



Marianist Moments



Being Recognizably Marianist – Shaped by our Pedagogy

~ Meeting aid ~

Opening Prayer:

Prayers for Marianist Boards, www.marianist.com/board-resources

Gracious and loving God, we thank you this day for your gifts.

Send your Holy Spirit upon us. Grant us wisdom and insight as we discuss and discern ways to strengthen our Catholic Marianist mission.

Each day we hear about violence in our world. Let this violence not overwhelm us. May it challenge us to create a community that fosters the formation of people in faith and educates leaders for the common good. May the young people entrusted to our care find new ways to promote peace and justice.

We begin our meeting with the awareness that without your guidance at our meeting, and also within ourselves, our work will not fulfill our mission.

Grace us with your wisdom and vision. Gift us with holy humor and humility so that not only this meeting, but all our lives, may witness the message of your Gospel.

We lift up our prayer to you, our gracious God. May the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit be glorified in all places through the Immaculate Virgin Mary. Amen.

Scripture Reading:

John 10: 11 – 18, NRSV-CE

“I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.

The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away—and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep.

I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father.

And I lay down my life for the sheep.

I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd.”

Silent Introspection:

Mission Integration Resources for Governing Boards, www.marianist.com/board-resources

In this present moment, which of the following ***Marianist Ministry Descriptors*** seem particularly instructive as you enter into discernment on decisions before your Board today?



SHAPED BY OUR PEDAGOGY,

WE ARE RECOGNIZABLY MARIANIST WHEN WE:

- ❖ Maintain a community where all are involved in the formation of those we serve. Grounded in the virtues of Jesus, we educate the whole person, attending to the moral, spiritual, and religious development of students, while emphasizing family spirit in a nurturing, caring environment.
- ❖ Promote Christian purpose and dynamism in our institutional pursuits so that people of varied traditions and experiences unite in commitment to an educational/formational venture in a collaborative learning environment, preparing them for life, work, and service.
- ❖ Collaborate to create a climate of cooperation, respect, openness, and trust that reflects the intercultural richness that comes from respecting individuals from diverse academic levels, faith traditions, and socioeconomic circumstances.
- ❖ Provide a challenging Catholic education in the Marianist tradition.

For Marianist schools and universities:

- ❖ Help students understand the branches of human knowledge, educating them to critical thinking and stimulating their desire for truth, in theory and action.
- ❖ Develop the character of students and instill Gospel values, within an environment of academic excellence.

For Marianist Retreat Centers:

- ❖ Offer to families and to all who come seeking personal and spiritual growth, a wide choice of communal retreat experiences in the Marianist tradition.

Group Sharing:

How might the Holy Spirit be leading us to become more recognizably Marianist, personally and collectively as a Board?

