



FamilyOnline

A monthly email newsletter for The Marianist Family



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"YES, GOD!" LAY MARIANISTS AFFIRM MARY'S PLEDGE

They came from all across North America. Two hundred strong – children, grandparents, recent college grads and a large cadre of lay leaders – gathered at the [University of Dayton](#) last month for an assembly of the Marianist Lay Community of North America.

The assembly is held every third year so that Lay Marianists can share ideas, build community and affirm their "yes" to Marianist engagement in the world.

Father-daughter duo Al



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[Marianist Vocations](#)

[Marianist Mission](#)

[Marianist Lay Network](#)

[Marianist Resources](#)

event.

Featured speakers included **Sr. Simone Campbell, SSS**, **Sr. Ilia Delio, OSF**, **Bro. Ray Fitz, Matt Dunn**, president of [MLC-NA](#), and **Marg Van Herk-Paradis**. Each challenged participants to use the Marianist charism to make a difference in the world.

A highlight of the event for many attendees was a preview of "Spectacle," a musical about the Marianist founders written by Lay Marianist **Nick Cardalino** in collaboration with **Bro. Stan Zubek** and **Jim Ford**, director of the [Marianist Retreat & Conference Center](#). The

musical will premier next spring at UD. See [more photos](#) from the assembly.



The assembly was also a “family reunion,” which made for plenty of photo opportunities. Jason Bollman grabs a pic of Chaminade University-connected friends Bro. Ed Brink, Kevin Fajardo, Ha’Ani Artero, Bro. Mark Motz, Faith Leasiolagi, Martin Moore and Fr. George Cerniglia. Photos by Skip Peterson

BRO. FRANK SPAETH: INCREASING THE HAIL MARYS



A Cincinnati native, Bro. Frank now lives – and makes rosaries – in California.

Bro. Frank Spaeth spent 45 years teaching high school physics and math. As he looked toward retirement, he knew he’d want some sort of hobby.

“I like working with my hands, so I thought I’d give rosary-making a try,” he said.

Bro. Frank, now 94, happily spends some of his free time making and repairing rosaries. It’s both a hobby and a ministry. “I enjoy the work and I also like knowing that I’m helping people pray,” he said.

Some of his completed works go to friends, some to retirement homes and some are made

on request. Those who want a rosary pay only the cost of Bro. Frank's supplies.

A favorite rosary is a type Bro. Frank makes from beads that are actually seeds of a plant that grows on the property of Bro. Frank's California community. The seeds – called Job's Tears – must first be drilled. "It's fine work, but I've developed a technique for it," said Bro. Frank.



Bro. Frank assembles a "Job's Tears" rosary.

Bro. Frank estimates he's made about 2,000 rosaries over the years, and repaired plenty as well. "I'm kinda slow at it," he said with a gentle laugh, "but I like knowing that I'm increasing the number of Hail Marys out there."

THREE QUESTIONS WITH ...

Bro. Charlie Johnson

Bro. Charlie is a member of the Marianist Provincial Council and has been instrumental in the planning and celebration of the [Marianist Bicentennial](#) in the United States.

What's ahead for the bicentennial commemoration?

The celebration continues through Chaminade Day (Jan. 22, 2018), and there are a number of local events planned.

A key one for the entire province, however, is a prayer that we will invite everyone to pray simultaneously in every community and ministry on Oct. 2, the foundation day of the Society of Mary. So, this moment of prayer will unite everyone from Dublin to Honolulu.



Bro. Charlie Johnson venerates the Marianist icon at a prayer service in Dayton last December.

What do you think has resonated most with people so far?

The [bicentennial icon](#), no doubt. A lot of people might have thought that it was an old-fashioned idea to have this icon travel the Marianist world. But then, when people were actually in its presence – whether that was in a church or a classroom or a community – they found it a holy experience.

What does it mean to Marianist brothers, priests and sisters to mark 200 years?

I think it's a source of pride for us to acknowledge the legacy of our founders. That, after 200 years, we're still pursuing our mission ... that the passion is still alive.

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.

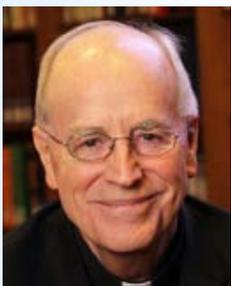


In this circa 1918 photo, postulants labor at the Marianist farm and formation center that today is known as [Mount Saint John](#). These boys, typically age 14 or 15, would have been expected to work as well as pray and learn during this first stage of formation as Marianist brothers. (Postulancy is no longer a stage of Marianist formation.) *Photo from the National Archives of the Marianist Province of the United States.*

WHO'S DOING WHAT AROUND THE PROVINCE



Leno Ceballos has been accepted into the Marianist aspirancy program. Leno, 28, is from Vista, California, and met the Marianists at the Los Angeles Religious Education Congress in 2012. He has an associate's degree in economics, has worked as a manager at Walgreens and has been active in youth ministry at his parish. He will live with Marianists in San Antonio. Read more about [Marianist formation](#).



An article by **Fr. Jim Heft** recently was published in *America* magazine; he writes in defense of pastoral theologians. Fr. Jim is president of the Institute for Advanced Catholic Studies at the University of Southern California. Read [the article](#).



Fr. Tony Jansen was honored last month by the Catholic Church in Lusaka, Zambia. He was recognized for his contributions to the growth of the Church in Zambia, where he served from 1969-2010. Because Fr. Tony now lives roughly 9,000 miles away in San Antonio, a local Marianist, **Bro. Given Mukanshi**, accepted a medal on Fr. Tony's behalf.



Fr. Johann Roten recently received the "Friend of Lithuania" award from the Knights of Lithuania for his service to the Lithuanian community in the United States. A Swiss Marianist, Fr. Johann has ministered in the U.S. for more than 20 years. He is director of research and special projects at the [University of Dayton's Marian Library](#). Read more about [the award](#).



Emily Sandoval has entered the pre-novitiate with the Marianist Sisters. Emily, 31, is originally from Munster, Indiana, but has lived in Riverside, California, for several years. She has a bachelor's degree from Ball State University and has worked as a medical biller. She first met the Marianists at the Los Angeles Religious Education Congress in 2012. Read about [FMI formation](#).



Jordan Stewart also has become a Marianist aspirant. Jordan, 26, is from Cambridge, Ohio, and recently completed service in the U.S. Air Force at Lackland Air Force Base in San Antonio. He first met the Marianists through **Bro. Brian Zampier** at a prayer group. Like **Leno Ceballos** (above), Jordan will live with the Marianists in San Antonio. Read about [Marianist formation](#).



Marianist Sisters outside of St. Peter's Basilica in Rome. Those gathered represented 13 different countries.



The new FMI General Council includes Sr. Clotilde Fernández del Pozo (Spain), Sr. Michaela Lee Pok-Sun (Korea), Sr. Franca Zonta (Italy) and Sr. Ana Lucia De Goes (Brazil).

Thirty-one leaders of the Marianist Sisters worldwide gathered in Rome last month for meetings and the election of new global leadership. Among those attending were Srs. **Leanne Jablonski, Laura Leming and Gretchen Trautman** from the United States.

Read more about the gathering on the new [FMI international website](#).

JUBILARIANS

Honoring our jubilarians

Each year, the Society of Mary recognizes the brothers and priests who are marking milestones of their first professions of vows or of their priestly ordinations. This is the fourth group of 2017 jubilarians we honor as a special section of FamilyOnline.

St. Mary's University recently produced a video of the San Antonio jubilarians. [Watch it now.](#)



BRO. DAVID HERBOLD – 50 years of profession

Looking back at my life, I realize that I have been blessed — people, places, experiences, opportunities — too many to enumerate in a short, personal reflection. [Read more.](#)



BRO. ROBERT HUGHES – 50 years of profession

I feel very privileged to be in a religious family that emphasizes the dignity of each individual person and allows its members to grow in faith in a way that respects their individual talents. [Read more.](#)



BRO. THOMAS JALBERT – 50 years of profession

In 1965, I discovered the Marianists in “The Guidepost: Religious Vocations for Young Men.” I did not attend a school conducted by the Marianists ... Fr. Joe Stefanelli was the first Marianist I met on Oct. 2, 1965. [Read more.](#)



FR. WILLIAM MEYER – 50 years of profession

My ministerial life as a Marianist, over these many years, has been involved with spiritual direction, religious formation, and education at the university and secondary levels. They have been very happy and full years. [Read more.](#)



BRO. PETER PONTOLILLO – 60 years of profession

I have been blessed and privileged to have been able to serve Our Blessed Mother, the Society of Mary and many others in so many ways. [Read more.](#)



BRO. THOMAS TRAGER – 60 years of profession

My first contact with the Marianists was when I took the entrance exam for Most Holy Trinity High School in Brooklyn, New York. I was so impressed by the way the Marianist brothers related with us eighth graders. [Read more.](#)

FROM OUR SPONSORED MINISTRIES

MUSIC (AND A MAGAZINE) CONNECT MARIANIST FAMILY MEMBERS

Marianist Family connections are sometimes born in interesting ways across sprawling geographies.

“I read an article in [ALIVE](#) magazine about **Fr. Ted Ley’s** work with a children’s choir in Los Angeles” said **David Marshall**, a 2015 graduate of [Chaminade Julienne High School](#). “I thought, ‘Wow, this is cool. Maybe I could get involved.’”

David, a music major at the University of Rochester (New York), is especially interested in liturgical and sacred music – which



Chaminade Julienne alumnus David Marshall snags a selfie with friends from Fr. Ted Ley's Escolania Pacifica children's choir.

happens to be a specialty of Fr. Ted's. After connecting via phone, Fr. Ted invited David to sing with the Schola Cantorum of the Pacific, a 16-member chamber choir he launched in 1977. The choir performed its 40th anniversary concert in late July.

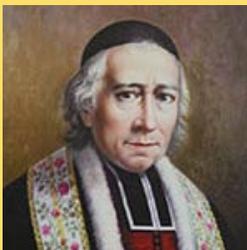
"We were thrilled to have David sing with us," said Fr. Ted. In addition to the schola, the concert included 20 students from the *Escolania Pacifica* children's choir, which Fr. Ted directs.

Through these connections, David is also developing an interest in a religious vocation. "I was excited to learn about the Marianist way of life," said David who spent 10 days with a Marianist community. "I took a leap of faith, and this is blossoming into something very special," said David. "It could change my life."

PRAYERS FOR OUR FAMILY MEMBERS

WE ASK FOR YOUR PRAYERS

- ✦ [Recent deaths and those in need of prayers for healing in the Marianist Family](#)
- ✦ [Obituaries of Marianist brothers and priests](#) (U.S. Province) since 2007.



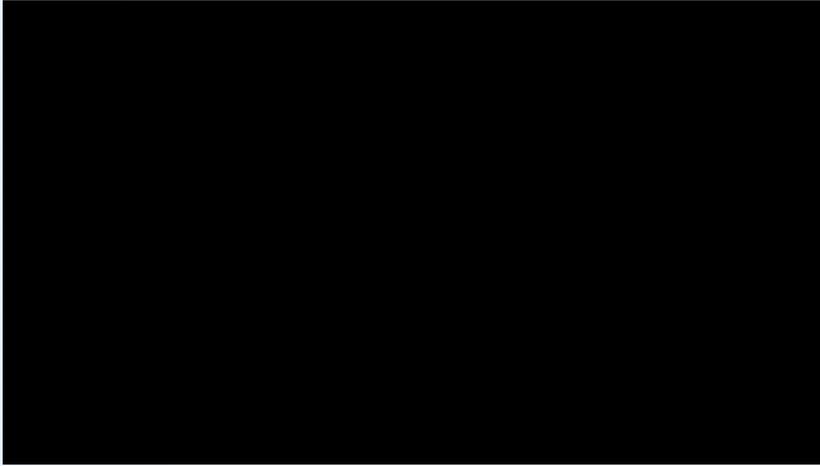
A MOMENT WITH BLESSED CHAMINADE

"Let us try to carry out, in the best way possible, the works God deigns to communicate to us, and let us remain quiet. He asks of us cooperation and not success."

RESOURCES

SOCIETY OF MARY BICENTENNIAL VIDEO

This video was created for the brothers and priests of the Marianist Province of the United States. While it views the Society of Mary's bicentennial through their particular lens, others may enjoy it as well. Thanks to **Fr. Bert Buby** and **Bro. Tom Wendorf** for lending their talents to the production.



MARIANIST MOMENT: Marie Thérèse Charlotte de Lamourous

*This is the first installment of a series on Marianist founders who are on the path to sainthood. We thank **Bro. David Betz** and Marianist Lay Affiliate **Mary Kay Fitzpatrick** for preparing these articles. Watch for more in the coming months!*

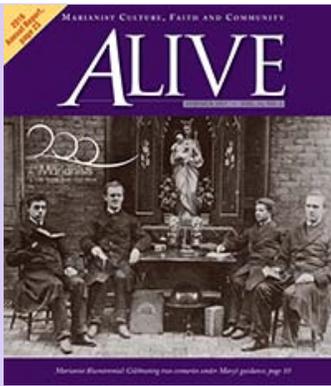
"Seek first the kingdom of God and its righteousness, and all the rest will be given, over above." (Matthew 6:33). This is the passage Marie Thérèse lived by as evidenced by this true story noted in a Bordeaux newspaper after her death in 1836.



Picture this: Eighteenth century France during the time of the French Revolution, and a bold, courageous, no-nonsense woman bent on providing the basic necessities for the young women in her care, begging among the affluent in the area only to have doors slammed in her face. Not one to give up, Mademoiselle Marie-Thérèse Charlotte de Lamourous entered a small chapel with her young wards and plainly stated, "My Lord, your children have no bread." Very shortly upon leaving the chapel, someone was there with the needed items. [Read the article.](#)

READ IT! SUMMER ISSUE OF **ALIVE**

Be sure to check out the latest issue of the award-winning Marianist *ALIVE* magazine, which includes stories about the young volunteers of Marianist PULSE and the Marianist Bicentennial, as well as the 2016 annual



report. [Read it now!](#)

To get your *free* subscription to the print edition of ALIVE, please send your name and mailing address to marianist@marianist.com.



UPCOMING FEAST DAYS

Aug. 5: Dedication of St. Mary Major

Aug. 13: Blessed Jakob Gapp

Aug. 15: The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Aug. 22: The Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary

BLOGS

[Bro. Phil Aaron](#)

[Fr. Mike Nartker](#)

[Susan Vogt](#)

[Bro. Brian Zampier](#)

NEWSLETTERS

[Gifts & Tasks](#) from the International Organization of Marianist Lay Communities

[Justice Jottings](#) from the Marianist Social Justice Collaborative

[Via Latina 22](#) from the Marianist General Administration

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[MARIANIST BIRTHDAYS](#)

[2017 FamilyOnline schedule and submission guidelines](#)

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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