



BROTHER ROBERT WIETHORN

Celebrating 60 years of profession

When I reflect on the past 60 years of Marianist life, the word that comes to my mind is GRATITUDE.

I am so grateful to God and Mary for the gift of my call to live the Marianist charism as a Marianist brother. I've been blessed with a supportive family, my Marianist brothers, and the many lay Marianists with whom I have shared life, the communities of which I've been part and the ministries in which I have been called to serve. These Marianists have guided, supported and, at times, carried me in so many ways over all the years. My brothers have called me in so many ways to use the gifts that I have been given for others as a teacher, administrator, formator, director and now, as a support person to my brothers at Siena Woods.

As I look back over 60 years, I feel so much joy and wonder at all the changes that I have seen and experienced in the world, the Church and our Marianist life. Most of all, being a part of the developing vision of the entire Marianist Family, lay and religious, as Fr. Chaminade envisioned, is such a blessing. I am hopeful and happy to continue ministering in whatever way I can to further that growth and development. The youth that have become part of our family over the past 10 years bring us a new vision and sense of what we are called to as Marianist religious today. They challenge me — and all of us — to think in new ways about the Marian Church, lifestyle and ministry. Today, I try to keep contributing what I can to living Marianist life and mission at Siena Woods. I believe we have a unique mission to one another, the Province and those who minister and reside here at Siena Woods.

I know it is a cliché, but I sincerely say to God and Mary, "For all that has been, thank you; and for all that will be, YES!" I pray each morning "Mary, help me live the mystery of my vocation as fully as you did."