

# FamilyOnline

A monthly email newsletter for The Marianist Family



Volume 16, Number 12  
Dec. 7, 2017

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## NEW LEADERS NAMED FOR MARIANISTS IN U.S. PROVINCE

**Fr. Oscar Vasquez** has been named the new provincial of the Marianist Province of the United States. He will be joined at the helm by **Bro. Bernie Ploeger** as assistant provincial. The pair will assume these top leadership roles on Aug. 1, 2018.

Fr. Oscar, 54, will take the reins from **Fr. Martin Solma**, who has served in the role since 2010. A native of San Antonio, Fr. Oscar attended [Central Catholic High School](#).

He professed first vows as a Marianist in 1987 and was ordained in 2007. He has a bachelor's degree from Our Lady of the Lake University and a masters from the University of St. Thomas.



*Fr. Oscar Vasquez*



*Bro. Bernie Ploeger*

Fr. Oscar has served as a teacher and principal at Marianist high schools in Texas and is currently the chaplain at [Chaminade College Preparatory](#) in St. Louis, while also ministering as associate pastor at [Our Lady of the Pillar Parish](#).

A 2016 *Alive* magazine article about Fr. Oscar describes his ministry path and his consistent, Marianist "yes" to his calling. [Read the article](#).

Bro. Bernie, 69, was raised in Cincinnati and attended [Archbishop Moeller High School](#). He professed first vows as a Marianist in 1967. He has a bachelor's degree from the University of Dayton, and master's and doctorate degrees from The Ohio State University. Most recently, he served as president of [Chaminade University of Honolulu](#). Bro. Bernie will assume the role from **Bro. Joseph Kamis**, who has served in the position since 2010.

Bro. Bernie's service at Chaminade University was featured in the June issue of *FamilyOnline*. [Read the article](#).

The Marianists have a fairly lengthy consultation process for choosing provincial leaders. Province members make detailed nominations to the General Administration in Rome, which makes the final determination. The provincial and assistant provincial serve for five years, and with approval, may continue for an additional three years.



*During the Rite of Ordination, Archbishop González-Nieves lays hands on Fr. Armando.*

All ordinations in the Society of Mary are occasions to celebrate. But as **Bro. Armando José Añeses** stepped to the altar on Nov. 25 to embrace his call to priestly ministry, the blessings were accompanied with a heightened sense of joy. That's because the ordination – originally scheduled for Sept. 23 in San Juan, Puerto Rico – was postponed. Hurricane Maria had struck three days earlier, devastating the island.

Even in late November, only about half of Puerto Rico had electricity. But that didn't stop nearly 250 friends, family members, and Marianist brothers and priests from gathering at [Colegio San José](#) to celebrate Fr. Armando.

**The Most Reverend Roberto González-Nieves, OFM**, Archbishop of San Juan, presided at the ordination.

Fr. Armando, 51, professed first vows in the Society of Mary in 2006 and earned a bachelor's degree in history and a master's degree in educational leadership from University of Dayton. He attended Chaminade International Seminary while studying theology at the Pontifical Gregorian University of Rome.

In January, Fr. Armando will begin priestly ministry in his native Puerto Rico at Colegio San José. See [more photos](#) from the ordination. [Watch a brief video](#) (in Spanish).

### THREE QUESTIONS WITH ...

#### **Linda Hayes**

*Linda Hayes joined the staff of the [Marianist Mission](#) in 2004 and became its director in 2010. The Marianist Mission, established in 1961, is located in Dayton.*

#### **What does the Marianist Mission do?**

At its heart, the Marianist Mission is a ministry. People contact us by phone or through the mail or the website to request prayers, Mass enrollments and seasonal cards.

We receive about 225,000 prayer requests each year, and we commit to some 200,000 perpetual enrollments.\*

#### **What's the biggest challenge the Mission faces?**

We provide important outreach that supports the faith life of our friends and donors, many of whom have a special devotion to Mary. Many of these folks are older. So, our challenge is to keep finding and engaging new friends. We need to remain relevant as the Catholic population changes.



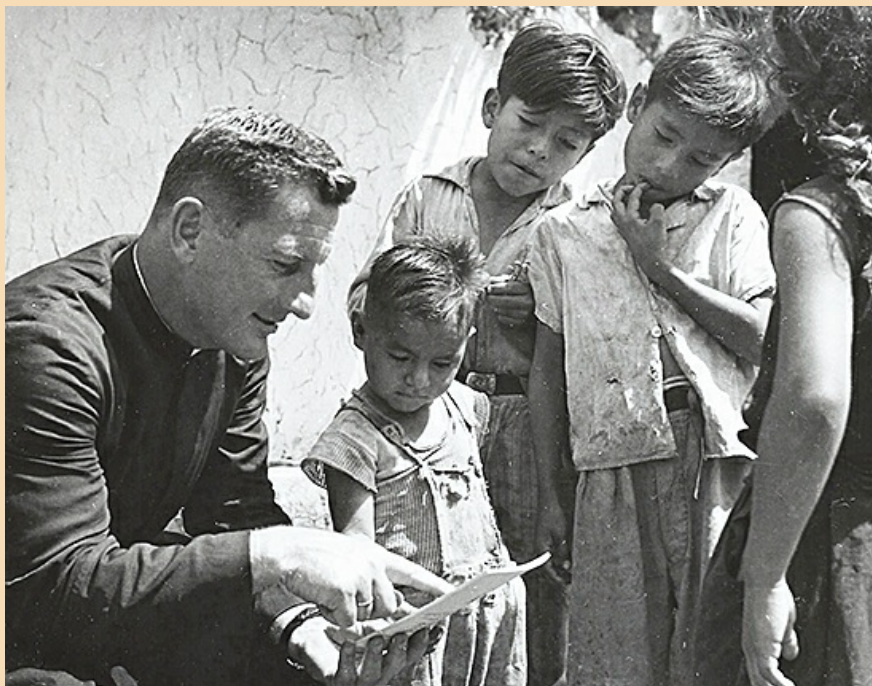
#### **What do you like about your role?**

I am grateful for the hope! I see firsthand the generosity of our donors, the dedication of Mission employees and the impact the Marianists have through their ministries. This reminds me that the Marianist charism is real and active.

*\* A perpetual enrollment is a commitment by the Marianists to remember the donor's intentions in their daily prayers.*

## 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.



American Marianists first arrived in the missionary field of Peru in 1939, and **Fr. Robert Heil** — shown in this circa 1940s photo — was among the first to serve there. The Marianists established schools and staffed parishes in Lima, Callao, Chupaca and Trujillo. Fr. Robert, a beloved teacher, pastor and basketball coach, died in Lima in 2006.

*Photo from the National Archives of the Marianist Province of the United States.*

## WHO'S DOING WHAT AROUND THE PROVINCE

### FORMATION WEEKEND IN DAYTON





Young people beginning Marianist formation, along with those who have not yet professed perpetual vows, gathered for a formation weekend in early November. The meeting included Marianist Sisters and members of the Marianist Province of the United States and the Province of Meribah (New York). The [Bergamo Center for Lifelong Learning](#) provided the backdrop for the event. Read about [Marianist formation](#).



*Bros. David Betz and Ed Longbottom with new Marianist Affiliate Joey Klobas (center).*

### NEW MARIANIST AFFILIATE WELCOMED IN CALIFORNIA

The Marianist Family welcomed a new Marianist Affiliate last month at a ceremony at [Archbishop Riordan High School](#) in San Francisco.

**Joey Klobas** made his commitment at a gathering of Riordan's faculty and staff. Joey serves as activities director at Riordan and has been instrumental in helping establish the house system at the all-boys high school. Read about the vocation of a [Marianist Affiliate](#).



Last month, teacher and Marianist scholar **Fr. Dave Fleming** visited sites associated with the first Marianist mission in China. The Marianists served alongside St. Vincent de Paul missionaries in the early 20th century. Read [Fr. Dave's account](#) of his visit.



**Bro. Alva Gillis** was honored to lead the opening procession at a Veterans Day Pow Wow hosted by the Native American Student Association at [St. Mary's University](#). Bro. Alva is a Korean War veteran of Shawnee heritage. [See photos](#) from the event.



**Bro. Gary Morris** was among the Hawaii-based religious celebrated in a recent article in the *Hawaii Catholic Herald*. The article featured the many



recent article in the [Lithuanian Catholic Herald](#). The article featured the many brothers, sisters and priests who are visual or performing artists. Bro. Gary, a professor of theater at [Chaminade University of Honolulu](#), is also an actor and director. [Read the article.](#)

## FROM OUR SPONSORED MINISTRIES

### CONVERSATION, NOT CONFRONTATION AT STMU YELLOW BENCH



*St. Mary's students share their thoughts on the yellow bench, which has been established as a place for those with differing views to learn from each other.*

There's a yellow park bench on the campus of [St. Mary's University](#). Sometimes it's over *here*. Sometimes it's over *there*. But it's always a place to have a conversation – maybe even a hard one.

The moveable bench was the brainchild of students in the [Marianist Leadership Program](#) at St. Mary's, said **Brian Buchmeyer**, MLP coordinator. "They wanted to create a free-speech zone where people with differing viewpoints can safely share their concerns." In a society increasingly oriented to angry confrontation, the bench is a place for open conversation.

Recently, MLP students invited peers living in the U.S. under DACA (Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals) to talk about the impact of decisions pending in Congress. These foreign-born students have until March 2018 for Congress to reauthorize their permits, or many will face deportation. St. Mary's has roughly 100 DACA students among its 2,300 undergraduate students.

**Jocelyn Baca**, a DACA student and a Marianist Leadership Program participant, said that with the support of the St. Mary's community, she feels safe to talk about her undocumented status. "If it wasn't for St. Mary's spirit and sense of welcoming, I never would have openly shared my story."

### CHAMINADE JULIENNE NAMED DAYTON'S 'BUSINESS OF THE YEAR'

The school family of [Chaminade Julianne Catholic High School](#) was pleased enough to be named the "Best Nonprofit Business of the Year" by the *Dayton Business Journal*. But the accolades at the awards ceremony last month didn't end there. As the



finale of the evening, CJ also was awarded the overall “Best Business” honors.

CJ senior **Jake Jagels**, who delivered the acceptance speech for the nonprofit award, said, in part, “To me, Chaminade Julienne is a great place because my fellow students, who come from all over the region and who represent socioeconomic diversity of our community, get to learn from each other and from teachers who deeply care about our education and our development as people of faith.” [Read more!](#)

## MOELLER HIGH SCHOOL MARKS MARIANIST BICENTENNIAL



Like thousands of members of the Marianist Family from across the province, the school family at [Archbishop Moeller High School](#) celebrated the Marianist Bicentennial earlier this fall by joining in prayer. Students, faculty and staff gathered in the school courtyard around the statue of the Blessed Mother. An article in the current issue of *Moeller Magazine* recounts the event and includes comments by **Bros. Bob Flaherty** and **Ron Luksic**, who have served the school for a combined 87 years. [Read the article.](#)

## PRAYERS FOR OUR FAMILY MEMBERS

### WE ASK FOR YOUR PRAYERS



1962



Undated

✦ **Bro. James Fitzgibbons** died Nov. 6, 2017, at age 81. He was a Marianist for 61 years. Bro. Jim was a warm, generous teacher and formator. He served in Zambia, Nigeria, Peru and India, as well as at several U.S. ministries. [Read his obituary.](#) See [more photos.](#)

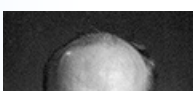


1973



2015

✦ **Fr. Paul Landolfi** died Nov. 16, 2017, at age 90. He was a Marianist for 73 years. Paul was a teacher, chaplain and spiritual director. He spent many years serving at the Marianist-run orphanage where he grew up. [Read his obituary.](#) See [more photos.](#)



✦ **Bro. Thomas Payne**, died Nov. 3, 2017, at age 72. He was a Marianist for 53 years. A friendly, outgoing man, Bro. Tom served in various ministries



1981

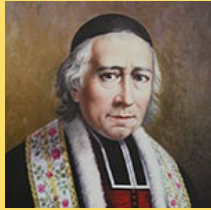


2015

outgoing man, Bro. Tom served in prison ministry and police and fire department chaplaincy. He had a gift for helping those in need. [Read his obituary](#). See [more photos](#).

✦ [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

*"We should go the ends of the world if God so calls us."*

## RESOURCES

### MARIANIST MOMENT: Adèle de Batz de Trenquelléon

*This is part of a series on Marianists who are on the path to sainthood. We thank Marianist Affiliate Mary Kay Fitzpatrick and Bro. David Betz for preparing these articles.*



Mother Adèle

This Marianist Moment centers on Marianist Family founder **Adèle de Batz de Trenquelléon**, who will be beatified on June 10, 2018.

Adèle was born into an aristocratic family in France in 1789, and from a young age, had a dedication to prayer and to serving the poor. At age 15, she and a few friends began a prayer association they called the "little society." It grew to include several hundred young women. Adèle met **Fr. William Joseph Chaminade** when she was just 19. With his help, she founded the Marianist Sisters in 1816. [Read more](#).

### OPENING: COMMUNICATIONS MANAGER, ST. LOUIS

The Marianist Province of the United States seeks an experienced communicator to serve at province offices in St. Louis. A top candidate will be a strong writer, editor and proofreader with at least four years of experience in a corporate or organizational communications setting. Experience with WordPress and e-newsletter programs is a plus. [Learn more](#).

### REPORTS FROM THE WORLD COUNCIL OF THE MARIANIST FAMILY



The World Council of the Marianist Family met in Rome last month. The group is made up of top leaders from the Society of Mary and the Marianist Sisters, as well as representatives from the International Organization of Marianist Lay Communities and the Marian Alliance.

Following its proceedings, the group issued four documents which will be of interest to the Marianist Family:

- [Report of the proceedings](#)
- [Objectives for 2018-2021](#)
- [Position paper](#) on the role and status of **Marie Thérèse de Lamourous**

- [Calendar of 2018 dates](#) for the Marianist Family

## GRADUATE ASSISTANTSHIPS – CAMPUS MINISTRY AT UD



UD is seeking faith-filled applicants to minister to college students while pursuing a masters in theology or pastoral ministry. Five campus ministry positions are available for 2018-19. GAs serve undergraduate students to foster spiritual growth and form Christian leaders. Tuition, stipend and housing are provided. [Learn more.](#)

## “FAMILY OF MARY” GATHERING JAN. 28

St. Louis-area members of the Marianist Family will want to mark their calendars to attend the annual foundation celebration of the Family of Mary Lay Community. The event, at [Chaminade College Preparatory](#), includes Mass and a presentation by **Sr. Nicole Trahan**. [Learn more.](#)

## BLOGS

[Bro. Phil Aaron](#)  
[Fr. Mike Nartker](#)  
[Susan Vogt](#)  
[Bro. Brian Zampier](#)

## NEWSLETTERS

[District Update](#) from the Marianist District of India  
[The Fulcrum](#) from Marianist LIFE  
[Gifts & Tasks](#) from the International Organization of Marianist Lay Communities  
[Justice Jottings](#) from the Marianist Social Justice Collaborative  
[Magnificat](#) from the World Council of the Marianist Family  
[MLC-NA e-News](#) from the Marianist Lay Community of North America  
[Via Latina 22](#) from the Marianist General Administration

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## MARIANIST BIRTHDAYS

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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