



The Marianists

Bro. Raymond Kane

60 years of profession

As I reflect over 60 years as a Marianist, I think of how much God operates in our lives.

I met my first Marianist, Brother Maurice Miller, who was our proctor for the entrance exam at Chaminade, Mineola. He told us he had been a prize fighter and went through some motions of the sort. He was just trying to relax us before the test.

Well, I was accepted and, thus, began my Marianist journey. There were so many Marianists who inspired me throughout my days — men like Brother Louis Nath, George Spahn, George da Silva and George McKenzie. They were friendly and excellent teachers. I joined the Sodality and our moderator, Brother Frank Mullan, in his prayerful, humble way, helped me to view Mary as someone who would guide us through life.

During my senior year, I applied to some colleges, but the thought of being a Marianist brother was also in my thoughts. After a group of my classmates and I visited the novitiate at Marcy and witnessed the wholesome, happy novices, I decided to apply to the Society.

The novitiate, under the guidance of Fr. Joseph Martin and Bro. Joseph Fox, was an intense spiritual experience. Many of us were particularly impressed by the working brothers who were building the large chapel building. Our novice master, behind his somewhat austere exterior, was a very kind person as was Brother Joseph.

The novitiate year and years of scholasticate seemed to go quickly.

My entrance into high school teaching was an invigorating experience. I loved teaching and guidance work and moderating social activities. I also spent some time at our retreat house in Cape May Point where I was edified by what families experience in their lives. Working also at St. John's Home showed me that it is with the poor and marginalized that the Church has a special mission.

Life has been a faith-filled trip. Helping me along the way has been the example and support of so many saintly men with whom I have shared community life.