



The Marist Brothers

SPRING 2017



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

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# TODAY'S Marist Brother

## Marist National Day of Service

January 2, 2017 marked the 200th anniversary of the Marist Brothers' founding by Saint Marcellin Champagnat. His mission was the same then as the Marist Brothers' mission is today—to make Jesus known and loved through the education of young people, especially those most neglected.



Marist High School in Chicago worked with the charity "Feed My Starving Children" to package over 100,000 meals.

Over the years, the Marist mission in the United States spread to many different areas and a number of ministries including education, retreat work, spiritual direction, prison ministry, social services and parish ministry, as well as camps for youth, persons with disabilities, and disadvantaged children. Today, Marist schools, colleges, and universities are found in 80 countries around the world and encourage over 600,000 young people every year to be what Marcellin believed each of them could be—good Christians and good citizens.

As part of the Marist Institute's bicentennial, the Province of the United States held the Marist National Day of Service on March

29. Roughly 10,000 students in Marist schools around the country participated in this cornerstone event. A service day was chosen as a memorable way to engage in the bicentennial celebration for two reasons. First, offering this as the most important event for students reinforces the Marist mission as being centered on the "love of service," in particular to the least favored. Second, young Marists are being trusted and empowered as the ones who will determine how the Province impacts the lives of the most needy international Marist missions.



Students from Archbishop Molloy High School and Mount Saint Michael Academy came together to clean up a local park.

At the conclusion of the National Day of Service Marist students voted to determine how funds would be dispersed among various international Marist projects. The funds from the Service Day were generously donated by alumni of Marist schools around the country. This aspect of the day gave Marist students the opportunity to be educated about the global Marist mission and to better realize they are not only capable of helping people in need on a local level, but can also bring about significant change to the wider Marist world.

To learn more about the Marist Brothers and the Marist National Day of Service, visit [www.maristbr.com/MaristDayOfService](http://www.maristbr.com/MaristDayOfService).

FROM THE DESK OF

# the Provincial

SPRING 2017

Dear Marist Family,

"Doing Good is Good to Do". The Marist National Day of Service started as a simple catch phrase.

To commemorate the 200th anniversary of the Marist Brothers we thought of the many ways we could celebrate. Of course, in our Marist Family spirit, several Brothers suggested a grand national party; others, the writing of a comprehensive history; and still others, a convention and speeches about "being Marist."



But the Spirit led us in a completely different direction. Following Mary's way and St. Marcellin Champagnat's love for service, we created March 29, 2017, to be the Marist National Day of Service. What have the last 200 years been about? A mission to make Jesus Christ known and loved among young people and poor children through generous service. We could think of no better way to celebrate this anniversary than to invite our national Marist family to do some good, not for ourselves, but by helping others in our local communities and children throughout the world.

Students at 14 schools, Brothers, Marist lay and religious colleagues, as well as schools in the Province of West Central Europe, joined in projects providing service in their local areas and communities. All of our combined efforts offered a helping hand internationally to unreached poor children, migrant and refugee children, and displaced and vulnerable children. Many of you, already generous benefactors of our Province works, funded these service projects and the nearly \$200,000 in grants that have been directed by our students to Marist projects in Syria, Lebanon, South Africa, Bangladesh, Guatemala, Dominican Republic, Haiti and the Congo.

Since the Marist National Day of Service has been over, throughout the Province it's being said, "Let's do it again." That's our "new beginning"! This is a great way to start our third century as Marist Family. It's good to do good, not for just a day, but for life. Thanks to all of you for your hard work, inspiration, compassion, energy, sweating, working, cleaning, packing, caring, giving, being Marist.

Always, thanks to all of you for your support for the lives and works of the Marist Brothers. In prayer, I leave you in the hearts of our good Mother, and St. Marcellin Champagnat.

Sincerely,

Br. Patrick McNamara, FMS  
Provincial

# Postulant Luis Ramos Spends January Volunteering at Refugee Center

Marist  
Postulant  
Luis

Ramos spent the month of January volunteering in Texas alongside Br. Dave Cooney, Br. Peter Guadalupe, and Marist volunteer, Tomas O'Riordan. They spent their time at the refugee center set up by Sacred Heart Church in McAllen, Texas. The center assists hundreds of immigrants (mostly mothers and children) from Honduras, El Salvador, and Guatemala every day. The Marist volunteers helped pick out new clothes



for the refugees, translated and shared information, directed people to showers and tents for their sleeping arrangements, cooked and served meals, prepared travel food bags, and performed general cleaning duties. When asked about his experience, Ramos said, "It seems to me that the respite center does a lot more than clothe, feed, and help refugees move along to the end of their journey. The goal is to help our sisters and brothers feel like the dignified humans they are."



## Reflection on My Time in McAllen

Jesus tells us in the Gospel that the poor will always be with us. The refugees who came to the center were not afraid to ask for what they needed. They were fully aware of what was happening and knew that they must reach out in order to move on. That is a lesson that I believe we all can benefit from. It is NOT about us all as individuals, and no one can go on by themselves.



the faces of the refugees, like there was a

After a meal, a shower, a change of clothes, and a call home...you could see the relief on

weight being lifted off of their shoulders. They knew of the long journey ahead, but they had already come so far. Most expressed great gratitude and offered praise to God.

In the very simple lesson that we cannot exist alone, we should also realize that collectively we suffer. Whether it is poverty, illness, or spiritual disconnection, the human condition is universal. Suffering is not to be compared, but to be met with mercy. The poor will always be with us. A part of us will always be poor. Sometimes that is the part we need to pay most attention to.

May Jesus help us remember that we all are in some type of need. May Jesus help us recognize the needs of our sisters and brothers, and respond with compassion and love. May we offer our poorest parts to God.



# LaValla Weekend

For the past five years, the LaValla Service Program has been held during Columbus Day weekend at the Marist Brothers Center in Esopus. Working to recapture the spirit and excitement of the early days of the Institute, the program began with the construction



Students from 12 different Marist Schools around the country came together for the LaValla Weekend in Esopus, New York.

of the Chapel in the Woods and the Peace Plaza on the Esopus grounds. Year after year young people and Marist adults were able to experience the spirit of the Hermitage in France, helping to keep it alive in our hearts.

This year the LaValla Service Program took on a different focus. Our experience of solidarity was not found in the typical form of a service project. Instead, sixty students from Marist schools around the country engaged in a solidarity simulation called "Passages," devised by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, a nonpolitical, humanitarian agency. This served as part of the introduction to the Marist National Day of Service which was held the following Wednesday on March 29.



As part of the weekend, students braved the harsh weather to participate in a refugee simulation.

The simulation was an opportunity to make real for the students the experiences and struggles refugees are regularly faced with. It was challenging and required students to make certain

sacrifices, including being outside in the cold, having a lack of food, searching for shelter and supplies, etc. We hoped this simulation, along with the chance to process the experience in small groups, opened the eyes of our students to a reality they usually only hear about and that can often seem far away.



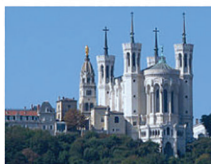
Former Superior General Br. Sean Sammon with the Hallak Family, who lived in community with the Blue Marists in Aleppo, Syria.

**Marcellin Champagnat was born on May 20, 1789**



**Pledge at Fourviere Shrine**

July 23, Champagnat and a group of young priests pledged to form the Society of Mary.



**Montagne Experience**



October 28, Champagnat responded to a sick call for Jean-Baptiste Montagne, a boy who was uneducated about God, and gave him the Last Sacrament before his death. This motivated Champagnat to form a congregation of teaching Brothers who would prevent the ignorance of faith from existing.

**Marist Institute Founded**

January 2, Champagnat and the first Brothers (Jean-Marie Granjon/Jean-Marie Baptiste Audras) moved into a small house in LaValla, France, founding the Order.



**The First Marist School Opens**

The first Marist school opened near La Valla, the home of the first Brothers.

1789

1816

1817

1818

# ESOPUS CORNER

This year we celebrate the 200th anniversary of Marcellin's founding of the institute. On January 2, 1817, Marcellin, with two young Brothers, moved into our first home in LaValla. But that's not all we celebrate.



The 75th Anniversary Gala was held at Terrace on the Park in Flushing, New York

We also celebrate the 75th anniversary of the Brothers' acquisition of the Esopus property. Early in April, a gala celebration brought together over 700 people

on "A Special Night to Celebrate a Special Place." We celebrated not only what Esopus has been, but also what it is—and what we hope it will continue to be—far into the future.

For 75 years our mission in Esopus has focused on young people. Though the property was originally designed to be a formative home for young men interested in becoming Marist Brothers, the programs which occur here have changed. Now, retreats and camps are the vehicles which provide our young people with opportunities

for formative experiences. Hopefully, young people will always be at the center of the Esopus mission. Why? Because young people continue to experience Esopus as "home." They feel safe here. They feel accepted here. They feel loved here. They are at home here.

Strengthened by a tangible sense of family spirit, many young people have discovered their best selves here. Others have been graced with an awareness of how to use their God-given talents to make the world a better place. Our vision statement says very clearly what we wish to preserve for the future: "In this sacred space, on this holy ground, God's grace touches hearts in many ways."

May Esopus be a home for many years to come.



(From left to right) Br. Hugh Turley, Br. Tom Schady, Br. João Carlos do Prado, Br. Rick Carey, Br. Al Rivera, Dennis Karas, Paulette Karas, and Br. Patrick McNamara gather at the Provincial House before the Gala.

## Memorare in the Snow

Champagnat and Br. Stanislaus got lost in a ruthless nighttime snow storm after visiting a sick Brother. After praying the Memorare asking for Mary's protection they were miraculously rescued.



Champagnat passed away on June 6, 1840

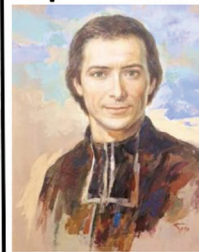
May 29, Champagnat is beatified by Pope PiuX XII

Over 1,500 Marist Brothers worldwide

Marist Institute approved by Pope PiuX IX

The Institute was named "Fratres Maristae a Scholis" meaning Marist Brothers of the Schools. This is acknowledged with the post-nominal initials "FMS."

On April 18, Champagnat was canonized by Pope John-Paul II



Over 5,000 Brothers worldwide

Marist Brothers Celebrate Bicentennial







# Dear Friends,

**W**armer 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 we celebrate the 200th anniversary of the founding of the Marist Brothers. 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 programs 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.

Our Annual Fund is quickly coming to a close. This year we focused on the 200th anniversary celebration. So many of our friends, relatives, alumni and benefactors...our Marist Family, helped us celebrate by sharing a special gift. Our heartfelt thanks to you all!

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 financial gift by using the enclosed reply envelope or simply go online to [www.maristbr.com](http://www.maristbr.com) and click on the "Donate" button. 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 Christian and 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,

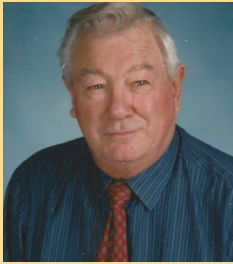
*Br. Hugh P. Turley, FMS*

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

*Paulette M. Karas*

Paulette M. Karas, CFRE  
Co-Director of Development

# IN MEMORIAM



*Brother  
Patrick  
Lally*

**December 22,  
2016**

Br. Patrick Lally, FMS, a member of the Marist Brothers of the Schools for 61 years, died on December 22, 2016, at St. Francis Hospital in Manhasset, NY. He was 81 years old.

Br. Patrick was born in 1935 in the Bronx, NY. After growing up in Galway, Ireland, he joined the Marist Juniorate in Esopus, NY, in 1952, became a Marist Brothers postulant in 1954, and entered the Marist Brothers Novitiate at Tyngsboro, MA, in 1955. He professed his final vows in 1961. After completing his religious and academic studies at Marist College, he went on to earn a master's degree in Spanish from Fordham University in 1963.

During his outstanding career he served as an administrator, teacher, president, and coach in various Marist Brothers schools in New York, New Jersey, and Texas. From 1995 until his retirement in 2013 he served as the plant manager of Archbishop Molloy High School in Queens, NY.



*Brother  
Lionel  
Julian  
Roy*

**December 25,  
2016**

Brother Lionel Julian Roy, FMS, professed his first vows as a Marist Brother in 1949. After completing his bachelor's degree at Marist College in Poughkeepsie, NY, he went on to earn a

master's degree in biology from Florida International University in 1959 as well as postgraduate certification as an AGS science education supervisor from the University of Maryland in 1971.

Br. Julian began his ministry serving as a teacher at Wheeling Central Catholic High School in Wheeling, WV, in 1952. He also served as a teacher at Mount Saint Michael Academy in the Bronx, NY; Our Lady of Lourdes High School in Poughkeepsie, NY; Kola Alternative School, Oglala, Pine Ridge, SD; Saint Joseph Academy in Brownsville, TX; Saint Thomas Aquinas High School in Ft. Lauderdale, FL; and Marist High School in Chicago from 1979 until his retirement in 1998.

Br. Julian Roy, FMS a member of the Marist Brothers of the Schools for 68 years, died on December 25, 2016, at De LaSalle Hall in Lincroft, NJ. He was 86 years old.



*Brother  
Francis  
Thomas  
O'Malley*

**February 9, 2017**  
Br. Francis

Thomas O'Malley, FMS, who taught for over 55 years in New York Marist Schools, died on February 9th at De LaSalle Home in Lincroft, NJ. He was 86 years old.

After growing up in the Bronx, NY, Br. Francis entered the Marist Brothers in 1948 and made final vows in 1956. He served in various capacities at Camp Marist in Ossipee, NH, for over 55 years. He taught in St. Helena High School in the Bronx, NY from 1951-60, Archbishop Molloy High School in Queens, NY from 1960-63 and 1990-2006, Christ the King High School in the Bronx, NY from

1963-70 and St. Mary's in Manhasset, NY from 1970-90.

His funeral Mass was offered at Our Lady of Mercy Church, Forest Hills, NY, on February 14. He is buried at the Marist Brothers cemetery in Esopus, NY.



*Brother  
Charles  
Marcellin*

**February 19,  
2017**

Brother Charles

Marcellin, FMS, was born in the Bronx, NY, before entering the Marist Juniorate in Esopus, NY, in 1952. He became a postulant with the Marist Brothers in 1953 and entered the Marist Brothers Novitiate at Tyngsboro, MA, in 1954. He professed first vows in 1955.

After earning a BA degree in business administration from Marist College, Poughkeepsie, NY, he began his teaching career at St. Helena High School in the Bronx, NY from 1958-60. In 1960 he professed his final vows and he earned a master's degree in history from St. John's University in 1964. Br. Charles served for many years as a teacher and administrator at the following schools: St. Mary's High School in Manhasset, NY; Christ the King High School in the Bronx, NY; Monsignor Scanlon High School in the Bronx, NY; Marist High School in Bayonne, NJ, and Archbishop Molloy High School in Queens, NY.

Brother Charles Marcellin, FMS, a member of the Marist Brothers of the Schools for 63 years, died on February 19 at Lawrence Hospital in Bronxville, NY. He was 81 years old.

To read additional obituaries on Brothers Patrick, Julian, Francis and Charles, as well as other recently deceased Brothers, visit [www.maristbr.com](http://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](http://www.maristbr.com/vocations)

Or contact:

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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](http://www.maristbr.com) and under "Communications," click on "What's New."



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Editorial Staff: Ms. Erin Gilbert and Mrs. Paulette Karas, CFRE. Contributing Staff: Br. Owen Ormsby, FMS and Mr. Luis Ramos.

## 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 features 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 new Traditional cards or refresh your supply of All-Occasion cards. Please send your request through email ([maristbr@maristbr.org](mailto:maristbr@maristbr.org)) or to the address at left.