



The Marist Brothers

SPRING 2014

TODAY'S *Marist Brother*



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

Marist Brothers Center at Esopus

By Br. Owen Ormsby, FMS,
Executive Director

The mission of the Marist Brothers Center at Esopus (MBCE) has the special ministry of hospitality as one of its foundation stones. This warm reception of guests finds its origins in the early days of our Institute. Every year our founder, St. Marcellin Champagnat, would send a circular letter to the early Brothers in anticipation of their return to the Hermitage. His writing included these words: "I look forward so much to the joy of having you come here, to this house, in the care of Mary, our Good Mother...It is a very real and deep happiness for me to see you coming from afar, one in heart and mind, forming one and the same family..."

As Mike Trainor, Director of Building and Grounds, Matt Fallon, Director of Operations, and the Executive Director, work together as the administrative team of MBCE, these words of Marcellin's continue to inspire us on a daily basis. It is this sense of Marist "family spirit" that exhorts us to foster a welcoming



and comfortable environment for all guests and visitors. We really want our guests to know that they indeed, matter, and that we are glad they came. We also hope that they will return often. And they do, season after season. Why? Because each of them comes to understand that Esopus is a special place and all come away with a sense that they have stood on holy ground. It is evident to all our visitors that God's grace continues to be at work here.

None of this is new. We are standing on the shoulders of giants, living and deceased, who have walked this way before us. At the same time, we aspire to make a contribution to shape the future of Marist ministry in the United States. The legacy of Esopus is rich and the past, present and future are beautifully interwoven into a beautiful tapestry.

In The Footsteps of Marcellin Champagnat, the hallmark text outlining a vision for Marist educators, urges us, Brothers and lay people, together, to face the future with audacity and hope. Here at MBCE, we have a unique opportunity to evangelize both young people and adults. Esopus is a place that changes lives and transforms hearts; it is distinctly Marist in its charism and simplicity. There is a palpable power in the strength of the connection so many feel with Esopus.



Inside

From the Desk of the Provincial

Marcellin Guild

Marist Young Adult Program

Letter from The Office of Development

Noteworthy News



FROM THE DESK OF

The Provincial

SPRING 2014



Dear Fellow Marists,

This past February, in the midst of one of the coldest and snowiest winters in the North east, the Marist Brothers welcomed three new novice Brothers into our novitiate in Esopus, New York: Sam Amos, James Hodge and Jack O'Sullivan. For me, their entrance into our formation program represented a bit of life in the midst of a cold, frozen winter. It reminded me that Spring cannot be too far away!

New life is always a recurring theme as we move into Spring. For us, the Marist Brothers Center at Esopus, has always been a place of new life, regardless of the season. The property has served—and continues to serve—as a center of formation and of spirituality for Brothers, for other adults, and for young people; it is a place in which simplicity facilitates the awareness of the presence of God. In our Marist lore, Esopus is sacred space—holy ground—where God's grace continues to touch thousands of people in many different ways. In a real way, Esopus exists because many people, starting with St. Marcellin Champagnat, took risks and trusted in God. The fruit of this initiative continues to manifest itself in Esopus through our summer camps for special needs children, our Marist encounter and retreat programs, our adult and young adult formation programs, and in the lives of the countless volunteers who live lives of service and compassion.

In this edition of *Today's Marist Brother*, you will read more about the ministry of the Marist Brothers Center at Esopus and our Marist Young Adult Program, which invites interested young adults between the ages of 18 and 30 to explore further their Christian faith. It is through spiritual, social and service activities coordinated by Marist young adults, both online and in person, that young adults—the future of our Church and mission—experience an alive and vibrant faith rooted in the Marist tradition. We have so much to be thankful for!

Thank you for all the support you continue to give the Marist Brothers and our colleagues. May our good and gracious God, his son, Jesus, and Mary, our ordinary resource, continue to bless you and your loved ones in the days ahead.

Sincerely,

Br. Ben Consigli, FMS
Provincial

NEW MARCELLIN GUILD MEMBERS...

A warm welcome and sincere thanks to **Mr. John P. Briody, Mr. Charles H. Gallant, Ms. Madeleine Soudee and Mr. William B. Van Riper III**, our newest members of the Marcellin Guild. Guild members 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. Thank you!

THE MARCELLIN GUILD

Anonymous

Dr. and Mrs. Robert J. Bettini
Mr. Roland J. Blanchette
Mr. and Mrs. William J. Bluemer
Mr. Gregory F. Boyle
Ms. Margaret A. Brand
Ms. Pat Adams Brilli
Mr. John P. Briody
Mr. and Mrs. Frank Carey
Mr. Robert Carey
Mr. Robert J. Casale
Mr. and Mrs. Edward R. Castine, Jr.
Mr. Clinton A. Cobb
Mr. George M. Conboy
Mr. Thomas G. Connors
Mr. Jeffrey Cull
Ms. Maureen Currey
Miss Carol A. Dever
Mr. and Mrs. William F. Donahue
Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Donnelly
Rev. Edward P. Doran
Major Arthur G. Eichler
Mr. and Mrs. Michael B. Feddeck
Mr. Pierce J. Fitzgerald
Mrs. Nancy S. Fortino
Dr. Richard D. Foy
Mr. and Mrs. G. Patrick Gallagher
Mr. Charles H. Gallant

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. William I. James
Mr. and Mrs. J. David Kammer
Mr. Edward Kane
Mr. and Mrs. Patrick J. Keilty
Mr. Donal M. Kelleher
Rev. Dr. Eric R. King
Dick and Bernie LaChance
Mr. Joseph P. Lambert
Mr. and Mrs. Jephtha H. Lanning
Ms. Margaret A. Lazzaro
Nicholas and Amelia Limongelli
Mr. William J. Loschert
Dr. and Mrs. Martin Lyden
Ms. Frances R. Lyon
Mrs. Edward J. Lyons
Mr. Robert H. Mace, Jr.
Mr. Harold F. Malone, Jr.
Mr. and Mrs. David Marsh
Rev. David L. Martin
Mr. and Mrs. James F. McGee
Ms. Judith A. McLaughlin

Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Mercier
Mr. Matthew J. Merritt, Jr.
Mr. Edward C. Mesco
Mr. Bernard Miskiv
Mr. and Mrs. Donald J. Mulcare
Mr. Matthew Murphy
Mr. Ken Murrin
Dr. Gary and Lois Neidert
Mrs. Alberta P. Neidt
Mr. Hugh D. O'Rourke
Mr. and Mrs. Norman W. Paris
John and Peg Perring-Mulligan
Dr. and Mrs. Daniel J. Pisano
Mr. Robert S. Reeder
Ms. Doris A. Reischach
Mr. and Mrs. Paul and Pamela Rinn
Mr. and Mrs. Patrick F. Ryan
Ms. Ritajean Schmidt
Dr. Stephen T. Slack
Ms. Madeleine Soudee
Mr. Joseph W. Strang
Mr. Frank Sutton
Mr. William B. Van Riper III
Mr. John H. Vanier, Jr.
Mrs. Pauline Rose Veltry
Mr. and Mrs. John R. Wilcox
Mr. and Mrs. Matthew C. Zebrowski



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.

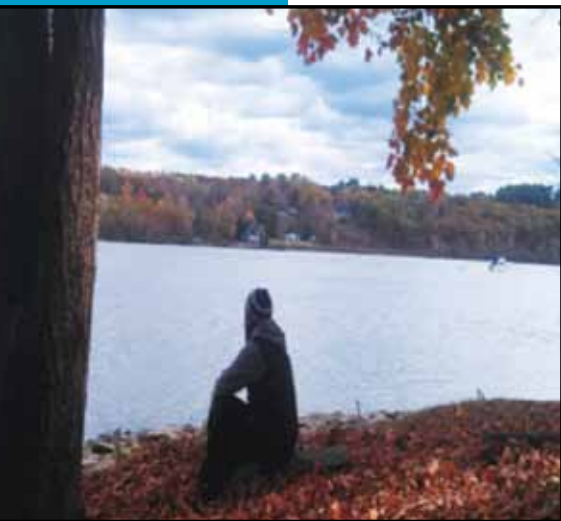
What are the benefits?

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

To learn more, contact Br. Hugh Turley, FMS, at (773) 881-5343 or email: maristbr@maristbr.org

Young people and adults alike find the MBCE a place for retreat and renewal. More than 4,000 young people and adults will pass through our center as part of our evangelization programs this year. During summer months, MBCE hosts a nine-week series of camps for marginalized and special needs children. More than 700 campers and 500 volunteer counselors, cooks, medical, maintenance and waterfront personnel will partake in The Mid-Hudson Valley Camp. The numbers, however, only tell part of the story.



There is a real culture of giving here. It is very strong and very deep. It is a culture for which Esopus is renowned. Throughout the year, hundreds of volunteers and benefactors open their hearts and "pay it forward." This generous donation of time, talent or treasure enables God's grace to touch the lives of all those entrusted to our care. Our volunteers and benefactors are truly our partners and we gratefully acknowledge, their essential participation in our mission.

The Esopus property has also enjoyed a rich history in religious formation and we continue to add to this treasured part of our heritage. Our novices, Sam Amos (USA) and Jack O'Sullivan and James Hodge (Australia), have brought new life to us and our visitors as they deepen their understanding of living Marist life. Marist and non-Marist school retreat programs, vocation promotion programs and focused evangelization programs offer educational and renewal opportunities for



students, faculties, Marist Youth, Marist Young Adults and the Mid-Hudson Valley Camp community to join together as partners in keeping alive the spirit of Marcellin. Service programs with our young people (The LaValla weekend, Foundation Stones and Spring Break) have enabled us to build a sense of community based on our Marist heritage while making improvements benefiting our Outdoor Chapel, the restoration of the Stations of the Cross encircling our cemetery, our Peace Pole Plaza and the recent addition of the Champagnat Meditation Walk.



Mike Trainor (left); Br. Owen Ormsby, FMS; and Matt Fallon

There is much to do. We, like Marcellin, believe that if God desires this work then the resources needed to make the best use of this marvelous resource for the Marist Brothers mission and ministries will be found. More than ever, we are convinced that "a plan that is supported by the Brothers and that assures the future for the ministries at Esopus can be a unifying force, a center for the Province, and a place with visibility and identity for all vowed and lay Marists" (Strategic Plan 2017).

Marist Young Adult Program

By Br. Steve Milan, FMS, Director

"Got Marist?" That's a question often seen and heard this Spring among members of the Marist Young Adult (MYA) Program. In February, the group launched a campaign that began with the

distribution of "got marist?" stickers,

evolved into a contest on social media and ended in the distribution of promotional materials featuring the "got marist?" logo. In between, the group hosted weekly "Marist Monday Challenge" on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram, and sold "got marist?" T-shirts to raise funds for Marist efforts in Jamaica.

In many ways, this campaign mirrors the way MYA has approached its mission since it began in September 2007. The mission of the program is to invite interested young adults to explore their Christian faith more deeply. Through spiritual, social and service activities, both online and in person, these young adults can experience an alive and vibrant faith rooted in the Marist tradition. According to Matt Fallon, first chair of the Marist Young Adult Advisory Committee (MYAAC) and a key figure in launching the program, the online component sets the program apart from other young adult and Marist efforts.

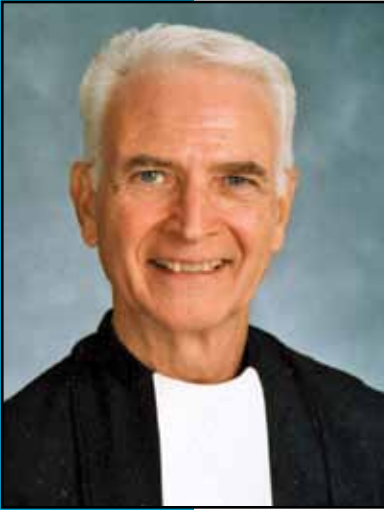
"From the very beginning, we knew we needed to use available technology to create and sustain a community and to evangelize one another," he explained. One of Matt's first acts was to establish a Facebook page which today has almost 1,500 members. This initial use of technology has led to a website, mobile app, Twitter and Instagram accounts.

Catherine Weening, New Jersey regional representative on the MYAAC, observed, "With so many different people in so many different parts of the country, it's just not realistic that we can all personally meet one another. Without leaving their desks, MYA bloggers share a part of themselves in each post they publish." Opal Vadhan, New York regional representative, added, "It's wonderful to connect with Marists in Spain, Australia and other countries. It shows us that the Marist family is international." And Juan Antonio Solis, Texas regional representative, noted, "On-line chats provide a forum for MYAs to share ideas about ways they have stayed involved in their communities and with their faith during college."



Current MYAAC chair Luis Ramos believes the group's use of technology will continue to grow. As we use it to make our digital footprint, we can share our light with the greater internet community," he said." He has already gotten Marcellin Champagnat to tweet! What's next?

For more information about the MYA, visit www.MaristYoungAdult.com and the Marist Young Adults page on Facebook. You can also follow the Marist Young Adult Program on Twitter and Instagram @maristyoungadult and Marcellin Champagnat on Twitter @St_Marcellin.



Dear Friends,

HAPPY SPRING! Hopefully Spring has arrived in your part of the country. Here in Chicago we suffered through a record-breaking winter of frigid cold and endless snow! The beauty of spring is a welcomed sight as trees begin to bud and flowers begin to bloom.

During this spring season, the Development Office begins to take a look at how things have gone for us over the past year. We would like to thank everyone who has lent a financial hand to the Brothers and their ministries. Your support is gratifying.

We are encouraged by your financial support, which is so critical for us to continue the work our founder, St. Marcellin Champagnat, began in 1817. We are thankful for your gifts to ease the financial burden of rising health care costs for our elderly and disabled Brothers. Our Brothers in special ministries are also thankful for the assistance your donations give them. In short, we could not be as effective in carrying out our mission without your financial and prayerful support.

This year, the Marist Brothers have also begun a new Gift Annuities Program. We have partnered with the National Catholic Community Foundation to offer charitable gift annuities to our Marist family. More information on this new program is on page 3.

If you have not yet contributed to either our Annual Fund or Spring Retirement Appeal, you can donate online by visiting www.maristbr.com and clicking the "Donate Now" tab on the left sidebar. You can also send your support by using the envelope enclosed. Every gift, no matter the size, is greatly appreciated.

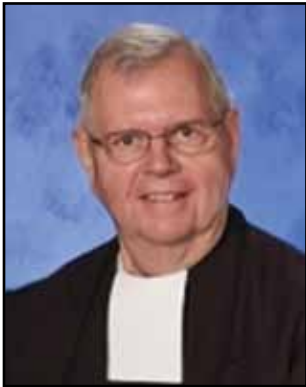
Again, thank you for being a special part of our lives.

Sincerely,

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

Paulette M. Karas, CFRE
Co-Director of Development

Noteworthy News



Br. Michael Brady, FMS, is stepping down after a six-year term as principal of Christopher Columbus High School, Miami, Florida. Br. Michael has also served the Columbus community as the admissions director and campus minister. Br. Michael will return to the Campus Ministry department.



Br. Ben Consigli, FMS, Provincial of the U.S. Province, was one of 10 individuals inducted into the Diocese of Brooklyn's Hall of Fame. As sons or daughters of the Brooklyn Diocese, inductees were honored for their service to the local community, the Church or the arts. Congratulations, Br. Ben!

Mt. St. Michael Academy, Bronx, New York, is beginning an extensive two-year program to restore and improve its facilities. Critical repairs include replacing roofs and windows and making repairs to the plumbing, electrical and ventilation systems. While much of the work is not readily visible, this prudent infrastructure investment will preserve and restore the iconic buildings that will serve students at the Mount for many years to come.



Br. Seán Sammon, FMS, recently published a revised version of *A Heart That Knew No Bounds: The Life and Mission of Saint Marcellin Champagnat*. His two latest articles are "Religious Life May Be Diminished, But It Is Surely Not Dying," published in *Human Development*, and "Changing U.S. Culture, the World of Young Catholics, and the Promotion of Vocations to Religious Life," which will appear this Spring in *Horizon* magazine. Br. Seán continues to serve on Marist College's Board of Trustees.



Camp Marist

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



An Outstanding Overnight Summer Camp Experience with a Great Catholic Experience

A Fun Place... A Safe Place... A Friendly Place
Your Child Will Make "Friendships That Last A Lifetime"

Our 64th 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 • Golf • Ceramics • Special Trips
... much, much more!

For more information, contact us at:
(603) 539-4552
office@campmarist.org
Or check us out online at:
www.CampMarist.org



OSPEL LAKE, NEW HAMPSHIRE 91503



Br. Emili Turu, FMS, Superior General of the Marist Brothers, announced the appointment of Br. Patrick McNamara, FMS, to a new role as a member of the international community of Prévessin-Moëns (in France, near the Swiss border), effective October 1, 2014. This community is at the service of the Marist International Solidarity Foundation and works with the United Nations in Geneva, Switzerland, with the Committee on the Rights of the Child. Br. Patrick has most recently been President of Marist High School in Chicago, Illinois.

Real Brothers. Real Stories. A Real Difference.



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

Or contact:

Br. Michael Sheerin, FMS
Br. Daniel O'Riordan, FMS
1241 Kennedy Blvd.
Bayonne, NJ 07002

Phone: (201) 823-1115
Email: vocations@maristbr.com



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

NON PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
CAROL STREAM, IL
PERMIT NO. 475

Today's Marist Brother • A Lumen Award-winning publication of the Province of the United States of America.
Editorial Staff: Br. Hugh Turley, FMS, Paulette Karas, CFRE, Patti Arvesen, Br. Steve Milan, FMS, Br. Owen Ormsby, FMS

The Marist Brothers

Remembrance in Prayer Program



New Designs Now Available!

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.

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: maristbr.com

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