



FATHER JOSEPH UVIETTA

Celebrating 70 years of profession

Growing up in a close-knit family, speaking an Italian dialect in our family, in a poor parish (St. Agnes) in San Antonio, I was educated in its small school with much-loved sisters and teachers. When I met the Marianists in high school (Central Catholic), the way in which the brothers related to the students and how they interacted with one another continued my prior family and school experiences very well. St. Mary's University on a scholarship was a similar positive experience, especially with the Marianists there. Halfway through college, I knew that becoming a Marianist was my call, and so I entered the novitiate in Wisconsin. Over the years, creating relationships with many good people has been a goal and often a reality, both in community and ministry.

Although I expected that my assignments would involve teaching and later, teaching and chaplaincy, it did not work out that way. After ordination, through my first ministry at a high school, I was in formation work (postulate staff), followed by six years as Provincial Assistant for Religious Life. Next was novice master, then seven years in a high school (Vianney) and a year at the Institute for Spirituality and Worship in Berkeley, followed by presidency of my high school alma mater and then Provincial. After that, I directed the retreat center as well as serving as chaplain for retired Mercy Sisters and the Precious Blood Sisters of O'Fallon.

In 2018, health issues brought me to the Marianist Residence in San Antonio, where being part of this new community gives me the opportunity to receive help for my diabetic issues and continue rejoicing in my life as a Marianist religious — this year especially — with 70 years of profession. I am glad now to continue living the graces I received as a member of the Marianist Family and continuing to be grateful for all the graces coming from my fellow brothers and other people I know.