

TODAY'S *Marist Brother*



THE MARIST BROTHERS

We Have A New Look!

In the process of designing a new logo for the Marist Brothers Province of the United States, the team of Brothers working on the project learned two very important things about logo design.

The first important learning was that no logo could contain or should contain all of the concepts or themes that we might associate with the Marist Brothers. For instance, "All to Jesus through Mary," "reading the signs of the times," "love them all equally" are difficult concepts to present in a single logo.

familiar Marist concepts and themes express who we are.

As a result, the new logo is very simple: an M with a background of colors suggesting stained glass.

A second version of that logo incorporates the faces of three of our Brothers: Rene Roy, Leo Shea, and Todd Patenaude. This logo is featured prominently in

Charlie Imbergamo, Steve Schlitte, Rene Roy, Al Rivera, and John Klein.

In addition to the print material and DVD, vocation posters and ads are being designed, and they feature Brothers Roy George, Peter Guadalupe, Todd Patenaude, and Rene Roy.

A significant part of our work with the Erbach Communications Group has been the redesign of our website. The most important tool in vocation recruitment today has proven to be websites. It is our hope to make the website attractive, inviting,



THE MARIST BROTHERS

The second important learning was that the logo should be designed for the general public as an *introduction* to the Marist Brothers. The general public is not familiar with the Marist concepts and themes that are so ingrained in us. The new logo is an introduction or doorway to the Marist Brothers. Once people get to know us, they will be able to appreciate how our

the new print material featuring the "stories" of a number of our U.S. Marist Brothers including: Brothers Steve Schlitte, Vito Aresto, Peter Guadalupe, Leo Shea, and the late Scotty Hughes. The stories are part of a print and video presentation called "Real Brothers. Real Stories. A Real Difference."

The DVD contains interviews with Brothers Todd Patenaude,

and informative for young men who might be interested in the Marist Brothers.

In addition, the new website will offer visitors the chance to learn about Marist ministries in the United States, our lay partners as well as our connection to the wider Marist world.

Inside

From the Desk
of the Provincial

Marist
Educators

The "Mission
Ad Gentes"
Project

Marist Family
Lay Service
Committee

Letter from the
Development
Office

Marcellin Guild
Members

In Memoriam

the provincial



Br. John Klein, FMS

Dear Members of the Marist Family,

In my letter to you this past Advent I asked for your help in the Marist Brothers' effort to create a "culture of vocations" that would encourage young men to consider committing to life as a Brother. I wrote, "... I want to ask you to encourage a young man who you think might have a vocation to consider a call to the Marist Brothers. History tells us that young men who have joined religious life have done so because they were personally invited and encouraged to respond to God's call. We need you to work with us so that many young men will walk in Marcellin's path."

Since then, our Vocation Team has launched a Communications Program entitled, "Real Brothers...Real Stories...A Real Difference." Through the use of a DVD and an accompanying booklet several Marist Brothers speak about the experiences that inspired them to become Brothers and situations that ultimately shaped their lives. Their stories are a powerful testament to faith, fellowship, and what happens when a Marist Brother makes a lifelong commitment to transforming the lives and situations of young people and challenging them to live their fullest potential in Christ.

I am very hopeful about the future of the Marist Brothers. Not too long ago, I listened to a radio interview with Neil Sedaka on NPR. The interviewer wanted to know why the singer/songwriter—with a number one hit under his belt every decade since the 1960's—was still writing songs. Mr. Sedaka's answer was simple and to the point. "The best one hasn't been written yet," he responded. I too believe that the best song for the life of the Marist Brothers remains unwritten.

In reading our Marist stories, I'm amazed and humbled by the depth of commitment to our mission and the commitment and love for the people we serve. I also learned new things about Brothers I've known for decades. When we tell our stories, it not only reminds us why we became Marist Brothers, but also, hopefully, will inspire others to explore this path.

One of the biggest challenges for us today is to honor the past, deal with the present, and look with confidence to the future. My hope and dream is that every Marist Brother, the lay people like yourself with whom we work, and the people we serve, will really believe as I do, that our best song hasn't been written yet.

Sincerely,

Br. John Klein

Br. John Klein, FMS
Provincial

Marist Educators



Miss Kate Authenreith
St. Agnes Boys High School
New York City

I cannot testify as to my experience as a lay Marist without discussing the beauty of St. Agnes Boys High School and how working at St. Agnes has made palpable to me the vision of Marcellin Champagnat. Every day, I am inspired to live out the dream of Champagnat by my students, by the Marist Brothers and by the colleagues whom I consider to be my closest friends.

When I first came to St. Agnes at twenty-one, I was at once invited into the Marist community through a genuine, tangible love and support that I didn't know would or could exist in my professional life. I now realize that my experience as a teacher could have been very different had I not been open to this sense of community that I didn't even know I craved. The encouragement by the Marist Brothers and by the school, especially by Brother Al Rivera and by Mr. Robert Conte who personally supported and mentored me during that trying first year of teaching, got me quickly and wholeheartedly involved in the spiritual life of St. Agnes and of the Marists. It was through this immersion in the spiritual life of the

school and of the Marist community that I was able to begin to know Marcellin Champagnat, and to begin to realize my own purpose as a Marist teacher within only weeks of becoming one.

I always laugh at the career advice I have too frequently been given by those who haven't shared my experience or have not thought to consider what my experience has meant to me: to get out of the field of Catholic education as soon as possible and to avoid the dangers of becoming too emotionally involved in work. It is impossible and foolish for me to separate myself from what I do, because my work as a Marist teacher is the realest expression of who I am.



Mr. Pedro Garcia-Casals
Christopher Columbus
High School
Miami, Florida

A vocation, much like Marcellin's way of educating, is personal, rooted in real life, and practical. God calls us to meet the needs of the here and now, but the call starts with a friendship. In this sense, my vocation as a lay Marist began and is sustained as much by my friendship with the



Brothers as it is tied in and enriched by my life as a husband and a father.

I really first heard about the work of the Brothers from family elders who to this day cherish their 'Marista' years in Cuba as life-defining moments.

Piqued by curiosity and wanting to know more about the life of this man who had so stirred people across continents, I ventured into Brother Jean Baptist's biography of Father Champagnat. His life impelled me to read and reflect on other documents of the Marist Brothers. Yet again, it is really because of the testimony and friendship with the Brothers that I am better able to define Marcellin's charisma and my role as a Marist educator.

Marcellin's translation of the Gospel into a life dedicated to loving young people through education was certainly as revolutionary with the youth of his day in rural France as it is now for me here in Miami, Florida. The challenge today may seem a bit more complex, but the dream of educating in the Gospel – acknowledging and respecting the wholeness of the human person and sharing a way of life rooted in the person of Jesus Christ – is very much a needed reality to counter our broken homes and materialistic, self-serving social mores. Insofar as I attempt to live Marcellin's zeal for making education a genuine act of love, I believe that I am Marist.

The “Mission Ad Gentes” Project



Brs. Gerard and Hilario at a small primary school in the town of Tupi, Barangay, Bunao in South Cotabato, Philippines.

In December 2005, Br. Sean Sammon, Superior General, invited all Marist Brothers throughout the world to consider his invitation to be part of a “Mission Ad Gentes” effort to Asia. In doing so, Br. Sean reminded the Brothers that “we are missionary by nature.” St. Marcellin Champagnat, founder of the Marist Brothers longed to go to the missions of the Pacific, but ill-health and administrative needs forced him to stay in France.

The plan, as Br. Sean explained it, would send 150 or more Brothers over the next four years to new works throughout the countries of Asia. In choosing Asia, Br. Sean reminded the Brothers that the Marist Constitutions

and Statutes tell us that we should have a particular concern for countries which have not been evangelized and for the young Churches. The late Pope John Paul II hoped that “in the Third Christian Millennium a great harvest of faith will be reaped in this vast

and vital continent of Asia.”

While Asia is home to approximately two-thirds of the world’s population, there are fewer than 200 of 4,200 Marist Brothers serving in an area that the United Nations has identified as the world’s poorest region when it comes to young people.

In preparation for this new venture seventeen Marist Brothers began their four month orientation program in Davo City , the Philippines on August 7, 2006. Br. Gerard Brereton from the Province of the United States was one of the members of this group. The other sixteen Brothers came from Argentina, Australia, Germany, Ghana, Madagascar, Malawi, Mexico, Nigeria,

Peru, Philippines, and Spain.

While all of the Brother participants are experienced in ministry, the focus of the orientation session was to prepare them for this new and challenging ministry. As a result, the goals of the orientation program focused on the ability *to grow in one’s spirituality for mission ad gentes, to grow in one’s ability to live in an inter-cultural and international Marist missionary community, to grow in one’s relationship with oneself in a new cultural milieu, to develop an awareness and sensitivity to Marist mission and solidarity, and to develop a sensitivity and appreciation for Asian cultures, religions, and the local churches.*

The overall goal of the orientation session was for each Brother to discern whether or not he was being called to the new “Mission Ad Gentes” project.

In recalling his participation in the orientation program, Br.

Gerard explained how participation in small and large group sharing, confer-

The population of Tupi is estimated to be 50% Muslim, 45% B’laan (a tribal people) and 5% Christian.





Brs. Gerard and Hilario (center) meeting with a fraternity of the Champagnat Movement of the Marist Family at the University of Marbel in Koronadal City, South Cotabato. The house was built by the first Marist Brothers when they came from the United States in 1948.

ences on the history and spirituality of Asia, as well as days of recollection and retreat, helped him decide that he was called to be part of the “Mission Ad Gentes” effort.

Part of the orientation program involved practical, “hands on” work in the Philippines. Br. Gerard and Br. Hugo Rivera (Mexico) spent several hours each Saturday working with Mother Teresa’s Missionaries of Charity in their work of caring for 40 boys and girls

side village near the town of Padada, southwest of Davo City where the orientation program was held.

The culmination of the orientation program came on December 8th when Br. Gerard and the other participants were missioned by Br. Sean Sammon, our Superior General. At the missioning ceremony, Br. Gerard learned that he would be teaching English to candidates and novice Marist

ranging in age from new-borns to pre-teens.

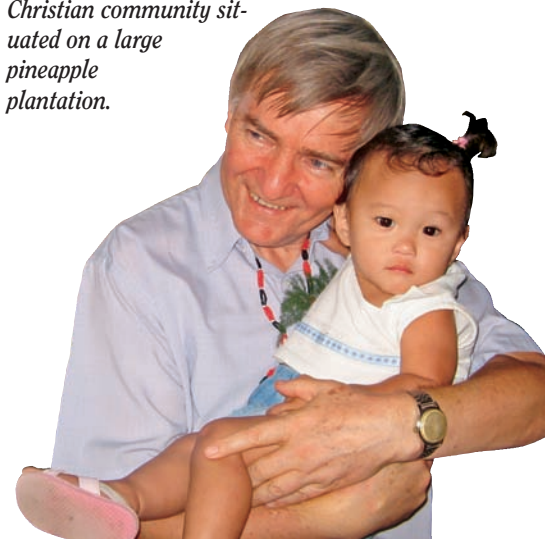
At another point in the program Br. Gerard and Br. Hilario Scwab (Argentina) spent two weeks living with the Marist Brothers community at Notre Dame of Marbel University in Koronadal City.

Br. Gerard says that the most challenging and rewarding experience for him was the ten days he spent living with a Filipino family in a sea-

Brothers in Ansan, Korea in an effort to prepare them for their ongoing education at the English Language Marist Asia Pacific Center in Manila, the Philippines.

We offer Br. Gerard and his fellow Brothers our prayerful support as they begin their new ministries in Asia.

Br. Hilario at a small elementary school in Barangay Maligo, in the city of Polomok, South Cotabato. The school belongs to a Christian community situated on a large pineapple plantation.



MARIST FAMILY LAITY SERVICE COMMITTEE

A new service committee has been formed in order to serve all lay Marists.

The Marist Family consists of five branches: four vowed congregations and the laity associated with each of these groups. These laity strive to live the spirituality and participate in the mission of each of the Marist congregations. Recently, there has been an effort among the different lay groups to open channels of communication, explore common interests, and examine how the groups might help one another in the future.

The purpose of the committee is to foster communication and collaboration through the sharing of resources and ideas

among all Marist lay groups. This sharing will facilitate a greater understanding and living of Marist spirituality and further the work of Mary. Among the tasks of the new committee are a website, the formulating of a Marist spirituality for laity, and the planning of a third National Laity Conference.

For more information go to www.maristlaity.org, and select “Marist Family Laity Service Committee” (on the right side).

How can we help you? What would you or your group like to see done? All comments and suggestions are welcome.

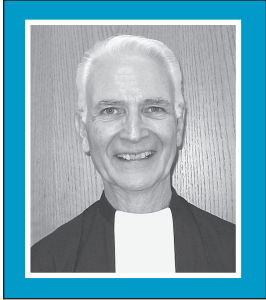


Please contact:

Mrs. Patricia Zirkel, Chair
Marist Family Laity
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472 Village Oaks Lane
Babylon, NY 11702

(631) 669-0273
pzirkel@optonline.net

Dear Friends,



Br. Hugh P. Turley, FMS



Paulette M. Karas

First and foremost we join with the entire Province in thanking you for your loyal support and concern for the Brothers and our work with young people. Your financial support, your prayers, your inspirational encouragement and participation in our work spurs us on to meet the needs of today's youth ever more effectively.

As we look enthusiastically to the future we realistically see the need for additional Brothers to continue St. Marcellin Champagnat's educational legacy to the youth in America. Br. John Klein, Provincial, addresses this issue in his letter and sketches out our current steps for increasing vocations to the Marist Brotherhood.

We additionally see the need for a strong financial future. The care of our elderly and infirm Brothers along with the professional and religious training of our new and current Brothers will make even greater demands on

our future financial resources.

You may join in that future by making your first gift to the Brothers using the reply envelope in this newsletter. You will then be among so many of our other loyal friends who believe, as you do, in the future of the Marist Brothers and our mission of sound Christian and Catholic education.

Another direct way of extending your support into the future is to place the Marist Brothers in your Will or your Estate Plan. Below is an offer for our latest informational booklet on Wills. Request your copy today.

As we continue in the footsteps of St. Marcellin Champagnat we ask for your continued support, prayers and encouragement. And may Our Lord and his Blessed Mother watch over you and your loved ones during the upcoming summer months!

Br. Hugh

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

Paulette

Paulette M. Karas, CFRE
Co-Director of Development

Donate Online!

If you would like to make a donation to the Marist Brothers Annual Fund or any of our other programs, you can now go online and make your gift through our secure website, www.maristbr.com. Click on "Support the Brothers" on the left side of your screen. It is a fast, convenient way to lend your support to the Brothers. Thank you!



Planned Giving

As your former teachers, the Marist Brothers urge you to make or consider updating your Will. Take the time now to plan for the future of your loved ones and your interests.

Today, over 50% of Americans die without a Will. A lifetime of savings may bypass family and loved ones if your estate is settled by the government. However, by writing your Will and keeping it up to date, you can guide the distribution of your assets and be sure that your family, friends and the organizations you care about will benefit in accordance with your wishes.

Our latest 16-page booklet, *TECHNIQUES FOR PLANNING A SUCCESSFUL WILL*, can help. It is directed primarily to techniques for planning your Will as a thoughtful, efficient and warmly human document. It is clear, thorough and uses examples throughout. Request your free copy by emailing us (maristbr@aol.com) or checking off the request box on the inside flap of the reply envelope in this newsletter.



NEW MARCELLIN GUILD MEMBERS...

A warm welcome and sincere thanks to [Mr. and Mrs. Richard Arab](#), [Mr. and Mrs. Patrick J. Keilty](#), [Mr. and Mrs. Paul and Pamela Rinn](#), [Mr. and Mrs. Patrick F. Ryan](#) and [Mr. and Mrs. Matthew C. Zebrowski](#), 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. James L. Bowman
 Ms. Margaret A. Brand
 Ms. Pat Adams Brillli
 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
 Mr. and Mrs. Jeffrey Cull
 Rev. James F. Degnan
 Mr. and Mrs. William F. Donahue
 Rev. Edward P. Doran

Mr. Pierce J. Fitzgerald
 Mr. and Mrs. Theodore L. Fortino
 Dr. Richard D. Foy
 Mr. and Mrs. G. Patrick Gallagher
 Lt. Gen. Walter T. Galligan
 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
 Mrs. Mary T. Keihner
 Mr. and Mrs. Patrick J. Keilty
 Dick and Bernie LaChance
 Mr. Joseph P. Lambert
 Ms. Margaret A. Lazzaro
 Mr. and Mrs. Gilbert J. Levesque
 Dr. and Mrs. Martin Lyden

Mrs. Simone Malick
 Mr. and Mrs. James F. McGee
 Mr. Matthew J. Merritt, Jr.
 Mr. and Mrs. Donald J. Mulcare
 Mr. Ken Murrin
 Mrs. Alberta P. Neidt
 Ms. Mary O'Keeffe
 Mr. Hugh D. O'Rourke
 Mr. and Mrs. Norman W. Paris
 John and Peg Perring-Mulligan
 Dr. and Mrs. Daniel J. Pisano
 Miss Colette Rasche
 Mr. Robert S. Reeder
 Mr. and Mrs. Paul and Pamela Rinn
 Mr. John R. Robinson
 Mr. and Mrs. Patrick F. Ryan
 Mr. Ralph Saier
 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 proudly remind others of their potential to follow your example.

Teacher Mentor Caregiver Poet Friend Minister Chaplain *Brother* In Memoriam



Brother Conan Vincent Dinnean died in Miami, Florida on January 3, 2007. Brother Vincent celebrated his 66th anniversary as a Marist Brother in June 2006. Brother Vincent was born in New Haven, Connecticut in 1915 and professed his first vows as a Marist Brother in 1940. He served as a well-known and well-loved educator in Marist schools in New York City, the Bronx, Augusta,

Georgia, Trumbull, Connecticut, and Lawrence, Massachusetts.

There is much for which Br. Conan will be remembered. He had a wonderful sense of humor and had a remarkable faith which sustained him through tremendous change in both the Church and religious life. He had a remarkable ability to adapt to the changing youth to whom he ministered for almost 60 years. Most importantly, Conan loved his Brothers, and they loved him.



Brother Simeon Arthur Ouellet died in Miami, Florida on February 18, 2007. Born in Lawrence, Massachusetts in 1928, he professed his first vows as a Marist Brother in 1946. Brother Simeon served as a teacher and librarian in Marist schools in Lowell, Massachusetts, New York City, Wheeling, West Virginia,

the Bronx, Chicago, Japan, and Miami.

Turning a hobby into a career, Brother Simeon served as the archivist at the Marist Brothers General House in Rome and then as the archivist for the Province of Poughkeepsie when he returned to the States.

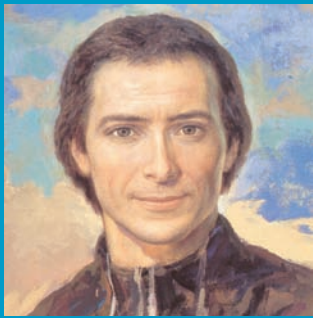
Although he retired in 2004, Brother Simeon was busier than ever through his energetic involvement in his local parish in Miami.



Brother Bernard Ruth died in Miami, Florida on March 26, 2007. Born in Germany, Brother Bernard made his first profession of vows in Bairo, Italy in 1958. After completing his education at Marist College in Poughkeepsie, New York, Brother Bernard taught in Marist schools in Briarwood, New York and

Middle Village, New York before becoming a Floridian in 1966. From 1966 until his death, Brother Bernard served at Marist schools in Miami.

Brother Bernard was a multi-talented man who loved being a Marist Brother. He was a kind, outgoing man who loved life and lived it to the fullest.



The Marist Brothers

Men of
Prayer
Men of
Community
Men of
Service

**Are you
interested in
making a
difference?**

For more information,
please contact:

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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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Contributors: Br. Gerard Brereton, FMS, Br. John Klein, FMS, Mr. and Mrs. Gene Zirkel

The mission of the Marist Brothers of the Schools (FMS) is to bring Christian education to young people, especially those who are most neglected.

The Marist Brothers

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The Marist Brothers' Remembrance in Prayer Program

Introducing Our New Designs...

The Marist Brothers are pleased to announce the debut of our new Remembrance in Prayer card designs! We have updated our signature card, featuring the image of Christ, and introduced a brand new Candle and Cross design. These Traditional cards may be used as memorials to remember the deceased. Our two new All Occasion cards may be sent in honor of a Birthday, Wedding, 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 our new cards. Please request them through email (maristbr@aol.com) or send your request to the address on this newsletter.

