

Glossary of Marianist Terms

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Alliance Mariale	2
Chaminade, William Joseph (1761-1850)	2
Charism	2
Characteristics of Marianist Education	3
Daughters of Mary Immaculate (Marianist Sisters)	3
De Batz de Trenquelléon, Adèle (1789-1828)	3
De Lamourous, Marie Thérèse (1754-1836)	3
Discipleship of Equals	3
Faith-Sharing Communities	3
Family Spirit	4
Gapp, Jakob, SM (1897-1943)	4
Inclusivity	4
Marianist Family	4
Marianist Lay Communities	4
Marianist Lay Community of North America (MLC-NA)	5
Marianist LIFE (Living in Faith Experience)	5
Marianist Martyrs	5
Marianist Spirituality	5
Marianist Vocation Office	6
Mission	6
Mission Integration Team (MIT)	6
North American Center for Marianist Studies (NACMS)	6
Our Lady of the Pillar	6
Society of Mary (Marianists)	6
Sodality	6
System of Virtues	7
Teaching as Ministry (TAM)	7
Virtual Learning Community Faith Formation (VLCFF)	7

Alliance Mariale

In the early 1960s, a group of female Marianist affiliates from France joined together and founded the Alliance Mariale. The women wished to dedicate their lives to God by taking vows while living in the world. They were supported by members of the Society of Mary and the Daughters of Mary Immaculate.

Each member of the Alliance Mariale lives out her mission in her own professional and family sphere, but always following Mary's witness and the Marianist Charism. Members can be found in France, Switzerland, Chile, Haiti and Africa. www.alliancemarial.org

Chaminade, William Joseph (1761-1850)

Blessed William Joseph Chaminade is the founder of the Marianist Family from its foundation in 1801. Chaminade was forced into exile to Saragossa, Spain, from 1797 to 1800. It was during this exile, while praying at the Shrine of Our Lady of the Pillar, that Chaminade was inspired to found the Marianist Family. Chaminade was beatified by Pope John Paul II on Sept. 3, 2000. We remember Chaminade in prayer and celebrations on Jan. 22, the anniversary of his death.

Charism

Charism is a Greek word meaning "gift" which is used to describe gifts given to an individual or group by the Holy Spirit for the building of the Christian community. For Marianists, it refers to the gifts Blessed William Joseph Chaminade was inspired to offer the Church and the spirit that characterizes the living out of this vision.

Marianists have been given a gift by the Holy Spirit through our founder that endows us with a distinct sense of community, prayer and discipleship of equals and mission, all based on the example of Mary. These gifts are not just for us and our goodness and fulfillment; Marianists are to give witness to and to teach these Gospel traits to the world and the entire Church.

"There are different kinds of spiritual gifts but the same Spirit; there are different forms of service but the same Lord; there are different workings but the same God who produces all of them in everyone." (I Cor. 12:4-6)

Characteristics of Marianist Education

The Characteristics of Marianist Education are guiding principles of Marianist education. Marianist educators minister collaboratively to educate all members of the school community by:

- Educating for faith formation
- Providing an integral, quality education
- Educating in family spirit
- Educating for service, justice, peace and integrity of creation
- Educating for adaptation and change

Daughters of Mary Immaculate (Marianist Sisters)

The Daughters of Mary Immaculate are the vowed order of religious women founded by Adèle de Batz de Trenquelléon and Blessed William Joseph Chaminade in 1816. The Marianist Sisters are women of faith, mission, community and inclusivity who serve the Church throughout the world. www.marianist.com/Marianist-Sisters

De Batz de Trenquelléon, Adèle (1789-1828)

Adèle de Batz de Trenquelléon was born into a family of nobility the year the French Revolution began. As a teenager, Adèle began an association of young women who supported each other in their goal of leading Christian lives. Eventually this grew into the *Cher Projet* for young women to gather for prayer and ministry to the poor. After a providential meeting with Blessed Chaminade, Adèle began working with the Sodality. In 1816 Adèle and Blessed Chaminade founded the Daughters of Mary Immaculate. Adèle was declared Venerable by Pope John Paul II on Jan. 10, 1989.

De Lamourous, Marie Thérèse (1754-1836)

Marie Thérèse de Lamourous collaborated with Blessed Chaminade in establishing the Sodality after the French Revolution. After 1800, she is best known as the director of a shelter for prostitutes called the *Misericorde*. Marie Thérèse is considered one of the three founders of the Marianist Family. Pope John Paul II declared her venerable in 1989.

Discipleship of Equals

Discipleship of equals is the phrase used to represent the collaborative nature of the Marianist mission. The phrase indicates that brothers, priests, sisters, and lay people minister and interact as equals as they live out their mission.

Faith-Sharing Communities

Faith-sharing communities are groups of people that join together on a regular basis to share their faith, learn from each other, and support each other in their lives and ministry.

Family Spirit

For Blessed Chaminade, the concept of family was important and had great meaning for all Christians. Chaminade saw each person as a son or daughter of Mary and brother or sister of Jesus and used these relationships to create community in the form of family. Chaminade challenged each person to value in individuals the gifts that are brought together when they gather as a community or family.

Each of our communities and ministries is a welcoming place where people are treated with respect. Chaminade wrote: "As members of the same family we should love each other like brothers and sisters, having but one heart and one soul. In union there is strength."

Gapp, Jakob, SM (1897-1943)

Fr. Jakob Gapp was an Austrian Marianist who remained true to his faith and mission during the time of Nazi dominance. He was arrested by the Gestapo in 1942 and was beheaded by the Nazis in 1943. He was beatified by Pope John Paul II in 1996. Aug. 13 is the day set aside by the Church to remember Blessed Jakob.

Inclusivity

Flowing from the spirit of hospitality comes inclusivity. This characteristic of the Marianist Charism reflects a welcoming heart and openness of mind to all people and experiences. Men and women, lay and religious, minister as partners on a faith journey. Through inclusivity Marianists incorporate the gifts and talents of lay people, brothers, priests and sisters in one spiritual community.

Marianist Family

The Marianist Family is a term used to identify the four distinct groups that live and work through the Marianist Charism that defines their mission. The four branches of the Marianist Family are the Society of Mary, the Daughters of Mary Immaculate, Marianist Lay Communities and the Alliance Mariale. Many people who collaborate with these groups in ministry consider themselves to be active participants in the Marianist Family.

Marianist Lay Communities

The more than 7,000 members of Marianist Lay Communities throughout the world make a public commitment to the Marianist way of life. They are married, single, male and female and come from a wide occupational background. They come together in community to share their faith and support each other. Because of this lived community experience, members are involved in service and work for justice. Members collaborate in Mary's mission to bring Christ to the world.

Marianist Lay Community of North America (MLC-NA)

Marianist Lay Communities are intentional Christian communities in the Marianist tradition that collaborate in Mary's mission to bring Christ into the world. MLC-NA's vision is to "build a community of communities." marianist.com/MLC-NA

Marianist LIFE (Living in Faith Experience)

Founded in 1970, Marianist LIFE is a national small faith community formation program for high school students rooted in the Catholic and Marianist tradition. Marianist LIFE provides students opportunities for small faith communities to form, grow and flourish. These communities exist in both high schools and parishes.

Marianist LIFE is an experience of faith that begins in high school and continues throughout young adulthood and one's lifetime. These groups encourage young people to make choices based in Christ and demonstrate models for engaging in and taking responsibility for developing community life. marianist.com/life

Marianist Martyrs

Seven Marianists were martyred in Spain during the Civil War in 1936. The Marianist Martyrs of Ciudad Real are **Carlos Eraña, SM**, **Jesús Hita, SM**, and **Fidel Fuidio, SM**, who died for their faith. Pope John Paul II declared them blessed in 1995. We remember them in prayer on Sept. 18.

The Marianist Martyrs of Madrid include **Florencio Arnáiz Cejudo**, **Sabino Ayastuy Errasti**, **Miguel Léiber Garay**, and **Joaquín Ochoa Salazar**, who also died for their faith. Pope Benedict declared them blessed in 2007. Each year on Nov. 6 we remember these Marianists in prayer.

Marianist Spirituality

Each of the four Gospels is a particular lens on the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Spirituality is the lens and point of focus that a holy person in our tradition brings to the reading of the Gospels (and later, what his/her followers bring to the reading). This inspired reading of the Gospels results in specific points of emphasis in teachings, the development of symbols and rituals, and methods of spiritual guidance which become known as spirituality.

Marianist spirituality is the lens through which Blessed Chaminade and Venerable Adèle de Batz de Trenquelléon and Marie Thérèse Charlotte de Lamourous intuited and articulated their insight into the Gospel and in which they socialized their earliest communities.

Marianist spirituality encompasses the principles, guidelines and methods which Marianist communities follow in their living of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Marianist spirituality is deeply grounded in the mystery of the Incarnation and Mary's significant role in that mystery. From

this deep call to the most faithful imitation of Jesus Christ, son of God become son of Mary, flows a system of prayer, community life and mission.

Marianist Vocation Office

Young men and women interested in discerning a vowed Marianist vocation can receive information and begin an ongoing relationship by contacting the national Marianist Vocation Office at marianist.com/vocations.

Mission

Marianists believe that we, like Mary, bear Christ into our present time. We encourage all to bear Christ in their lives and to bring Christ to life in their lives.

Mission Integration Team (MIT)

Each Marianist-sponsored high school is required to have a Mission Integration Team. The members of the team cherish the Marianist Charism, focus the mission of the school community, and animate all members of the school community to live out their Marianist mission.

North American Center for Marianist Studies (NACMS)

The North American Center for Marianist Studies seeks to help the Marianist Family grow in understanding, appreciating, sharing and developing its heritage and its place in the Catholic Church today. Through research, programs and publications, NACMS strives to link the vision and rich heritage of the Marianist founders to the contemporary Church and world. nacms.org

Our Lady of the Pillar

According to tradition, in 40 A.D. Mary came to the apostle James in Saragossa, Spain, and directed him to build a church in which he was to place her image on a pillar. Blessed Chaminade spent his years of exile (1797-1800) at the shrine. It was there that he was inspired to found the Marianist Family.

Society of Mary (Marianists)

The Society of Mary is the religious order of men founded by William Joseph Chaminade in 1817. Marianists arrived in the United States in 1849. marianist.com

Sodality

This term was used prior to and during Blessed Chaminade's time to describe small groups of people who ministered to each other to keep their faith alive and to encourage people who were not members of the sodality to deepen their faith life.

Chaminade's sodalities were unique in his time. He gathered men and women from all social classes to celebrate the sacraments, share their faith journey and reach out to serve the larger community. The first sodality was established on Feb. 2, 1801, considered to be the "birthday" of the Marianist Family.

System of Virtues

The System of Virtues is a method for spiritual direction designed by Blessed Chaminade for people who wish a closer relationship with God and seek preparation for and support in the work of the Marianist mission.

Teaching as Ministry (TAM)

Teaching as Ministry, which began in the 1980s, facilitates dialogue and planning for educators new to ministry in a Marianist high school. Through the program new teachers learn and share about the meaning and purpose of Catholic Marianist education as well as developing school communities dedicated to implementing the Characteristics of Marianist Education.

Virtual Learning Community Faith Formation (VLCFF)

These online courses in Marianist studies are designed to encourage the understanding and living out of the Marianist Charism, heritage and mission and to promote growth in faith and spirituality. The North American Center for Marianist Studies partnered with the Institute for Pastoral Initiatives at the University of Dayton to create the courses.

Courses are offered on numerous topics: the Marianist founders, community life, Characteristics of Marianist Education, prayer and the Marianist spiritual journey, charism and leadership. <http://vlc.udayton.edu>