



BROTHER RICHARD J. DIX

70 years of profession

I always have considered it a wonderful stroke of luck — or maybe providential — that Don Bosco High School in Milwaukee opened just as I entered high school. It gave me a chance to see Marianists in action. I was impressed by their family spirit, especially their working together in a wonderful joyful way. They were also good teachers. After being asked, I went to St. Louis and finished my high school at the Maryhurst postulate.

Besides teaching, I always have enjoyed physical work. During my time in Victoria, I considered transferring from the teaching category to the working brother category. Father Paul Ryan gave me some good advice: He suggested I remain a teacher, indicating that I would always be able to work as much as I wanted, while keeping the teaching option. That has played out well in my life as a Marianist.

Looking back over the years, I have had four different careers or periods in my religious life. First, I was an elementary and high school teacher and administrator for about 25 years. Then, I served as provincial assistant for temporalities, on several occasions, for a total of 20 years. Third, I was registrar at St. Mary's University for 10 years; fourth and finally, I am a senior religious and spend my time on business manager stuff and maintenance work.

I feel I have been blessed in all these periods and have found all the various ministries rewarding and enjoyable. I am grateful and thank God for the many students who have entered my life in those first 25 years. They truly have been a rewarding experience. However, I also have found my work in internal ministry — with the Provincial Council members and the men of the province — most rewarding and enjoyable. I hope to continue my work here at the Marianist Residence as long as I am physically able.