



Rev. David McGuigan, SM

Celebrating 25 years of Ordination

Born in Philadelphia, PA, in 1960, I attended St. Martin of Tours grade school, Cardinal Daugherty High School, and LaSalle University, earning a Bachelor of Arts in Communications in 1983. Nine years later, I professed my First Vows at the St. Joseph Catholic Community in Sykesville, MD, on August 15, 1992, and was ordained there another nine years later on June 2, 2001.

Between my First Vows and Ordination, I taught high school English at Cardinal Gibbons School in Baltimore, MD, and served as chaplain and campus minister at Bentley College in Waltham, MA, while earning a Master of Education in Religious Education from Boston College in Newton, MA, in 1997. My seminary studies were conducted at the Franciscan School of Theology in San Diego, CA, where I earned a Master of Divinity in 2001.

Following my ordination, I briefly served at the Marianist Family Retreat Center in Cape May Point, NJ, and returned to ministry for a short time at the St. Joseph Catholic Community before joining the University of Dayton as a Campus Minister. This experience working with young adults led me to serve three years as Novice Director at the Marianist Novitiate in Beaver Creek, OH. In the years to follow, I returned to the St. Joseph Catholic Community twice more to serve as associate pastor for a combined 10 years. Since January 2025, I have been serving as chaplain for Colegio San José, our Marianist secondary school in San Juan, PR. I also provide Sunday Mass support to two parishes in the area, Nuestra Señora de la Piedad and Stella Maris.

This jubilee reminds me that I am a member of a special group of brothers. I suppose that when we are involved in what we do and find it meaningful, we can lose track of time. As I look back over 25 years as a priest in the Society of Mary, I am grateful for the Marianists with whom I lived on Easton Street in Allston, MA, who supported my request to be admitted to the seminary. I am grateful to our brother, the late Archbishop of Vancouver, Canada, Raymond Roussin, SM, who ordained me--may he be rejoicing with the angels and saints. I am grateful to the many faithful souls who have helped me to understand what sacramental priesthood is about. One thing it shares with all ministries is that it moves in the direction of need and not away from it. I am grateful to so many who have welcomed my ministry even when it was the last thing they hoped they would need.

I am also grateful to have celebrated the sacraments as I continue to do. Centuries ago, Pope St. Leo the Great preached that after the Ascension, "the visible presence of Christ has passed into the sacraments." What a great grace to seek Christ in the sacraments and to be found by Him there. I am also grateful to those I have failed to serve, to hear, to understand. They remind me that I will always be learning what I'm doing as a priest in the Society of Mary. Finally, I am grateful to the one who brought Christ to us, Mary, Mother of God and of the Church.