



TODAY'S *Marist Brother*

SPRING 2009

A publication of the Province of the United States of America



John McEntee giving a presentation on servant leadership to sophomores of St. Joseph Regional High School, Montvale, New Jersey.

Marist Young Adult Community

On September 1, 2008, the Office of Marist Evangelization opened a young adult community on the Marist Brothers' property in Esopus, New York. It has come to be known as the **MARIST YOUNG ADULT COMMUNITY**.

A number of young adults from the Marist Brothers' youth conferences and encounter retreats have expressed an interest in living in a Marist community and offering a year of service to support the ministry of the Marist Brothers in the United States. Since these young adults had been involved in retreat work, it was decided that the **MARIST YOUNG ADULT COMMUNITY** would focus on youth retreat work in our U.S. Marist schools and at the Marist Brothers' Retreat House in Esopus, New York.

Presently the **MARIST YOUNG ADULT COMMUNITY** is composed of Roland Varriale, John McEntee, and Br. Steve Milan, the group's director. Roland and John divide their time between directing youth retreats at the retreat house and in Marist schools in the New York/New Jersey area and helping in the day-to-day running of the retreat house buildings and property.

Roland Varriale is a graduate of Archbishop Molloy High School in Briarwood, New York. When asked what drew him to the young adult community, he said, "I learned about the Marist evangelization community through a friend and decided it would be a good opportunity to share time with young adults who are at a

similar stage in life. I hope that through community life and prayer I will gain some insight into the choices that I need to make in the near future."

A graduate of the University of Florida in Gainesville and St. Joseph Regional High School in Montvale,



Cara Hynes, a graduate of Roselle Catholic High School in New Jersey, and Marist Young Adult Community member Roland Varriale during the final session of a "Retreat within a Retreat."

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I hope that the experience in Esopus will strengthen my relationship with God, allowing me to feel confident to take on the challenges that life has to offer.



the provincial

Dear Members of our Marist Family,

For the past seven months Marist Brothers and their lay Marist colleagues have been participating in a consultation process for the General Chapter of the Marist Brothers to be held in Rome in September and October of 2009. The purpose of the General Chapter is to set the direction for the worldwide Marist Institute for the next eight years.

The consultation process has been unprecedented in that it has involved not only Marist Brothers, but our lay Marist colleagues in administrative and teaching positions in our schools as well as the young people to whom we minister. As we look towards the future of Marist life throughout the world, it is rather appropriate that the motto for the upcoming General Chapter is “*new hearts for a new world.*”

I ask you to pray, with all of us involved in Marist life and ministry in the United States, for the success of the General Chapter and the direction it will provide for us. You can learn more about the General Chapter by going to our international website: www.champagnat.org.

In my spring 2008 letter for *Today's Marist Brother* I asked you to continue your prayers for new vocations to the Marist Brothers. I am happy to report to you that on Sunday, February 8, 2009, Br. Brian Poulin was received into our novitiate after completing a six-month postulancy. In addition, there are several other young men engaged in a discernment process designed to help them in their vocational journey. Thank you for your continued prayerful support!

This will be my last letter to you as Provincial of the Province of the United States. I am in the process of completing my second three-year term as Provincial. I am happy to tell you that the Brothers of the Province of the United States have chosen Br. Ben Consigli to be our next Provincial. Br. Ben will take office in November 2009.

There is great hope and energy among the Marist Brothers and our lay Marist colleagues in the United States. Together we are committed to “make Jesus Christ known and loved” as our founder St. Marcellin Champagnat directed us to do. All of us are thankful for your spiritual and financial support. As St. Marcellin often said to the early Brothers, we now say to you—we hold you and your families in our prayers and “in the sacred hearts of Jesus and Mary.”

With personal best wishes,

Br. John Klein, FMS
Provincial

Marist Educators

Terry Chomat, Christopher Columbus High School, Miami, Florida



My life's ambition as far back as I can remember was to be a teacher. I began by teaching chemistry at a community college in the Miami area. It didn't take me long to realize that teaching was not just about imparting knowledge. As a product of Catholic education, I knew I wanted to make a difference, and since my personal life had been fulfilled with marriage and two wonderful boys, I wanted my professional life to be just as fulfilling.

My husband, Kiki, suggested I work at Christopher Columbus High School, his alma mater. After a couple of interviews, I was hired as a chemistry and geometry teacher.

Today Columbus is not just a place of employment for me. The Marist Brothers, lay faculty, and

even my students, more often than not, feel like family. There is a sense of community and camaraderie among us; it shows that we truly care about each other.

At Christopher Columbus High School, the Marist Brothers foster this spirit of community and family. They invite the lay faculty, students, and students' families to share in that spirit. The way they go about perpetuating the Marist spirit is what has really made a difference in my life, as well as in the lives of my own children.

On a more personal note, I can never repay the Marist Brothers and the Christopher Columbus Community for the tremendous impact they have made in the lives of my two older boys, Alex and Mike. As different as they are, they both share the value of the Marist Charism, and I know that the seeds of faith, selflessness, and passion

planted at CCHS by the lay faculty and Marist Brothers will eventually make a difference for them as they journey and create meaningful paths in search of their vocation in life.

I have seen the Brothers not only preach Marcellin's spirit, but actually

I have seen the Brothers not only preach Marcellin's spirit, but actually live his charism as they demonstrate how they love and enjoy their vocation.

live his charism as they demonstrate how they love and enjoy their vocation. I consider myself very fortunate to have been given the opportunity to learn about Marcellin Champagnat... a man who also thought that teaching was not just imparting knowledge. Teaching is a vocation, and in my case my vocation is to always be a true Marist Educator as I share in Marcellin's dream.

Mr. Frank Pellegrino, CFO, Marist Brothers Finance Officer



My life with the Marist Brothers started back in March 1969, when I was a freshman at Mount St Michael

Academy. When I met Brothers like Br. George Matthews, Br. Simeon, Br. Denis Buckley, and Br. Valerian (who is now the oldest Brother in the Province at 95 years old), I saw what the Brothers are all about: commitment, dedication, and helping others who cannot help themselves. They were truly men whose heart knew no bounds.

When I met Br. Louis Richard in 1971 and saw the care he had for others—the students he taught in grammar school at the Mount, the

kids he took care of at Taconic Lodge, and the young people from Camp Marist—I knew I had met someone very special. When he passed away in 2005, I remembered one of the Brothers whispering to me at Mass, "We have lost a saint." We sure did! If I was ever thinking of becoming a Brother, it was because of Br. Louis.

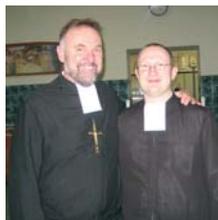
But God had other plans for me. I met a wonderful woman, Regina, in 1977, and we were married in November of 1981, but I never forgot the Brothers. In fact, Br. Louis Richard was there at the Mass and administered communion and danced with my wife.

Now I am the CFO for the Marist Brothers Province of the United States. The greatest job I have is visiting all the communities where the Brothers reside, eating with them, praying with them, and yes, checking over their finances! I can see the love they have for each other and the communities where they live and serve. I can also see it in the schools, at Camp Marist, and at the retreat house in Esopus. These are all places where I have come to know and love Jesus and Mary in the spirit of St. Marcellin, places where the Marist Brothers play a part in shaping the lives and touching the souls of all they meet.

...the Brothers are all about: commitment, dedication, and helping others who cannot help themselves. They were truly men whose heart knew no bounds.

Welcome!

Br. Brian



Left: Novice Brian Poulin with Novice Director Br. Robert Clark, FMS.

Below: Br. John Klein, Provincial, welcoming Br. Brian Poulin.



On Sunday, February 8, after completing six months of postulancy, Brian Poulin was formally received into the novitiate in an Investiture ceremony held during a Mass celebrated by Father Richard LaMorte at the Marist Brothers Retreat House in Esopus, New York. A large group of Brothers as well as Brian's parents and friends joined him on this special day.

During the Investiture, Brian was asked what his intention was. He stated:

"I wish to continue learning and experiencing your way of life. And I am willing to be tested that I might follow Christ wholeheartedly in this community of Marist Brothers."

Following this, Brian received the cassock and rabbat of the Marist Brothers and made his formal request to

begin his novitiate: "Drawn by God's mercy, I have come here to learn your way of life. I ask you to teach me to follow Christ and to live in poverty, chastity, and obedience. Teach me to persevere in prayer and sacrifice in the service of the Church, the Congregation, and all of God's people. Teach me to be with

you in heart and mind. Help me to live out the Gospel every day of my life. Teach me your constitutions and help me to learn to love my brothers as Christ commanded me."

The Mass of Investiture was a moving event, proof that God is still calling young men to Marist life. A wonderful testament to this was the presence of Br. Valerian Doiron, our Province Dean, who, as the oldest member of the Province, was present to welcome the newest member of our Province.

Also present at Br. Brian's investiture were a number of young men who are in dialogue with Br. Michael Sheerin, Director of Vocations. These "discerners" are young men who have expressed interest in learning more about the Marist Brothers, our ministry, and our way of life.

We welcome you, Br. Brian!



Br. Brian with his parents, Steve and Roberta Poulin.

U.S. Marist Brothers Elect New Provincial



Br. Ben Consigli

The Marist Brothers of the Province of the United States have elected Br. Ben Consigli as their new Provincial. Br. Ben will assume his new position at the Provincial Chapter in November 2009.

Br. Ben is a 1980 graduate of Archbishop Molloy High School in Briarwood, New York. He received his BA in history from Queens College in 1984, his Master's from Rutgers University in 1993, and was awarded a professional

diploma in educational administration from St. John's University in 2000.

Br. Ben has served as a teacher and administrator at Archbishop Molloy and as principal at St. Joseph Academy in Brownsville, Texas. He has also served the Province of the United States as Assistant Provincial and Director of the Office of Marist Education.

The Brothers of the Province of the United States and our lay Marist colleagues wish Br. Ben the best as he prepares for his new position as Provincial.

Marist Young Adult Community

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New Jersey, John McEntee's first Marist experience was working at the Mid-Hudson Valley camps sponsored by the Marist Brothers. When asked why he joined the MARIST YOUNG ADULT COMMUNITY, John said, "The reason I joined the evangelization community is pretty simple; I felt that my relationship with God was deteriorating.



John McEntee with students from Marist High School, Bayonne, New Jersey.

Within the next few years, I will be making some major decisions in both my personal life and my professional life. In order to make the best choices and to see my future path, I need to have a greater understanding of God's presence in my life. I hope that the experience in Esopus will strengthen my relationship with God, allowing me to feel confident to take on the challenges that life has to offer."

Br. Steve Milan, director of the MARIST YOUNG ADULT COMMUNITY, served the Marist Brothers as a teacher, principal, and vocation director before becoming the Director of Marist Young Adult Ministry. Br. Steve's vision for the MARIST YOUNG ADULT COMMUNITY is to give them a direct experience of youth ministry.



Roland Varriale and Mike Sweeney of Mount St. Michael Academy in Bronx, New York, during the closing ceremonies of the "Marist Youth Encounter Christ" Program.



THE MARIST
BROTHERS

You might have considered it when you were in school...
Is now the time to once again consider becoming a Marist Brother?

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contact Br. Mike Sheerin, Vocation Director, at
vocations@maristbr.com or (201) 823-1115.

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To explore vocations or learn more about
The Marist Brothers visit www.maristbr.com.

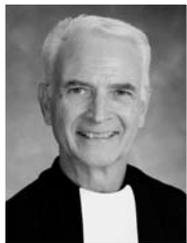


THE MARIST BROTHERS

1241 Kennedy Blvd., Bayonne, NJ 07002
(201) 823-1115 • www.maristbr.com



Dear Members of our Marist Family,



Br. Hugh Turley, FMS

Spring is a special time of year! The earth awakens and signs of new life abound everywhere, giving hope for a refreshing new season. We wish you an enjoyable springtime in your hometown.

In the Development Office, our fiscal year ends May 31st. About now, we begin to take a look at how things have gone for us over the past year. This past year has been financially difficult for all of us, and so we are especially thankful to those who have contributed their time, talent or treasure to the Brothers and their ministries. Your help is needed and very encouraging.

Even during these turbulent economic times, we continue to steadily grow the work begun by our founder, St. Marcellin Champagnat, in 1817. We are so thankful for your gifts, which enable us to look forward and outward—to promote vocations to the Marist Brotherhood and to engage in special ministries that enhance the civic and spiritual development of our students. Some of these stories are featured in this issue of *Today's Marist Brother*. And even in the face of rising healthcare costs, your partnership is enabling us to wisely enhance the quality of life of our elderly and disabled Brothers. In short, we could not be as effective in carrying out our mission without your financial and prayerful support.



Paulette M. Karas

If you have never contributed to the Brothers, please consider making your first financial gift by using the reply envelope in this newsletter. You will then be among so many of our loyal friends who believe, as you do, in the future of the Marist Brothers and our mission of sound Christian and Catholic education.

Again, thank you for your continuing support and encouragement and for being a special part of our lives.

Sincerely,

Br. Hugh Turley, FMS, CFRE
Co-Director of Development

Paulette M. Karas, CFRE
Co-Director of Development

IN MEMORIAM

Brother

Teacher

Mentor

Caregiver



Br. Thomas ("Des") Kelly

Br. Tom's life journey took him all around the world. Born in Ireland in 1934, Tom and his family then moved to the U.S., where he entered the Brothers in 1951. Tom began his teaching career in Poughkeepsie, followed by stints in New York City, Chicago, and assignments in Auckland, New Zealand, American Samoa, and Oakland, California.

From California Br. Tom went to the other side of the world from 1987 to 1992 to become the founding headmaster of Sargodha Catholic School in Pakistan.

The roads have risen up to meet you, Br. Tom. You now live where we all hope one day to be: in the palm of the Lord's hand and close to His heart.

New Marcellin Guild Members



A warm welcome and sincere thanks to **Mr. Gregory F. Boyle, Mr. Ted Demetre, Miss Carol A. Dever, Patricia A. Kelly, and Mr. Frank Sutton**, our newest members of the Marcellin Guild. Guild members have included the Marist Brothers in their will or other estate plan and in a special way share in the future of the Marist Brothers. Their distinguished legacy to the Marist Brothers and to the youth of our country is admirable.

Thank You!

The Marcellin Guild

Mr. and Mrs. Richard Arab
 Dr. and Mrs. Robert J. Bettini
 Mr. and Mrs.
 William J. Bluemer
 Mr. Gregory F. Boyle
 Ms. Margaret A. Brand
 Ms. Pat Adams Brilli
 Mr. Paul E. Bruneau
 Mrs. Josephine Rose Buehner
 Mr. and Mrs. Frank Carey
 Mr. Robert J. Casale
 Mr. and Mrs.
 Edward R. Castine, Jr.
 Mr. Clinton A. Cobb
 Mr. Thomas G. Connors
 Mrs. Charlotte Conrad
 Mr. and Mrs. Jeffrey Cull
 Mr. Ted Demetre
 Miss Carol A. Dever
 Rev. James F. Degnan
 Mr. and Mrs.
 William F. Donahue

Rev. Edward P. Doran
 Mr. Pierce J. Fitzgerald
 Mrs. Nancy S. Fortino
 Dr. Richard D. Foy
 Mr. and Mrs.
 G. Patrick Gallagher
 Lt. Gen. Walter T. Galligan
 Mr. John W. Gehrig
 David and Maria-Isabel Gerling
 Mr. and Mrs. Brendan Haggerty
 Ms. Connie V. Hernandez
 Mr. Mark R. Hopkinson
 Mr. Joseph Hores
 Mr. and Mrs. J. David Kammer
 Mr. and Mrs. Patrick J. Keilty
 Patricia A. Kelly
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 Dick and Bernie LaChance
 Mr. Joseph P. Lambert
 Ms. Margaret A. Lazzaro
 Mr. and Mrs.
 Gilbert J. Levesque

Nicholas and Amelia Limongelli
 Dr. and Mrs. Martin Lyden
 Ms. Frances R. Lyon
 Mrs. Edward J. Lyons
 Mrs. Simone Malick
 Mr. and Mrs. David Marsh
 Rev. David L. Martin
 Mr. and Mrs. James F. McGee
 Mr. Matthew J. Merritt, Jr.
 Mr. and Mrs. Donald J. Mulcare
 Mr. Ken Murrin
 Mrs. Alberta P. Neidt
 Mrs. Theresa M. Nolan
 Ms. Mary O'Keeffe
 Mr. Hugh D. O'Rourke

Mr. and Mrs. Norman W. Paris
 John and Peg Perring-Mulligan
 Miss Colette Rasche
 Mr. Robert S. Reeder
 Mr. and Mrs.
 Paul and Pamela Rinn
 Mr. John R. Robinson
 Mr. and Mrs. Patrick F. Ryan
 Dr. Stephen T. Slack
 Mr. Robert S. Stewart
 Mr. Frank Sutton
 Mrs. Pauline Rose Veltry
 Mr. and Mrs.
 Matthew C. Zebrowski

If you have included the Brothers in your will or other estate plan and are not listed above, please let the Development Office know of your legacy. Recognition as a **Marcellin Guild** member is a statement of our appreciation, and seeing you named among the men and women of the **Marcellin Guild** will remind others of their potential to follow your example.

Poet Chaplain Minister Friend



Br. Vincent Damian

It is an impossible task to summarize the lifetime of Br. Vincent's remarkable contributions to the Province, his fellow Brothers, and to literally thousands of young people and their families.

Br. Vincent's leadership as principal at both Roselle Catholic and Marist High School in New Jersey, and his years of service on the Provincial Council speak volumes of his dedication, talent, and faith, and his love for his Brothers.

In Br. Vincent's room, above his bed, hangs a single verse from Isaiah which spoke volumes to his heart:

Fear not, for I have redeemed you. I have called you by name. You are Mine. (Isa. 43:1)



Br. Harold Philip McEnaney

Most people knew Br. Harold Philip McEnaney simply as "Brother Harry." Born in 1919, he entered the Marist Brothers in 1930.

Teaching assignments took him to Marist Prep in Savannah, Georgia, Cardinal Hayes High School and St. Agnes High School in New York, Marist High School in Eugene, Oregon, and eventually to the Monastery Community in Chicago.

What Br. Harry witnessed to his friends and Brothers is stated so well in the popular prayer book *Sacred Space*: "I ask for the grace to believe in what I could be and do if I only allowed God, my loving Creator, to continue to create me, guide me and shape me."



The Marist Brothers

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Men of
Community
Men of
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Are you interested
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For more information,
please contact

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THE MARIST BROTHERS

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For more information about the history of the Brothers, their spirituality, their mission and ministries, as well as current events, please visit our website — www.maristbr.com.

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Editorial Staff: Br. Hank Hammer, FMS, Br. Hugh Turley, FMS, CFRE and Mrs. Paulette Karas, CFRE

The Marist Brothers' *Remembrance in Prayer Program*



The Marist Brothers offer two different series of prayer cards. Our signature card features the image of Christ and a Candle and Cross design. These traditional cards may be used as memorials to remember the deceased. Our all occasion cards may be sent in honor of a birthday, wedding, or anniversary, or to send get-well greetings. All cards carry a special promise of remembrance in prayer from the Marist Brothers.

We would be delighted to send you a complimentary packet of cards. Please request them through email (maristbr@aol.com) or send your request to the address on this newsletter.