



## **FATHER PATRICK TONRY**

*Celebrating 50 years of ordination*

I met the Marianists at my brother John's first vows in Beacon, New York, on Aug. 22, 1949. At that time, I was considering joining the Capuchins, but was so impressed by the joyful fraternity of the Marianists I met at first vows, that I wanted to become a Marianist myself. That experience, "vision," has been my life these past 70 years and has sustained me in good and difficult times.

As I reflect on my life as a Marianist, I have become more and more aware of how graced I have been, beautifully, faithfully and lavishly blessed. I have been educated and supported; I have served as a high school teacher, counselor and chaplain, a provincial administration member, a pastor, a Marianist Mission spiritual director and a happy member of many Marianists communities.

My community living and my ministry experience have been very positive and life-giving.

I am and have been very happy in this marvelous vocation of a professed Marianist and member of the Marianist Family. Jesus and Mary have graced me in awesome ways. Alleluia!