



## Bro. Michael Sullivan, SM

### *Celebrating 50 years of Profession*

Born in 1949 and raised in Pueblo, CO, I come from a family of 10 children. Although we had a few disagreements and challenges along the way, we grew up to be best friends with much support and encouragement for one another. We were blessed with parents who always let us know that we were loved and cared about. I often tell people that I have two families—my birth family and the Marianist family—and both have always supported and encouraged me.

Growing up in Pueblo, I attended Shrine of St. Therese grade school, Pueblo Catholic High School, and Roncalli High School before earning a BA in Music Education from Fort Lewis College in Durango, CO, and a Master of Religious Education from the University of St. Michael's College at the University of Toronto, Canada.

Beginning in 1972, I served two years as band director for Pueblo County High School before moving to Central Catholic High School in San Antonio, TX, where I served as a theology teacher and assistant band director for a total of five years. In 1976, I professed my First Vows in St. Louis, MO, and returned to the area in 1982 to serve at Assumption High School in East St. Louis, IL, where I taught religion, band, and art for seven years in addition to serving on the school's administrative team.

I then took some time to develop my own education further by earning a Master of Arts and a Doctor of Musical Arts in Music Theory and Composition from the Benjamin T. Rome School of Music at The Catholic University of America in Washington, DC, in 1994. For the past 32 years, I have been living and working at St. Mary's University in San Antonio as a faculty member within the Music Department and the College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences, including two years as assistant dean.

With almost 40 years of teaching experience under my expanding belt, my favorite part of the teaching profession continues to be preparing for my classes. I enjoy learning and sharing what I learn. I always enjoy my students and like to include a little humor along the way.

Outside of education, I have been involved in vocation ministry for about 10 years, working closely with great people like Sr. Evangeline Escobar, FMI, and Fr. Cris Janson, SM. I also value and enjoy traveling, especially to Canada, Mexico, and Europe. And on the occasions when I find some open time, I compose music and enjoy working with other performance artists. Current projects include two musical theater pieces, both being developed for young and young-at-heart audiences. I have been fortunate to live in a variety of locations and environments and have truly enjoyed my time in each, making long-lasting friendships along the way.