



Brother Michael O'Grady, SM

Celebrating 60 years of Profession

I was born in Cleveland, OH, and grew up in Bluefield, WV, and Cleveland, attending Sacred Heart in Bluefield and both St. Aloysius and St. Philomena in Cleveland. My high school years were spent at Cathedral Latin School, also in Cleveland, and Marianist Preparatory in Beacon, NY, from which I graduated in January 1964.

I professed my First Vows on February 11, 1965, in Marcy, NY, before relocating to University of Dayton, where I earned a Bachelor of Arts in History and English in 1969. I then went on to earn a master's degree in religious education from the Institute of Pastoral Studies at Loyola

University Chicago in 1975.

I began my Marianist service back in Cleveland as a religion teacher and assistant athletic director at St. Joseph High School (1968-1976) before focusing on adult religious education in the Archdiocese of Cincinnati's Office for Religious Education (1976-1980). For six years, I served as pastoral minister for Cleveland's St. Aloysius Parish (1980-1986), followed by four years in Dayton as vocation director for the Cincinnati Province (1986-1990) before returning once again to St. Aloysius in my role as pastoral minister and parish coordinator (1990-2004).

In 2004, I moved to St. Louis, MO, for three years to serve the Province of the United States as the Assistant for the Office of Religious Life. I returned to Dayton in 2007 to serve as Assistant Novice Master for the next four years. I spent August 2011 through January 2012 on sabbatical with Bro. Bob Wiethorn at St. Francis de Sales Parish in Cincinnati before moving to San Antonio, TX, where I served as director of the Marianist Residence from 2012 until 2021.

I currently serve as the Director of Aspirancy at Casa Maria Community in San Antonio, where I work with aspirants and assist Bro. Mark Motz with vocation efforts, a position I have held for the past four years. In thinking about my 60 years as a brother, Bernanos' famous line, "It's all grace," comes to mind. Meeting the Marianists as a boy at Cathedral Latin School has led to more blessings than I can imagine. The works, the places, and the people have all been grace. I live in gratitude and trust.