



The Marist Brothers

SPRING 2019



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

TODAY'S Marist Brother

Christopher Columbus High School Turns 60!



Over the past six decades, Christopher Columbus High School in Miami, FL has grown and flourished in many ways, from facilities and enrollment to curriculum and alumni support.

Generations of Explorers have gone on to succeed in their personal and professional lives while leaving positive marks on their communities.

Columbus' school mission is "to make Jesus Christ known and loved, as we prepare young men for higher



education and for the continuous challenge of harmonizing faith, culture, and life." As a school family, CCHS challenges, inspires, and prepares students to embrace a life of personal excellence, devoted to service and the love of Jesus Christ, the unseen but ever-present teacher in their classes.

The leading factor for the great success of CCHS is the distinct Marist charism and values that pulse through the school community. This charism fosters an educational style that helps young people

identify and use their gifts to make a difference within our world while working in camaraderie with their fellow classmates and brothers.

Although many Marist Brothers have dedicated years of service to CCHS over the last 60 years, Br. Kevin Handibode is being celebrated this year for over 47 years at the school. Br. Kevin has been president of CCHS for 18 years and has held a pivotal role in the progress the school has made. He has touched the lives of thousands of Explorers, alumni, faculty, and staff.



More than 950 members of the Columbus community gathered to celebrate the 60th anniversary of the school with a gala in downtown Miami. Br. Patrick McNamara, Provincial of the Marist Brothers USA Province, gave special recognition to Br. Kevin and congratulated faculty, staff, and alumni for helping to foster the Marist charism and grow the Columbus community over the years. The Marist Brothers USA



Province gave the first donation to the newly-founded Br. Kevin Adelante Fund, a scholarship that will support future Columbus Explorers for many years to come.

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FROM THE DESK OF

the Provincial

SPRING 2019

Dear Marist Family,

In this spring and Easter season, may we continue to rejoice and celebrate our risen Lord Jesus Christ. Our savior is alive and is with us every day in our lives and work. As Marists, we feel His presence along with the support and care of our good mother, Mary, as we continue to live His Gospel.

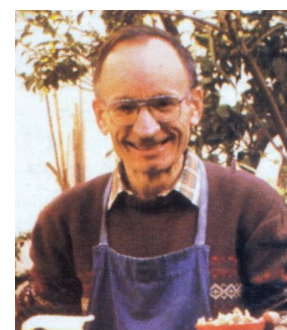
On December 8, 2018, Marist Br. Henri Verges (1930-94) was beatified by the Church in Oran (Algeria). Blessed Br. Henri belongs to the group of Pierre Claverie and 18 Companions, martyrs of Algeria. Br. Henri lived the Gospel through his presence as a Marist Brother, his ministry as a teacher, and as a librarian in the Islamic neighborhood of the Casbah in Algiers. Among the youth he was a man of faith and kindness, with calm and tranquil perseverance. Br. Henri was an authentic witness of Christ's love as he served the poor and marginalized.



On May 8, 1994, Br. Henri was murdered at work in his office with his colleague Sr. Paul-Helene. They and their Christian companions had committed no crime except to witness the Gospel. The murder was an attempt to extinguish the light and presence of Christ in the neighborhood. In faith, we believe Br. Henri's life, light, and witness, as well as that of his martyred companions, live on in the risen Christ. Their faithfulness is an encouragement for each of us as we pick up our daily cross and embrace our mission to make Jesus known and loved.

Blessed Br. Henri wrote in 1986, *"God has simply sent me to sow the seed in the field chosen by Him: thus to sow in peace and to leave him to look after the growth, without being surprised by the presence of the cross, as happened in the life of Jesus himself."*

Thanks to you, our USA Marist Family, for all of your support. In the same spirit as our blessed Br. Henri, we, Marists of Champagnat, are making significant efforts to journey with young people and to witness to Jesus' Gospel in our schools, retreat works, projects, and camps. In many tangible ways, the Marist family is the face and hands of God's tender mercy in responding to many needs of our young people in our global family.



In the hearts of Jesus, Mary, and Champagnat,

Br. Patrick McNamara, FMS

Br. Patrick McNamara, FMS
Provincial

Br. Patrick Hogan

Inducted Into Archbishop Molloy's Hall of Fame

Br. Patrick Hogan is one of the most recognizable and influential Marist Brothers in the history of Archbishop Molloy High School in Queens, NY. Known by many as Br. Pat, he dedicated over 55 years of service to Stanners as a teacher, coach, guidance counselor, volunteer, alumni director, alumni spiritual director, and friend. He has impacted generations of Stanners both in and out of the classroom and has created a legacy of service at the Marist Brothers Center in Esopus, NY through his work at camps for the deaf, adults with disabilities, children with Down's syndrome, and inner-city youth. In retirement, Br. Pat continues to spend each day at Molloy bringing a smile to every teacher and student he encounters.



ESOPUS CORNER

Written by: Br. Owen Ormsby, FMS

Spring is here! The earth is showing signs of new life and the season brings thoughts of how new beginnings are reflected in our Marist mission here in Esopus.

How can we best ensure that the charism of the Marist Brothers will continue? What role does the Marist Brothers Center at Esopus play in the "new beginnings" to which we are all called as we begin a third century of Marist life and mission?



As educators, we often look for quantitative assessment measures to ensure success. This can be a challenging task. In a center of evangelization, it is difficult to measure God's grace. It helps to step back and take in the bigger picture.



We have been proud to host the programs run by the Office of Marist Life and Mission. For nearly two decades, faculty members from our schools across the United States have gathered for Sharing Our Call I, Sharing Our Call II, Embracing Our Call, and Sharing Our Mission. Though the programs

vary in depth, the presentations are designed to help participants grow their understanding of St. Marcellin Champagnat, Marist pedagogy, Marist spirituality, and our Marist mission of evangelization.

Throughout the years our Province has benefited from these programs in many ways. They have given us a common vocabulary and helped us integrate recent Marist documents concerning pastoral ministry, religious education, and faith formation. They have helped us clarify and understand the five pillars of Marist life and the characteristics of our Marist schools. In many ways, these programs have played an essential role in helping us to bring into focus the essential parts of a charism to be handed on to those who will come after us. They have helped us to live out our identity as "keepers of the charism" with integrity.



The value and graces of this work have created not only a professional network of resources, but also a common relationship, a sense of Marist family, and a formation of Brothers and lay, together. The Marist vision has been remolded over the years, but the Marist story is still being told. The MBCE continues to be a part of that story.

We have been blessed with signs of new life. In this sacred space, on this holy ground, God's grace has spread to people in many ways. Hearts have been touched, lives have been changed, and Jesus is made known and loved.

Alleluia!

The Encuentro Project



The Encuentro Project, in Ciudad Juárez, Mexico, and El Paso, TX, offers services and lodging to migrants in the area between

the two cities. The project includes direct work with applicants for asylum, migrants, and refugees. It also offers Catholic social education about the lives of migrants on the frontier, through visits, meditation, and spiritual accompaniment.

The Encuentro Project is an inter-congregational, collaborative project which includes the Jesuits, the Marist Brothers, the Sisters of San Francisco of the Holy Family, lay people, and the Instituto Fronterizo Esperanza (Border Institute Hope). Marist Brothers Todd Patenaude (USA) and Navarrese Eduardo De La Torre (Western Mexico) have started a joint Marist community in the border area in El Paso.

Br. Todd, coordinator of the program and manager of the project house, recently answered questions about their missionary work on the border. "The project was born out of the last



General Chapter Meeting's push for the Brothers to go to the margins or boundaries of society. The Provinces of Mexico and of the United States decided to do a joint project addressing immigration and the problems that are being faced by migrant peoples," he explained.

How many immigrants and refugees do you work with?

At the shelter where Br. Eduardo and I work, we have been receiving anywhere from 150 to 500 migrants per week. However, this shelter is only one part of a system of hospitality centers in El Paso. The larger

system, which falls under the umbrella of Annunciation House, has been receiving between 500 and 2,500 immigrants per week.

Where do the immigrants come from and who are they?

The immigrants predominantly come from Guatemala, El Salvador, and Honduras. However, we also occasionally get immigrants from Mexico, Africa, Asia, and Russia. Recently, we have been receiving numerous immigrants from Cuba and Brazil. At the shelter where we work, we receive what is referred to as "non-detained asylum seekers," and they primarily consist of families (usually a single parent and one or more children) or single pregnant women.



What kind of services do you provide?

Typically, when people are released from United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement, they have little or no money or clothing and rarely any resources to purchase transportation or food. Hospitality centers take these people in and feed them, provide them with a bed, shower, and a fresh set of clothing, and communicate with their sponsors to buy transportation tickets. We also arrange for volunteers to transport them from the hospitality center to the airport, bus, or train station. Additionally, we provide them with enough food to reach their destination.

However, possibly the most important thing that we do is welcome people with open arms, treat them with dignity, love, and respect, and help them to feel safe after experiencing so much trauma in the places from which they come. It is amazing to see the power of love transform people from brow-beaten, traumatized, and terrified to happy, smiling, ever-so-grateful people.

Dear Friends,

Happy spring! Hopefully warmer weather has arrived in your part of the country. Here in Chicago we suffered through a record-breaking winter of frigid, polar vortex cold! The warmth and beauty of spring are most welcome as trees begin to bud and flowers begin to bloom.

This year's Annual Fund is quickly coming to a close. Our friends, relatives, alumni, and benefactors—our Marist Family—share in the legacy of the Marist Brothers bringing Christian education to young people, especially those most neglected. St. Marcellin Champagnat would be proud of his legacy that lives today through our entire Marist Family.

The dream of St. Marcellin to serve those most in need lives 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 opportunities to enhance the understanding of our Marist charism. 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.

If you have never contributed to the Brothers, please consider making your first gift by using the enclosed reply envelope, or visit www.maristbr.com and click the "Donate" button in the upper right corner. You will 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 Catholic education.

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

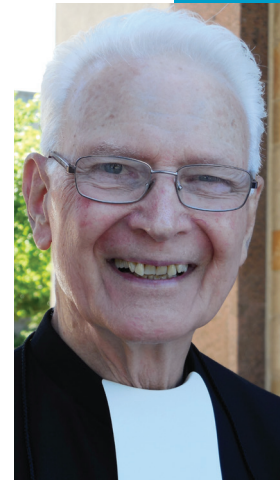
Our thanks and best wishes,



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



Paulette M. Karas, CFRE
Co-Director of Development



Let It Begin With Me!

An Excerpt from Br. Brian Poulin's Vocations Blog, "Thank God It's Saturday"

"Let there be peace on Earth, and let it begin with me." The lyrics to this song are well known, but how often do we pause to think about them? There is an urgency that indicates a distinct lack of peace to those who pay attention. After all, nothing heightens the yearning for

peace like having had some experience of it, knowing it is possible, and being in dire need of it.

In the homily I heard last Sunday, the Priest suggested paying attention to what things—or people—were distracting us from God, and dealing with them accordingly. I would modify this proposal by urging us to pay attention to what causes unrest in our lives.

Whenever we are not at peace, there is some kind of discord between our mentality and our surroundings. In other words, a lack of peace is a valuable sign for us that something is wrong and must be addressed. True peace is more than a

freedom from this unrest: after all, it may be possible to adapt our thinking to tolerate many things that should remain unacceptable. How many people have numbed themselves to the persistence of war and poverty with the cold comfort that "there is nothing I can do?" Real peace implies more than the cessation of hostility (which can be coerced), and more than a

subjective state of mind. Real peace can only exist in the context of justice, in which there is no reasonable cause for conflict.

I have often had difficulty with the Gospel quotation of Jesus that "[He has] not come to bring peace but a sword" (Matthew 10: 34). On first reflection, this doesn't sound like the Prince of Peace we spend time waiting for. I have come to see this quote as an affirmation that doing the work of justice, which is a requirement for peace, will often provoke violence from the powerful status quo. Heroic pursuit of peace does not mean compliance with injustice, but rather pursuing a world where a just peace can be more possible.

The Beatitudes say nothing about those who already are at peace. They proclaim as blessed those who "hunger and thirst for righteousness," who are "merciful," who are "persecuted for the sake of righteousness," and who are "peacemakers" in short, those who struggle for a better world (Matthew 5: 1-12). Perhaps we are not meant to be at peace just yet, but are rather meant to be pursuing it. In the meantime, we can start by paying attention to what disturbs our peace.

"Let there be peace on Earth, and let it begin with me." Don't allow me to be the only one to feel peace while others suffer, but rather give me the strength to step up and be an agent for peace (justice), because surely I know somebody in greater need for it than I am.



Br. Brian Poulin (left) and Br. Al Rivera (right) were recently named co-directors of vocations for the Marist Brothers USA Province. In this role, they help individual men determine whether or not they may be called to life as a Marist Brother. When suitable, they invite these discerners to initial formation.

For more information about a vocation to the Marist Brothers, visit www.maristbr.com/vocations or email vocations@maristbr.com.

IN MEMORIAM

Brother Rafael Martin

December 13, 2018



Brother Rafael G. Martin, FMS, died on Thursday, December 13, 2018. He was 94 years old, and was a Marist Brother for 77 years. Born in Cruces, Cuba, in 1924 but raised in Yaguajay, Br. Rafael entered the Marist Brothers Juniorate in Cienfuegos in 1938 and continued his religious formation in Espira de l'Agly, France, until he entered the Novitiate.

He moved to Pontos, Spain, during World War II. In 1943, Br. Rafael began teaching elementary school in Cienfuegos, and from 1944 until 1957 he was assigned to teach at Champagnat School in Havana. When the

Marist Brothers left Cuba in 1961, he worked until late 1962 in Colombia until he was transferred to Miami to work with "Pedro Pan," a work he later continued in Lincoln, Nebraska.

Since 1965, Br. Rafael has worked at Marist High School (Bayonne, NJ), Christopher Columbus High School (Miami, FL), Universidad de Monterrey (Mexico), and as director of religious education in Las Vegas, NV. His final ministry before retiring in 1995 was as a librarian at Christopher Columbus High School.

Br. Rafael coordinated the Cuban Marists Alumni, an activity he began in 1969. In 2009, he published *Colegio Champagnat de la Vibora, 1915-1961*, and *Presencia Marista en Cuba, 1903-1961*.

Brother Francis Klug

January 8, 2019



Brother Francis Klug, FMS, a member of the Marist Brothers of the Schools for 74 years, died on January 8, 2019, at Champagnat Hall in Bronx, NY. He was 91 years old.

After completing his religious and academic studies at Marist College (Poughkeepsie, NY), he professed his final vows in 1951,...

Br. Francis Klug, 3rd Paragraph – He also served as a teacher at St. Helena High School (Bronx, NY), St. Mar's School (Bronx, NY), St. Joseph High School (Laredo, TX), Marist High School (Bayonne, NJ), and Aquinas High School (Augusta, GA).

To begin his years of ministry, Br. Francis served as a teacher at St. Ann's Academy in New York City. He also served as a teacher at St. Helena School Bronx, NY; St. Mary's School Bronx, NY, St. Joseph High School (Laredo, TX), Marist High School (Bayonne, NJ), and Aquinas High School, (Augusta, GA). He also served as school treasurer at Marist High School in Bayonne, overseeing computerized records at Catholic Social Services in Augusta, and in the finance office at Guadalupe Middle School in Brownsville, TX.

After retiring to the Marist Brothers community in Los Fresnos, TX in 2004, he continued his retirement at Champagnat Hall in the Bronx, where he lived from 2013 until his passing.

To read additional obituaries on Brothers Rafael and Francis, as well as other recently deceased Brothers, visit www.maristbr.com, and under "Marist Archives," click on "Deceased Brothers."

Real Brothers. Real Stories. A Real Difference.



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

www.maristbr.com/vocations

Or contact:

Br. Al Rivera, FMS
Br. Brian Poulin, FMS

Marist Brothers
Provincial Office
70-20 Juno Street
Forest Hills, NY 11375

Phone: (718) 480-1306
Email: vocations@maristbr.com

The Marist Brothers Mission

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

The Marist Brothers

Mailing Address:
P.O. Box 413
Worth, Illinois 60482-0413
Phone: (773) 881-5343
Fax: (773) 881-3367

Email: maristbr@maristbr.org
Website: www.maristbr.com

For more updates on what's happening in our Marist circles, visit www.maristbr.com.



The Marist Brothers
Provincial Development Office
4200 West 115th Street
Chicago, Illinois 60655-4397

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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. Our signature Traditional cards feature the image of Christ and a 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 Traditional or All-Occasion cards. Please send your request through email (maristbr@maristbr.org) or to the mailing address at left.