



The Marianists

Marianist Education in Western United States

By Bro. T. William Bolts

The Sacred Hearts Fathers and Brothers, missionaries in Hawaii, petitioned the Marianists to come to the Kingdom of Hawaii for the education of young men. In 1883, the Marianists began a long tradition at St. Louis College on Oahu and St. Anthony Parish on Maui. These two schools continue today with Marianist leadership. Over the years, the Marianists also supervised St. Mary's in Hilo on the Big Island and Cathedral School on Oahu. In 1959, Bros Joseph Becker and Eugene Paulin authored "New Wars", a Marianist history in our 50th state.

In order to provide an intermediary region between the Midwest United States and the Kingdom of Hawaii, the Marianists began elementary schools in Marysville and Stockton in California in 1884. Two years later, the Brothers took charge of St. Joseph's boys school in San Francisco. Following the 1906 San Francisco earthquake and fire, the Marianists staffed St. James School which later expanded to a high school.

Marianists in California also served in San Jose, Fresno, Rutherford, Santa Cruz, Alameda, and Santa Monica. Brother Vincent Steele wrote his master's thesis on the California from 1884-1954.

From the predominantly German population of the Midwest where they served, the Marianists came in greater contact with other nationalities, especially Native Hawaiians, Asians, Irish and Italians.

In 1948, the Province of the Pacific was established. High schools abounded with Archbishop Riordan in San Francisco in 1949, Junipero Serra in Gardena in 1950, Chaminade in Los Angeles in 1952, and Archbishop Mitty in San Jose in 1964.

Brother William Bolts wrote the 50th anniversary history of Archbishop Riordan, "Young Men Dream Dreams".