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FamilyOnline

A monthly email newsletter for The Marianist Family



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Jan. 5, 2017

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NEW YEAR AFFIRMS A JOYFUL PROMISE FOR INDIAN BROTHERS



At Monday's perpetual vow profession, from left, are Bro. Bernie Ploger, Fr. Martin Solua, Bros. Lalit

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About 350 friends and members of the Marianist Family gathered on Jan. 2 to help celebrate as **Bros. Lalit Dhanwar** and **George Majhi** of the District of India professed perpetual vows in the Society of Mary. The ceremony was at Blessed Chaminade Church in Singhpur.

Fr. Sudhir Kujur, assistant district superior, was the main celebrant; **Fr. Martin Solma** gave the homily. Fr. Martin and **Bro. Augustus Surin**, district superior, received the profession of vows.

A reception followed the ceremony, which was capped by nearly three hours of cultural programs and tribal dancing.

American Marianists **Bros. Bernie Ploeger** and **Dennis Schmitz** were able to attend the event because it coincided with local strategic planning meetings.

PULSE: A NEW PATH OF SERVICE, MARIANIST SPIRITUALITY



As a math problem is completed successfully, Sarah Wilker shares a fist bump with student Cameren Reynolds. As part of her PULSE commitment, Sarah tutors at a Dayton nonprofit serving teen boys. Skip Peterson photo

As a senior last year at the [University of Dayton](#), **Sarah Wilker** was pondering her next step. She was about to graduate with degrees in education and religious studies. “I didn’t know what I wanted to do after college,” she said. Sarah had been active in campus ministry and wanted to continue to serve and grow in Marianist spirituality.

Then a path appeared. The Marianists launched [PULSE](#) — Partners in Urban Leadership,

Service and Education – to engage young college grads in Marianist leadership development and volunteer work.

Sarah and five others were chosen to participate in the first PULSE community. They now serve in nonprofits across Dayton. Sarah works 35 hours a week at Victory Project, an after-school program for adolescent boys. Another five hours a week she and her fellow “PULSErs” participate in a leadership formation program.

The six share a house where they pray together, share meals and support each other. Their one-year PULSE service continues through June.

“Our hope is that they will engage as servant leaders in nonprofits, neighborhoods, parishes and maybe even one of our Marianist organizations,” said **Maureen O’Rourke**, director of PULSE. “We want them to carry the charism wherever they go.”

Applications for the 2017 – 2018 PULSE community are being accepted through Jan. 16.

[Learn more.](#)



The inaugural PULSE community includes Ellen Yoder, Martin Jimenez, Dominic Sanfilippo, Ha’Ani Artero, Kateri Dillon and Sarah Wilker.

THREE QUESTIONS WITH ...

George Lisjak

George Lisjak became the new director of the [North American Center for Marianist Studies](#) early last month. He previously was director of Marianist Educational Studies and Partnerships. For many years, George taught and was principal at North Catholic High School (now [Cardinal Wuerl North Catholic](#)).

North American Center for Marianist Studies



What do you bring to NACMS that's different?

I am the first director to come from outside of the NACMS milieu. I've spent most of my career in Marianist education, and much of that as a math teacher. I bring a different way of thinking that I hope will contribute something new.

Has anything surprised you in your short time at NACMS?

I've always appreciated the quality of the work produced by the NACMS staff. I'm now seeing that work up close, and I'm impressed with the depth of knowledge and attention to detail that staff members bring to their work.

Is there something new you'd like to see NACMS offer or pursue?

NACMS is known for first-rate scholarship in what it means to be Marianist, and for the authentic interpretation of that meaning for our time. That must certainly continue. But we also need to find new ways to make that scholarship and interpretation more accessible to the Marianist Family, especially for those who consume information through 21st century media.

ARCHBISHOP HELPS CELEBRATE BICENTENNIAL ICON VISIT IN DAYTON



Cincinnati Archbishop Dennis Schurr bows before the Marianist Bicentennial Icon at a prayer service Dec. 10.



Bro. Roger Bau venerates the icon at the evening prayer service.

Nearly 100 members of the Marianist Family joined with Cincinnati **Archbishop Dennis Schnurr** to welcome the Marianist Bicentennial Icon to Dayton on Dec. 10.

The icon's visit was part of its two-year pilgrimage across the Marianist world. Previously, it has made stops at ministries and communities in San Antonio, Honolulu and St. Louis, among others.

In Dayton, the archbishop presided at an evening prayer service at Queen of Apostles Community. A reception at the neighboring Chaminade Center followed. See [more photos](#). Read more about the [Marianist Bicentennial Icon](#).

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.





Christmases long, long ago! This 1948 photo shows three Spanish Marianist Sisters with **Sr. Laola Hironaka** (far right), who was a student at the University of Dayton at the time. The Spanish sisters attended UD to learn English and American-style education methods. A native Hawaiian, Sr. Laola became the first American postulant. She died in 2009 after a distinguished career in education and social justice.

WHO'S DOING WHAT AROUND THE PROVINCE



Bro. Delmar Jorn is marking 35 years of ministry in Asia this month. Bro. Del, who's from Illinois farm country, had never met a religious brother when he decided to become one. He professed first vows in 1958. He served in Nepal from 1982 – 1992, and as a teacher and formation director in India over the ensuing years. Since 2006, he has served in administration for the Marianists in Bangalore.



The [North American Center for Marianist Studies](#) honored two long-time employees who retired last month. Between them, **Dorothy Keyes** (left) and **Carolyn Perez** had *many* decades of service with the Marianists and NACMS.

Dorothy began working at the University of Dayton in the late 1950s and later worked for the former Marianist Cincinnati Province before serving at NACMS. Carolyn also worked for the Cincinnati Province and for the Marianist Press, beginning in the early 1980s. She became a developer of online courses for NACMS.



An article by **Susan Vogt**, “When Children Become Adults,” was published in the December issue of the St. Anthony Messenger. Susan is a Lay Marianist and the North America-Asia representative for the [International Organization of Marianist Lay Communities](#). [Read the article.](#)



In the face of serious competition, **Bro. Ken Straubinger** pulled off a win in the “Ugly Christmas Sweater” competition at the Christmas gathering for the staff of the Marianist Provincial office in St. Louis. Bro. Ken is the Province’s assistant treasurer.

The Marianist Lay Community at Our Lady of the Snows Parish in Wrightwood, California, was instrumental in helping the parish celebrate its 70th anniversary last month. The community helped organize the event and sponsored the luncheon.

Fr. Ted Ley, who is the Lay Community’s spiritual adviser, concelebrated the Mass with pastor **Fr. Joachim Lechuckwu**. Fr. Ted also led the Schola Cantorum that sang at Mass. **Mario and Wendi Rodriguez** founded the Lay Community with the help of Fr. Ted in 2010. See [more photos](#).



Fr. Ted Ley, right, leads singers at a 70th anniversary event at Our Lady of the Snows in Wrightwood, California.

There’s a familiar smile behind that



white beard!

Bro. Justin Quiroz played Santa as part of a service project at [Mother Seton Academy](#) in Baltimore last month. Santa's helpers are sixth graders **Chris Cordova** and **Marcus Jacobs**.

Bro. Justin is a teacher at the Marianist co-sponsored middle school.

San Antonio native **Bro. George Nelson Lytle** has been memorialized in Lima, Peru, with a bronze statue dedicated last month. Bro. George was a 1936 grad of [Central Catholic High School](#) and entered the Marianists the following year. He served in Peru beginning in 1943. He became a member of the Province of Peru and served as its provincial (head) in the 1980s.

Bro. George was beloved as a teacher and leader. The goal of the statue was to capture him as a "challenging teacher, with a slight smile underneath a severe brow." He died last February at age 97. Read his [obituary](#).



The statue of Bro. George Lytle is at Colegio Santa María. It was donated by the Class of 1966.

FROM OUR SPONSORED MINISTRIES

LAY COMMUNITY PROVIDES RETREAT FOR MOTHER SETON FAMILIES



Bro. Jesse O'Neill leads a prayer of blessing over a Mother Seton School family at the Advent retreat. Mickey Trageser photos



A family from Mother Seton Academy participates in a hand-washing ritual as part of the Advent retreat.

“We can’t be a light for each other if we don’t forgive one another,” said **Tina Bauman**, member of the Hearts on Fire Marianist Lay Community, while leading an Advent retreat for families of [Mother Seton Academy](#), a Marianist co-sponsored middle school in Baltimore.

Tina has been leading the retreat for the last five years, and was delighted when her lay community decided to assist this year. More than 30 people attended the Dec. 10 event at the school.

The retreat was modeled after similar gatherings at the [Marianist Family Retreat Center](#) at Cape May Point, New Jersey. “This year’s retreat was called ‘Journey to Bethlehem’ and focused on making room for Jesus,” said Tina.

Bro. Jesse O’Neill opened the retreat with prayer and breakfast. There were family affirmation exercises and time for reflection and reconciliation. The retreat concluded with a hand-washing ceremony as a symbol of forgiveness.

Parents appreciated the retreat as a time to bond with their children and discuss parenting challenges with other families. “It’s an honor to help them create and

celebrate this special time,” Tina said.

CHAMINADE CROCHETERS HOOKED ON SPECIAL SERVICE PROJECT



*Professor **Regina Pfeiffer**, right, instructs volunteer crocheters in creating handmade baby gifts for local military families.*

Again last semester, military families with new babies received warm hugs in the shape of handmade baby blankets, booties and hats from a caring group of students and their mentor at [Chaminade University of Honolulu](#).

Regina Pfeiffer, an associate professor of religious studies, has lead the project — called Chaminade Caring Crocheters — for the past five semesters. The finished gifts go to the U.S. Army Garrison Hawaii New Parent Support Program.

[Read more](#) about the crocheters.

PRAYERS FOR OUR FAMILY MEMBERS

WE ASK FOR YOUR PRAYERS



1987



2015

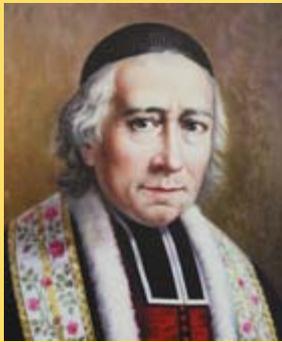
✦ **Bro. Francis “Skip” Matthews**, age 77, died Dec. 14. Bro. Skip was a generous, joyful caregiver who ministered in Zambia, on Los Angeles’ Skid Row and at Marianist high schools in California. Read his [obituary](#). See [photos of Bro. Skip](#).

✦ **Early December deaths:** Two Marianists died in early December and their obituaries were not completed in time for the December issue of *FamilyOnline*. Read the obituaries of [Bro. Robert Wood](#) and [Fr. Joseph Tedesco](#).

✦ [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

“Baptism and faith cause the life of Jesus Christ to begin in us, and it is thus that we are, so to say, conceived of the Holy Spirit; but we must, like the Savior, be born of the Virgin Mary.”

RESOURCES

Printable version of **FamilyOnline**

Please note that, because of the inherent differences between print and online media, the PDF version of the newsletter is not a perfect reproduction of the online version.

TOUR SPAIN WITH FR. RUDY VELA



“Every time I go to Spain I find myself in awe of how great God is!” says **Fr. Rudy Vela**. You can share in this awe by joining Fr. Rudy on an 11-day bicentennial pilgrimage to Spain this spring.

The trip includes stays in Madrid, Toledo and Barcelona, as well as Zaragoza, where **Blessed Chaminade** spent time in reflection at Our Lady of the Pillar. [Learn more!](#)

DON'T MISS THIS MONTH'S FAMILY PHOTOS

Be sure to check out the Marianist Flickr photo album for this month. There are other great photos — like this one of Bro. Leo Slay — waiting for you! [See photos](#)



BICENTENNIAL RESOURCES

Remember! Resources for observing the bicentennials of the Society of Mary and Daughters of Mary Immaculate are at:

marianist.com/200



UPCOMING FEAST DAYS



Jan. 8 – Epiphany of our Lord

Jan. 9 – Baptism of the Lord

Jan. 10 – Death of Venerable Adèle de Batz de Trenquelléon, 1828

Jan. 22 – Death of Blessed William Joseph Chaminade, 1850

Feb. 2 – Presentation of the Lord

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

[Justice Jottings](#) from the Marianist Social Justice Collaborative
[MLC-NA E-News](#) from the Marianist Lay Community of North America
[Via Latina 22](#) from the Marianist General Administration

MARIANIST BIRTHDAYS - [January and February](#)

2017 **FamilyOnline** [production schedule](#)

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



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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