



BROTHER MICHAEL GALVIN

60 years of profession

In January 1955, I met the Marianists for the first time — most influential were Brothers Frank Russell and Charles Roggemann. When they encouraged me to consider becoming a Marianist, I reflected, and I prayed over their suggestion and decided to give it a try.

In the novitiate, the camaraderie was contagious and the opportunity to learn about the Marianist heritage and reflect upon its values was priceless. I was amazed to learn that New Yorkers and Midwesterners spoke two different languages. After completing scholasticate in 1963, I began graduate studies at Johns Hopkins University, made possible thanks to a Woodrow Wilson Fellowship awarded to me as I neared graduation at UD.

The next year, I joined the staff of Cardinal Gibbons High School where teaching Spanish and French and serving as department chairperson were both challenging and rewarding. I next served as principal of Chaminade High School in Hollywood, Florida, where a cadre of competent and dedicated Marianists and lay persons helped establish stability in the areas where it was most needed. However, stability in 1968 was hardly the hallmark of the larger culture: Seismic quakes in society and in the post-Vatican II Church produced palpable aftershocks in the school environment. Those were challenging times for everybody, especially students, parents and educators.

After a sabbatical in St. Louis, I moved to Colegio San Jose in Puerto Rico, where I taught English and French, provided departmental responsibilities in English, served as guidance counselor for students and worked with parent groups. I was particularly struck by the warm and affectionate nature of colleagues, students, parents and people in general.

During a later sabbatical in Cambridge, Massachusetts, in 1992, I acquired some fluency in Portuguese as the Brazilian presence in the area was enormous and the resources available to assist them were scant or non-existent. Soon, I was assisting a steady stream of immigrants with every imaginable type of situation. I consulted with Assistant Provincial of the New York Province Bro. Steve Glodek about plans to help meet the

critical need for assistance in this area. I have greatly appreciated Bro. Steve's enthusiastic assistance and that of subsequent provincial council members.

At Holy Rosary Parish, I taught English as a second language, tutored students in Spanish at St. Mary's University and helped with language at a neighborhood center. In 2017, I moved to the Marianist Residence due to some health questions.

Community has been the key for my happiness in this life. I give thanks for the many competent, caring and supportive people with whom I have shared community life and ministry throughout the past 60 years. I have assisted some of my brothers with my skills, and they have enriched my life and ministry with theirs. Their presence in my life, and the love and support of my family members has been the greatest blessings among many.

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