,” serving as the announcer for [Central Catholic High School](#) home football games. A local San Antonio TV station featured Brother Harry, who is a 1958 CCHS grad and has taught at the school since 1962. Watch the [video](#).



Lay Marianist **Matt Dunn** is the new chair-elect of the [Marianist Lay Community of North America](#). He will hold this role for one year, then fulfill a four-year term as chair. **Lynette Bernot** is MLC-NA's new head of the Office of Spirituality; **Jim Barrette** is the new head of the Office of Education.



**Bro. Ray Fitz** was honored by the Ohio Valley Chapter of the National Multiple Sclerosis Society for his contributions to the organization. Bro. Ray received the Silver Hope Award at an event Sept. 29. Bro. Ray was diagnosed with MS in 1989 while serving as president of the [University of Dayton](#). Having MS, said Bro. Ray, “made me more aware of my limits as a human and I put the journey in the hands of God.” [Read more](#).



Marianist Affiliate **Linda Flores-Tober** recently received the “Mother Seton Award” from Mother Seton High School in Clark, New Jersey, for her 26-year efforts to serve the homeless. Linda heads the [Elizabeth Coalition to House the Homeless](#), which serves an area west of Staten Island, New York. Linda served on the governing board of the [Marianist Family Retreat Center](#) for six years. [Read more.](#)



In 1913, the year **Bro. John Totten** was born, **Charlie Chaplin** began his film career. When Bro. John professed first vows in 1934, a loaf of bread cost 8 cents. Bro. John turns 103 on Oct. 21. He is the oldest Marianist in the Province of the United States and the second oldest in the world. (An Argentine brother is 10 weeks older.) Congratulations and blessings to you, Bro. John!

### LONG-TIME NACMS DIRECTOR HONORED



**Carol Ramey** with Lay Marianist **Caitlin Bennett** at the Oct. 1 event.

About 80 members of the Marianist Family gathered in Dayton on Oct. 1 to wish **Carol Ramey** well in retirement. Carol recently stepped down after 28 years of service at the [North American Center for Marianist Studies](#).

The event included remarks by **Fr. Larry Cada**, who served with Carol at NACMS, as well Lay Marianist **Laura Luehrmann-Burdick** and **Bro. Tom Giardino**, province assistant for education. Read [Bro. Tom's comments](#) from the event. See [more photos](#).

### NEW MARIANIST AFFILIATES AT CHAMINADE COLLEGE PREP



The Marianist Family is pleased to congratulate five new Marianist Affiliates who made their commitments on Sept. 30 at Chaminade College Prep in West Hills, California. The new affiliates include **Tom Celaya**, **Ellen Celaya**, **Kate Beskid**, **April Risteff** and **Luis Guerra**. **Bro. David Betz** is the group's spiritual adviser.

### A TREE GROWS IN DAYTON

A tree in honor of **Fr. Norbert Burns** grows on the campus on the [University of Dayton](#), to be more precise.

On Sept. 9, the university dedicated a honey locust tree near the Chapel of the Immaculate Conception as a tribute to Fr. Norb, who taught more than 27,000 students over the course of 50 years. Former UD President **Dr. Dan Curran** was on hand for the dedication.



Over the years, the tree, like Fr. Norb, will cast a long and happy shadow on the UD campus. See [more photos](#), which are courtesy of **Bro. Phil Aaron**.

## FROM OUR SPONSORED MINISTRIES

### RETREAT CENTER CONNECTION A LITERAL LIFE-SAVER



*This fall, **Joe Hagan** (front) has returned to riding with his friend, **Marty Aguilar**. The pair met at a Marianist retreat and formed a life-saving friendship. Photo by Kylene Cleaver*

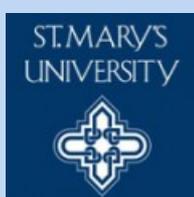
**Marty Aguilar** remembers the day 20 years ago when **Joe Hagan** and his family pulled up to the [Marianist Family Retreat Center](#) in Cape May Point, New Jersey.

The two began riding together that week – and kept their friendship alive by attending Marianist family retreats and biking together near their homes outside of Philadelphia.

Last spring, the two were riding when Joe went into cardiac arrest. Marty jumped from his bike and began administering CPR. “I was sure he had died,” he said. Fortunately, Joe was whisked to a hospital where doctors were able to stabilize him and operate.

“This all started at Cape May,” said Joe months later. “It’s sheer grace that I’m alive.”

Sheer grace – and a 20-year friendship formed in the Marianist spirit.



#### ST. MARY'S NAMED A “BEST VALUE”

*Money Magazine* has ranked [St. Mary's University](#) as the best in San Antonio, the fourth in Texas and 52nd nationally among 705 colleges and universities in its “[Best Value Colleges](#)” rankings. *Money* examined which of the nation’s roughly 2,000 four-year institutions do best at providing a great education at an affordable price while preparing students for rewarding careers.

## CCP ALUMNUS EARNS CLEMENTE AWARD NOMINATION



Toronto Blue Jays center fielder and [Chaminade College Preparatory](#) (West Hills, California) alumnus **Kevin Pillar** credits his high school with instilling in him the importance of community service.

He was honored to receive his ball club's nomination for the Roberto Clemente Award, recognizing the player who best represents the game through extraordinary character. [Read more.](#)

## UD STUDENTS HONORED FOR IMPROVING FOOD PANTRY EFFICIENCY



Three [University of Dayton](#) students were recognized by Catholic Social Services of Miami Valley for their work in improving efficiency at a local food pantry that serves nearly 16,000 people each year. The trio applied theories they learned in their operations and supply management classes and focused on no-cost solutions that allow the pantry to better serve its clients. [Read more.](#)



*St. Mary's sophomores **Dylan Schulte**, **Cal Henricks** and **Noel Notheis** were among those at work during the service day.*

## ST. MARY'S FAMILY SHINES IN COMMUNITY SERVICE DAY

[St. Mary's High School](#) in St. Louis tackled its second-annual service day on Oct. 3. Some 400 students, faculty and staff picked up trash, mulched trees and cut brush in the school's "Southside" neighborhood.

St. Mary's President **Mike England** said a number of local residents stopped him during the day. "One lady was in tears. She said, 'this renews my faith in the neighborhood,'" Mike said.

Watch a [local TV news video](#) from the event.

## PRAYERS FOR OUR FAMILY MEMBERS

### WE ASK FOR YOUR PRAYERS



1982

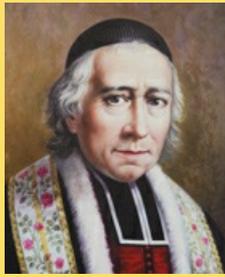


2015

✦ **Bro. Charles Wanda**, 80, died Sept. 21, 2016, with 53 years of Marianist life. Bro. Charlie was a gifted artist and beloved educator. He taught art at [Archbishop Moeller High School](#) 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

*“What happiness for us if for the rest of our lives we can walk along the beautiful paths of faith, act only by faith, and live only from faith!”*

## RESOURCES

[Printable version of \*FamilyOnline\*](#)

### OCT. 9: WORLD DAY OF MARIANIST PRAYER

Members of the Marianist Family around the world are invited to take part in the annual World Day of Marianist Prayer. Sponsored by the World Council of the Marianist Family, this year’s event will be celebrated at the shrine of Our Lady of Bon Encontre in France. [Read more.](#)

### BICENTENNIAL VIDEO FROM MARIANIST PROVINCE OF MERIBAH

Check out this new bicentennial video by the Marianists of the Province of Meribah. Thanks to **Fr. Paul Landolfi** for sharing.



### VIANNEY SEEKS PRINCIPAL

[St. John Vianney High School](#), an all-boys school in suburban St. Louis, Missouri, seeks a principal to begin the 2017 – 2018 school year. The best candidate will bring “energy, charisma and executive administration skills ... while delivering St. Louis’ best value in a Catholic, college preparatory education.” [Read more.](#)

### MARIANIST REMEMBERED AS A ‘MAGICIAN’S MAGICIAN’

A recent article in the *National Catholic Register* celebrated **Bro. John Hamman**, who was a master of card tricks and other sleight-



of-hand. Bro. John, who died in 2000, created more than 100 card tricks, including the "Hamman Count," which has become a standard by which magicians are judged even today. [Read the article.](#)

## UPCOMING FEAST DAYS



**Oct. 7:** Our Lady of the Rosary  
**Oct. 9:** World Day of Marianist Prayer  
**Oct. 12:** Our Lady of the Pillar  
**Nov. 1:** All Saints  
**Nov. 2:** All Souls

## BLOGS

[Bro. Phil Aaron](#)  
[Fr. Bob Jones](#)  
[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  
[Justice Jottings](#) from the Marianist Social Justice Collaborative  
[The Open Window](#) from the Bergamo Center for Lifelong Learning  
[Via Latina 22](#) from the Marianist General Administration

## MARIANIST BIRTHDAYS - [October and November](#)

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](#) using *FamilyOnline* as your subject line.

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