



The Marist
Brothers

SPRING 2016



A Lumen Award-winning publication of the Province of the United States of America

TODAY'S *Marist Brother*

Fourviere Year

*O*n July 23, 1816, the day after their ordination, an enthusiastic group of young priests including Marcellin Champagnat travel to the shrine of Fourvière in Lyon, France. At the feet of the Black Madonna, they promised to establish the Society of Mary. In 2016, we will celebrate the pledge made in that chapel 200 years ago:



"All for the greater glory of God and the greater honour of Mary, Mother of the Lord Jesus. We the undersigned, striving to work together for the greater glory of God and the honour of Mary, Mother of the Lord Jesus, assert and declare our sincere intention

and firm will of consecrating ourselves at the first opportunity to founding the pious congregation of Mary-ists. That is why by the present act and our signatures, insofar as we can, we irrevocably dedicate ourselves and all our goods to the Society of the blessed Virgin. We do this not childishly or lightly or for some human motive or the hope of material benefit, but seriously, maturely, having taken advice, having weighed everything before God, solely for the greater Glory of God and the honour of Mary, Mother of the Lord Jesus.

We pledge ourselves to accept all sufferings, trials, inconveniences, and if needs be, torture, because we can do all things in Christ Jesus who strengthens us and to whom we hereby

promise fidelity in the bosom of our holy mother the Roman Catholic Church, cleaving with all our strength to its supreme head the Roman Pontiff and to our most reverend bishop, the ordinary, that we may be good ministers of Jesus Christ, nourished by the words of faith and by the wholesome teaching which by his grace we have received.



We trust that under the reign of our most Christian king, the friend of peace and religion, this institute will shortly come to light and we solemnly promise that we shall spend ourselves and all we have in saving souls in every way under the very august name of the Virgin Mary and with her help. And may the holy and immaculate conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary be praised. Amen."

From the beginning, the first Marists conceived the Society of Mary as a large tree with different branches: priests, brothers, sisters and lay people. Their dream became a reality in the foundation of the "Marist" family of religious and lay men and women. Two hundred years later, the Missionary Sisters of the Society of Mary, the Marist Brothers of the Schools, the Marist Sisters and the Society of Mary (Fathers and Brothers), together with the many groups of Marist laity throughout the world, remember that significant moment of foundation, give thanks for the many blessings received, and recommit themselves to doing Mary's work in the midst of today's Church and world.

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In Memoriam

FROM THE DESK OF

The Provincial

SPRING 2016

Dear Marist Family,

I'm often asked, "Who are the Marists?"

Lots of Catholic and Church folks traveling around the country and, I might add, the world, have heard of "the Marists" or seen signs, parishes or schools with the name "Marist." Sometimes, Marists are mistaken for other congregations such as the Marianists or Marian Helpers. Certainly, in the USA, the popularity of MARIST (the college in Poughkeepsie, that is) has grown, especially during an election year with the Marist poll.



So, who are we Marists? It's a good time to ask the question. This year we celebrate the Year of Fourviere, which hallmarks the founding of the Society of Mary.

Two hundred years ago, on July 23, 1816, 12 newly ordained priests and seminarians gathered at the feet of a statue of Mary, known as the "Black Madonna," at a site called "Fourviere," in the city of Lyon, France. These young men pledged their lives to create a religious group they hoped would change a world that had lost its bearings and religion after the French revolution. Our founder, St. Marcellin Champagnat, was one of these founders of the Society of Mary.

Their message to the world of 1816 was to share the good news of Jesus and to rebuild the church with the compassion, care and mercy of Mary, the mother of Jesus. Their vision consisted of a life-giving tree of members in the church; priests, brothers, sisters and lay Marists.

This Marist Society would extend to all the Diocese of the World. And, so with God's grace, the Marist Society began 200 years ago and the branches of the Marist Family became known as the Marist Fathers and Brothers; the Marist Missionary Sisters; the Marist Sisters; and of course, the group that we know the best, the Little Brothers of Mary, approved by the Church as the Marist Brothers of the Schools. In each group there are lay Marists who are Affiliates or Third Order members.

Isn't it a blessing to be part of this great Marist heritage? Isn't it energizing to find ourselves hoping to change our world which seems to have lost its bearing and religion—that the dream and the vision of our early founders would continue to be realized?

As we begin our third century as Marists, especially in the family of St. Marcellin Champagnat, let's continue to co-create our church with Mary's guidance and protection. Thanks for all you, our Marist Family, are and do to make this happen.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Br. Patrick McNamara, FMS Provincial". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Br. Patrick McNamara, FMS
Provincial

THE MARCELLIN GUILD

Marcellin Guild members are those who have included the Marist Brothers in their wills or other estate plans 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.

Anonymous

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Mr. Roland J. Blanchette
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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 proudly remind others of their potential to follow your example.



THE MARIST BROTHERS ARE NOW OFFERING CHARITABLE GIFT ANNUITIES

We are pleased to announce that we have partnered with the National Catholic Community Foundation to offer charitable gift annuities to our Marist Family.

What is a gift annuity?

A charitable gift annuity is a contract in which you exchange a gift of cash or securities for a fixed income each year for the rest of your life (or the lives of two people). Those wishing to participate must be at least 60 years of age with a charitable gift of \$5,000 or more.

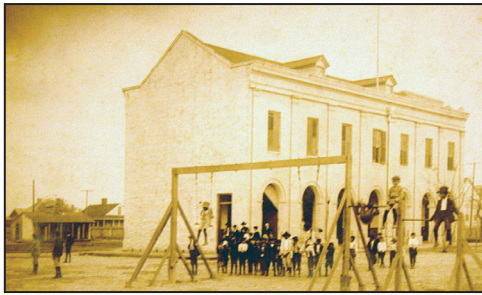
What are the benefits?

A charitable gift annuity is an irrevocable gift commitment, but one with excellent tax and financial benefits.

- **Investing in the Future**—you are supporting the mission of the Marist Brothers
- **Income for Life**—at attractive payout rates for the lives of one or two persons
- **Tax Deduction Savings**—a large part of what you transfer is a deductible charitable gift
- **Tax-Free Payout**—a large part of your annual payment is tax-free return of principal
- **Capital Gains Tax Savings**—when you contribute securities for a gift annuity, you minimize any taxes on your “paper profit”
- **Personal Satisfaction**

The History Of St. Joseph Academy

St. Joseph College was founded in 1865 by the Oblates of Mary Immaculate as a small parochial school in Brownsville, Texas. The Civil War years were a difficult time in Brownsville. After many struggles, delays and discouragements, the school opened and



The original brick school building shown in 1920. The first floor held the classrooms and the second story was used for housing the Marist Brothers.

closed several times. Invitations had been extended to the Marist Brothers from as early as 1837 to come to Brownsville, but it was not until the early 1900s that enough Brothers were available. On January 2, 1906, three Brothers from Mexico

City arrived by train to reopen the school. The Brothers, two Frenchmen and one Spaniard, immediately made preparations to establish a good academic institution.

The Superior, Rev. Br. Anthony Aubert, had Br. Paul Allemand, the youngest of the three, serve as cook because their meager income did not permit them to hire one. The wood fire was started in the stove before class began each morning. Br. Paul would hurry to the kitchen during recess to put the noon meal on to cook. After several months of rather poor meals, arrangements were made with the local Lavios Café to send the noon meal in canteens to the Brothers.



The dining area was also a library and work area for the Brothers.

In 1930, the name St. Joseph Academy was substituted



St. Joseph Academy in downtown Brownsville in the 1950s.

off Palm Boulevard on what is now the academy's Canales Field. Bleachers, showers and lighting facilities were constructed in 1950 for athletic activities. The new half-million dollar facility, including the Memorial Gym, won several awards for its modern architecture and beauty. Br. William Vessel, FMS, was the first principal at the new location.

Since 1959, St. Joseph Academy has continued to build on its rich tradition of high academic and religious standards. In 1972, the school went coed, admitting girls in the seventh, eighth and ninth grades. In 1975, the first coed class graduated, consisting of 13 girls and 34 boys. The academy takes pride in being an influential force in the development and direction of the City of Brownsville as many local government officials, businessmen, educators, doctors, farmers, lawyers, accountants and community leaders are academy alumni.

As St. Joseph Academy looks forward to its next 150 years, a very important addition to the campus with a new science complex is nearly complete. This complex

for St. Joseph College. In 1942, through the foresight of its director, Br. Louis Rod, the Brothers purchased a 21-acre site just



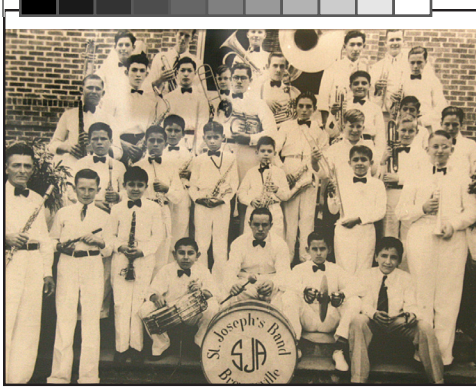
Academy Principals Brothers Henry Funeaux (left) and Paul Allemand

The Alumni of Bishop Dubois High School, New York, New York, 1946-76, wish to announce the installation of the stone and brass marker for the Dubois Cross.

The cross, which graced Dubois High School's facade, was salvaged and saved by alumni and beautifully reconstructed and designed by New York City's Palandrani & Mullen Architects. The Marist Brothers,

administrators of Mt. St. Michael Academy in the Bronx, offered a section of their central quadrangle for the monument, dedicated in loving memory to one their former school communities. Bishop Dubois alumni funded the construction, which was begun in May 2015.





The St. Joseph Academy Band in the 1940s.

will open new doors for instruction and learning through the use of new technology, and more stimulating learning environments to experience scientific processes and theories through hands-on and virtual learning. The addition of the new science complex allows the academy to meet the objectives of providing an optimal college-preparatory science curriculum while using green building methods, recycled materials, energy-efficient insulation, solar power and minimized energy usage, thereby reducing overall costs in the future while protecting the environment.



Camp Marist

For the **Best Summer** of your **Life!**



An outstanding overnight summer camp experience with a great Catholic tradition.
A Fun Place... A Safe Place... A Friendly Place
 Your Child Will Make "Friendships That Last A Lifetime"



Our 62nd Summer!
 Boys & Girls – Ages 6 to 16
 Great 2/3-week Sessions



More than 35 Activities to choose from...

- Horseback Riding · Water Skiing · Arts · Tennis
- Team Sports · Wind Surfing · Sailing · Swimming
- Go Carts · Ropes Course · Hiking · Camping · Karate
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For more information, contact us at:
(603) 539-4552
office@campmarist.org
 Or check us out online at:
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ESOPUS CORNER

We Stand On the Shoulders of Giants

By Br. Owen Ormsby, FMS

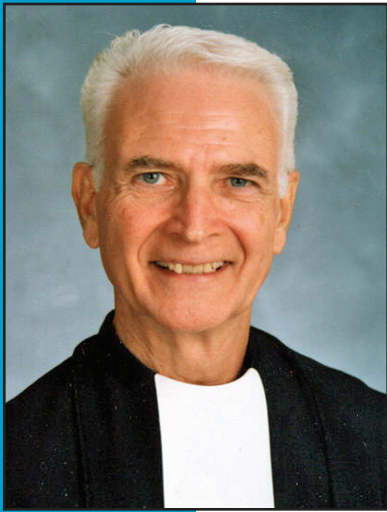


Spring is here! The school year is beginning to wind down and here at the Marist Brothers Center at Esopus (MBCE) we are gearing up for camp season. Our Mid-Hudson Valley Camp season is a series of nine one-week camp experiences for young

people. One of the camps is a freshman orientation for students entering Archbishop Molloy High School in Briarwood, New York. Like all our Marist schools, the Molloy administration and faculty want to provide new students with a strong foundation for a Marist education—an education which as the school motto, *"non scholae, sed vitae."* proclaims is "not for school, but for life." During the camp, a prayer service is held in our Marist cemetery. Faculty members stand by the graves of Brothers' who have served at Molloy, tell their stories, and give witness to how these Brothers lives touched their lives and molded them into the people they are today. The stories are told by lay people... and the tradition of this Marist school is passed on to a new generation of young people. They proudly proclaim, "We stand on the shoulders of giants."

I am struck by the many parallels between what happens each year in that cemetery and what happens in Esopus every week of the summer. There weren't always nine weeks of Camps. It has taken more than 40 years for that to happen. And the Mid-Hudson Valley camp communities also stand on the shoulders of giants. Their names are legendary: Declan, Leo Forrest, Dave Cooney, Steve Martin, Steve Kappes, Raoul Molnar, Leo Shea, Don Nugent... the list could go on. No doubt, their vision has been remolded over the years, but the Marist story is still being told. The camp directors are now entirely lay people. The work of the camps is now done by more than 500 volunteers: men and women who work tirelessly on behalf of others. Their experiences have been life-changing. This winter, during a counselor retreat, the veterans continued to pass on the tradition to a new generation. Many chose their professions due to what they learned here at camp. One staff member came into the MBCE office and saw a wooden banner of the Marist motto: *"To make Jesus known and loved."* "That is what we do here," she exclaimed! I totally agree.

St. John tells us quite simply:
"God is love"...and love abounds in Esopus.



Dear Friends,

Warmer weather, flowers blooming, birds chirping early in the morning...sure signs that we are well into the spring season! Can summer be far behind? Hopefully you are also enjoying a wonderful springtime in your hometown!

This year's 25th Annual Fund is quickly coming to a close. We thank all of you who have supported the Brothers over this past quarter-century! We couldn't have come this far without you! The spirit and charisma of our founder, St. Marcellin Champagnat, live on.

The dream of St. Marcellin to serve those most in need continues to live on through our schools and ministries. It lives on through our students and all the young people we serve each day. It lives on through our retreat programs and programs to enhance the understanding of our Marist charism in our lay colleagues. It lives on through our younger Brothers working tirelessly and our elderly and disabled Brothers praying quietly. And it certainly lives on through all of us who believe that the Marist Brothers make a difference in the world today.

Currently, we are in the midst of our yearly Retirement Appeal to provide support for the needs of our elderly and disabled Brothers. We rely on the generosity of our friends and benefactors to assist us in meeting these rising costs each year.

As members of our extended Marist Family, we invite you to lend your financial support to the Brothers. You may use the enclosed envelope or donate online through our website, www.maristbr.com, by clicking on "Donate Now" in the upper right corner.

Once again, we sincerely thank you for the kindness and continued generosity you have shown our Brothers. We are grateful to have you as part of our Marist Family.

Our thanks and best wishes,

Br. Hugh P. Turley, FMS

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

Paulette M. Karas

Paulette M. Karas, CFRE
Co-Director of Development

IN MEMORIAM



*Brother
Edward
Breslin*

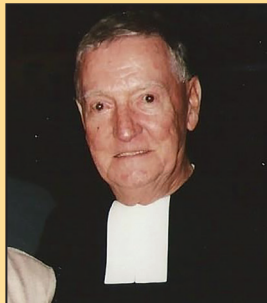
Br. Edward made first vows as a Marist

Brother in 1961. After completing his religious and bachelor studies he continued his pursuit of English at Manhattan College, New York City, and was awarded his MA at Catholic University in Washington, DC.

Br. Edward taught at Our Lady of Lourdes High School in Poughkeepsie, New York; Marist High School in Chicago, Illinois; St. Agnes High School in New York City; and Christopher Columbus High School in Miami, Florida. He also served as an assistant superintendent of schools for the Archdiocese of Newark, New Jersey, and as treasurer at both Mt. St. Michael Academy in the Bronx, New York, and Chaminade Madonna in Hollywood, Florida.

Br. Edward had a love of seeing small-town America. He shared his light manner and sense of humor aboard trains, boats and planes with his trusted friend, Br. Sumner Herrick.

Br. Edward retired from active ministry in 2004. After 56 years as a Marist, Br. Edward died on January 10, 2016. He was 77 years old.



*Brother
Nicholas
Caffrey*

Br. Nicholas served in the United States Marine Corps

before professing his first vows as a Marist Brother in 1958. He began his ministry in the Archdiocese of New York, serving as a teacher and administrator at Mt. St. Michael Academy in the Bronx. Later he worked as a teacher, assistant principal and principal at St. Joseph School in Trumbull, Connecticut. He received his MBA from Notre Dame University in 1971.

Later in his career, he served as principal at St. Francis Xavier School in West Virginia; as principal at St. Michael's School in Cranford, New Jersey; administrator of the Good Shepherd Nursing home in Wheeling, West Virginia; secretary for the Marist Brothers Poughkeepsie Province; treasurer at Mt. St. Michael Academy; and business manager of Sienna House, New York City from 1997 until his retirement in 2012 to Champagnat Hall, Bronx, New York.

Br. Nick, a Marist Brother for 59 years, died on March 10, 2016. He was 85 years old.



*Brother
Thomas
Lee*

Br. Thomas made first vows as a Marist

Brother in 1950. After completing his religious and academic studies at Marist College, Poughkeepsie, New York, he began his ministry in the Archdiocese of Newark, New Jersey, and went on to New York and Texas, where he continued a lifetime of service as a dedicated teacher, athletic director, Province treasurer and corporation controller. He received his MA in History from Seton Hall University in 1966.

His fellow Brothers described Br. Thomas as quiet, respectful, pleasant, helpful, well-read, open and service-oriented. He retired from active ministry in 2005 and continued to reside in the Marist Community in Los Fresnos, Texas, until he moved to Champagnat Hall in the Bronx, New York, in 2012. After 66 years as a Marist, Br. Thomas died on January 30, 2016. He was 85 years old.

To read additional obituaries on Brothers Edward, Nicholas and Thomas, as well as other recently deceased Brothers, visit www.maristbr.com, and under "About Us," click on "Marvelous Companions."

Real Brothers. Real Stories. A Real Difference.



For more information about a vocation to the Marist Brothers, visit:

www.maristbr.com

Or contact:

Br. Todd Patenaude, FMS

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Bronx, New York 10466

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The Marist Brothers Mission

To bring Christian education to young people, especially those who are most neglected.
(Article 2, Constitutions)

The Marist Brothers

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For more updates on what's happening in our Marist circles, visit www.maristbr.com and under "Communications," click on "What's New."



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The Marist Brothers

Remembrance in Prayer Program



The Marist Brothers offer two different series of Remembrance in Prayer cards: Traditional and All-Occasion cards. We have recently updated our signature Traditional card featuring the image of Christ and introduced a new Traditional Marial design. Both of these Traditional cards may be used as memorials to remember the deceased. Our two All-Occasion cards may be sent in honor of a birthday, wedding or anniversary or to extend 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 our new Traditional cards or refresh your supply of All-Occasion cards. Please send your request through email (maristbr@maristbr.org) or to the address at left.