



Friday Notes

MARCH 27, 2026

041





EASTER TRIDUUM

***There will be no Friday Notes next week in observance of Good Friday*
Please expect the next edition on Friday, April 10, 2026!**


Last weekend, March 13–15, the four novices of the St. Barnabas Community (Br. Abi, Br. Tommy, Br. Björn, and Br. Nik) participated in the Inter-formation Program Spiritual Development and Contemplation through the Arts, led by Robert James Magliula (HC) at Holy Cross Monastery in New York. Alongside religious from several other communities, participants explored creative prayer practices rooted in theology and Visio Divina. During the weekend, the novices also joined the Holy Cross community for the holy profession of Brother Francis Daniel (OHC).




UPCOMING EVENTS

 **MYP Holy Week Gathering**
via Zoom 
March 29, 2026 **JOIN**
5:00pm ET

 **Hearts in Action Closing Prayer Service**
via Zoom 
April 12, 2026 **JOIN**

 **Sharing Our Call 1**
Esopus, NY
April 12 -
April 14, 2026

 **Marist Youth Encounter**
Esopus, NY
April 16 -
April 19, 2026

 **Marists of Champagnat National Assembly**
Long Branch, NJ
July 14 -
July 17, 2026 [REGISTER HERE](#)



State Championship Winners!

Congratulations to the boys basketball teams of Christopher Columbus High School (Miami, FL), Marist High School (Chicago, IL), and Marist Catholic High School (Eugene, OR), who each won state championship titles this season! We celebrate their dedication, teamwork, and Marist spirit.



School Board Meetings

The Mount Saint Michael Academy School Board will meet next week. We are grateful for the generous men and women who serve on our Boards, offering their time, wisdom, and leadership in support of our Marist mission across the USA Province.



Easter Invitation-Champagnat Hall

Any Brother who will be in the New York area for Easter and would like to join the Champagnat Hall community for their noon meal is invited to email, call, or text Steve Milan by Wednesday, April 1 at smilanfms@aol.com or 570-561-7929. All are welcome!

MINISTRY SPOTLIGHT

A "Come and See" Experience

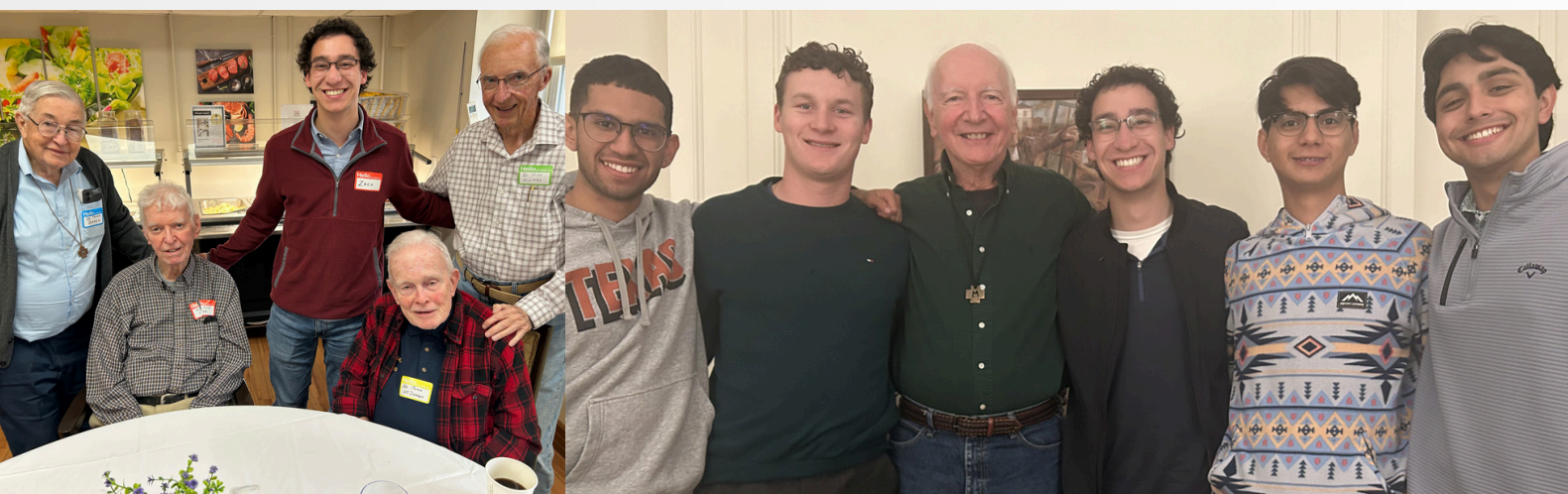
University of Texas Students Experience Marist Life Through "Come and See"

Last week, five students from the University of Texas at Austin participated in the visit, led by Br. Rob Clark. After expressing an interest in learning more about the vocation of the Marist Brothers and how Marists live their mission with young people, the students spent several days visiting Marist communities and ministries across the Province.



During their time with the Brothers, the students visited the Flushing Community, the Novitiate, Champagnat Hall, Mount Saint Michael Academy, and the Marist Brothers Center at Esopus (MBCE). Each stop offered a different glimpse into Marist life, from witnessing the early stages of formation at the Novitiate to seeing the Marist mission lived out in the daily life of a school community at Mount Saint Michael Academy. Conversations with Brothers and time spent in community provided opportunities to learn more about the prayer, fraternity, and shared mission that shape the vocation of a Marist Brother.

Experiences like this offer young adults the opportunity to encounter Marist life firsthand while reflecting on their own sense of vocation and purpose. The Marist Brothers are grateful to the students from the University of Texas who made the journey and to Br. Rob Clark, along with the many communities and ministries that welcomed the group and helped make the visit a meaningful experience of Marist brotherhood.





MARK YOUR CALENDARS:

- The next **Green Team** meeting will be held on **Tuesday, April 14th at 12pm ET.**
- **Earth Day Weekend** will be held in Esopus from **April 24-26.** Registration details are available [here](#).



SMALL STEPS, BIG HOPE!

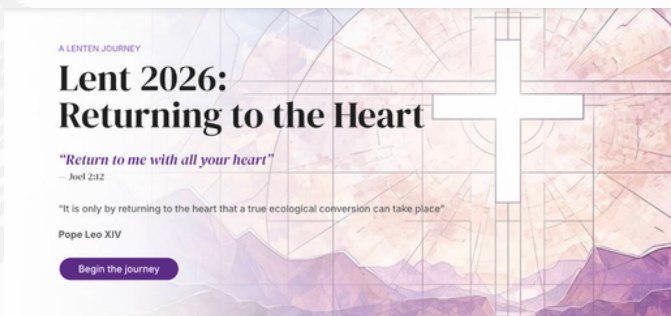
As Earth Day 2026 approaches, we are featuring weekly calls to action to express our commitment to Care for our Common Home. Use the hashtag #MaristEarthDay on social media to follow along!



THIS WEEK'S ACTION:

CARRY A REUSABLE BAG WITH YOU THIS WEEK!

- Echoing the call of Laudato Si' to care for our common home and all living creatures, the newly launched St. Francis Institute for Animals seeks to reduce animal suffering while promoting compassionate and ethical treatment of animals across society. [Read the full article here.](#)



- This year's Lenten theme from the Laudato Si' Movement is Returning to the Heart. Access more resources [here](#).





NEWS FROM THE GENERAL HOUSE

FLOWING IN THE SPIRIT - WEEK 3 Building the New Hermitage: Holiness in a Marist Key

Marist holiness today is expressed precisely in this way: by creating spaces where faith is lived with closeness, where persons matter more than structures, and where mission flows from healthy and fraternal relationships.

→ [Read the complete article here.](#)



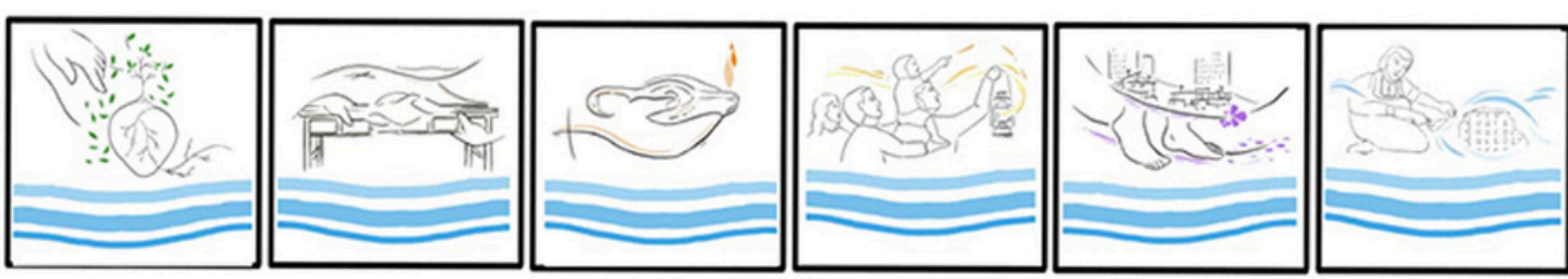
Flowing in the Spirit is a year-long series of weekly reflections offered by Br. Guillermo Villareal, our Postulator General responsible for advancing the causes of our Marist saints.



MARIST HORIZONS

Br. Peter has released the March 2026 entry in his Marist Horizons series! This month, read about his recent experiences in Central America, including both the Arco Norte Assembly and his reflection on the witnesses of both St. Oscar Romero and Br. Moisés Cisneros.

[READ MORE](#)



MEET THE GENERAL GOVERNMENT

BR. RAJAKUMAR SOOSAI MANICKAM — REGIONAL COUNCILOR TO OCEANIA

Br. Raj was born on May 10, 1980, in Sanavoorani, Sivagangai district, Tamil Nadu, India. He grew up in a Catholic family and is the youngest of four children. He belongs to the South Asia Province.

After completing his studies at Don Bosco Higher Secondary School, Pallithammam, he joined the Marist Brothers in June 1999. He made his First Religious Profession on February 15, 2003, at the International Novitiate in Tudella, Sri Lanka.



He obtained a Bachelor of Science (Physics) degree from St. Joseph's College, Trichy (2003–2006). He completed his post-novitiate formation at MAPAC, Manila, Philippines (2006–2008). Returning to his country, he completed a Bachelor's Degree in Secondary Education at S.A.S. College of Education, Trichy (2008–2009). He subsequently pursued a Master's Degree in English, an MBA in Human Resource Management, and a Master's Degree in Philosophy, Religion, and Culture at Annamalai University, Chidambaram.

He made his perpetual profession in the Institute on July 2, 2011, in Tiruchirappalli, India.

He served as a teacher and administrator at Marist Higher Secondary School, P. Udayapatti, and St. Marcellin Higher Secondary School, Mangamanuthu, Tamil Nadu. He was Treasurer of the India Sector from 2011 to 2018. He was also Director of the Marcellin Trust and the Operation Rainbow Project at different times. He was elected Provincial Councilor for two terms (2016–2019 and 2022–2025). He participated in several international programs, including GIER, Community Animators course, International Marist Solidarity Meeting, Spirituality of the Heart program, and XXII General Chapter in Colombia.

Until August, 2025 he was the Director of Marcellin Trust and Sector Leader of Marist India Sector and Provincial Councilor of South Asia. He was elected General Councilor on 3 October 2025.

OUR MARIST FAMILY:

Across Arco Norte



Distrito de Canadá

Horizon Gathering

On February 13, the Horizon group of Marist Young Adults gathered at the Maisonnette community in Québec City to continue their journey together, reflecting on the theme of relationships. Through music, reflection, and sincere conversation, participants were invited to recognize the important people in their lives and express gratitude. The evening offered a simple but meaningful opportunity for young people to grow in awareness and authentic relationships.

[READ MORE.](#)

News in Brief

Each month, the Marist District of Canada shares its "News in Brief" newsletter to keep the community connected. The publication includes a spiritual calendar for prayer, updates on recent activities, announcements of upcoming events, and news from across the District, helping to highlight the vitality of Marist life in Canada.

[READ MORE.](#)

Monthly Spiritual Calendar

The Marist District of Canada shares a spiritual calendar each month to accompany personal and community prayer. The calendar offers reflections, feast days, and moments of Marist spirituality to help nourish faith throughout the month. It is shared alongside the News in Brief newsletter and serves as a simple resource for prayer and reflection across the Marist family.

[READ MORE.](#)



WALKING TOGETHER AS ONE MARIST FAMILY

Across the Marist world, communities continue to deepen their commitment to shared mission and fraternity. In the Arco Norte Region, Brothers and Lay Marists from Canada joined companions from the United States, Mexico, Central America, and Norandina in living the charism of St. Marcellin Champagnat.

Moments such as the recent Arco Norte Regional Assembly remind us that our Marist mission extends beyond borders. Through dialogue, prayer, and collaboration, the region continues to strengthen communion while discerning how best to serve young people in today's world.

For the Marist District of Canada, this regional connection is expressed through initiatives that foster community, formation, and accompaniment. Gatherings such as the Horizon group, along with regular communication through the "News in Brief" newsletter, help keep Marists connected and engaged in the life of the mission.

PROVINCE OVERVIEW

"As Marists of Champagnat of Canada, we form a team in the service of the same mission: to make Jesus Christ known and love, in the manner of Mary, with simplicity, faith and presence.

It is in a spirit of fraternal collaboration that we move forward together, brothers, lay people and young people, at the heart of our Canadian reality, but in a lively connection with our international Marist family.

The District Council carries this mission with me, in a spirit of discernment, trust and service."

--Br. Felix Roldan, fms



Learn more about the Arco Norte Region [on Facebook!](#)



2026 PROVINCE-WIDE SOLIDARITY PROJECTS

This year's Province-wide Solidarity Campaign will support seven Marist projects in India, Rwanda, Chad, Haiti, Aleppo, Thailand, and Venezuela.

With the help of students from our USA Marist schools, we will highlight each of these projects through a series of short weekly videos. These reflections are intended to help us better understand both the needs being addressed and the spirit of solidarity that unites us as Marists.

This week's video introduces us to a Marist project in Chad, where education and pastoral presence offer stability, dignity, and hope in challenging circumstances. The Marists serving there embody Champagnat's vision of making Jesus known and loved, especially among the most vulnerable.

We thank our **Marist Young Adults** who prepared this video for helping us better understand the realities faced by this community and the impact of our shared generosity

[WATCH NOW](#)

MARISTS OF CHAMPAGNAT



HEARTS IN ACTION:

As we journey through this Lenten season, we are reminded that even small acts of love can have a lasting impact.

We invite you to take part in the spirit of Hearts in Action by joining a local effort, supporting those who serve, or simply holding this initiative in prayer. [All are welcome to join the closing prayer as we gather in gratitude for this shared experience on Sunday, April 12.](#)



Marists of Champagnat recently gathered in Lawrence, MA for a retreat focused on prayer, reflection, and shared Marist spirituality. The time together offered a meaningful opportunity to strengthen community and deepen the Marist mission.

Holy Week Gathering

SUNDAY, MARCH 29
5PM EASTERN/ 4PM CENTRAL/ 2PM PACIFIC

Join fellow Marist Young Professionals for reflection, sharing, and prayer as we move into the special time of Holy Week.

[JOIN](#)



FRIDAY, MARCH 27
Br. Kevin Brogan

SATURDAY, APRIL 4
Br. Benedict LoBalbo

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 8
Br. George DiCarluccio

FRIDAY, APRIL 10
Br. Kenneth Hogan

THURSDAY, APRIL 16
Br. Joseph Yoshida
(formerly of the USA Province)

SATURDAY, APRIL 18
Br. Bryce Byczynski

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 22
Br. John Kachinsky

THURSDAY, APRIL 30
Br. Daniel Grogan

NEW READING THIS WEEK

[CANADA NEWS](#)

[MATTHEW 19:1-12](#)

[MARIST NEWS](#)

[AT THE SAME TABLE](#)

[CHAMPAGNAT GLOBAL](#)

[MDA NEWSLETTER](#)

This week, please remember in your prayers...



- **The repose of the soul of Thomas Sipsy, father of Tom Sipsy, Assistant Principal at Central Catholic.**
- **The repose of the soul of Robert Fitzsimmons, brother of Ms. Patti Gatti, who died suddenly this week.**
- **The repose of the soul of Marist Sister, Sr. Elizabeth Elenora Carvelli, SMSM, cousin of David Erwin, who passed away on March 2.**

- John Long (brother of Brother Tom Long) who has begun palliative care in the final stages of metastatic prostate cancer.
- Bill Cornforth, former Marist Brother ('69), who is experiencing serious medical concerns.
- William Ling, father of Province archivist Michelle Ling.
- Br. Frank Garza, who is at Champagnat Hall for some medical testing.
- Cathy Puszcz, a teacher who spent her entire career at Marist in Bayonne, who is in critical care.
- Laura Blando, sister of Br. James Norton, as she continues a new round of chemotherapy.
- Fr. Kevin Duggan, SM, who has had a recurrence of cancer.
- Steve Mason, brother-in-law of Rick Martin, who is recovering from surgery.
- David Irwin, who continues to need treatment for a brain tumor.
- Pope Leo XIV: We ask God's blessings on his journey ahead in leading our Church.
- Our Blue Marists in Syria and members of the Fratelli Project in Lebanon.
- All victims of the ongoing wars in the Middle East and in the Ukraine.
- All victims of gun violence in the USA and around the world.
- All of our Brothers in residence or rehabbing at Champagnat Hall, particularly those dealing with significant health concerns: John Herrmann, and Pat Hogan.
- Bros. Jim Adams, Charlie Filiatrault, Jim Halliday, Larry Lavalley, Bernie Nolan, and Rene Roy who are all receiving care outside of Marist community.
- Mrs. Peg Kelly, mother of Br. Frank Kelly, who is recovering from a broken hip.
- Teresa Kelly, wife of Mike Kelly (Tyngsboro, 1965).
- Saoirse McGarry, 23 years old, who has been diagnosed with stage 4 lymphoma.
- Dan Waters (former Marist Brother) who is recovering from a stroke.
- Mrs. Paulette Karas, Province Director of Development, who is undergoing cancer treatments.
- Tom Rubbone, a long-time Camp Marist volunteer and benefactor.
- Mrs. MaryAnn Safrey, who is undergoing treatment for cancer.
- Elaine Pelliciaro, who is recovering from surgery and intense rehabilitation therapy.
- Mrs. Sue O'Keefe, as she struggles with pancreatic cancer.
- Jason Wolf, a 22-year old cousin of John Venturella, who was recently diagnosed with an inoperable brain tumor.
- Laura Gural as she regains the use of her left side while recovering from a stroke.
- The husband of Eyda Alegret in Miami, who is recovering after a stroke.
- Patrick Hughes, nephew of Sean O'Leary (Mount St. Michael '90).
- Vince Andiorio in Chicago.
- The young son of Br. Jim McKnight's niece, Jacqueline, who is being treated for leukemia.
- Rosemary Shields and Margo Andrew, cousins of Br. Michael Laratonda.
- Mike Encke, husband of Jean Dalton (niece of Br. Jim Devine) who has cancer.
- Angel Herrera, a sophomore at Mount Saint Michael Academy.
- Frederick Marinelli, father of Michael Marinelli and husband of Carmen Marinelli in Miami.
- Patricia Hayes Franzem, who is recovering from surgery.
- Mrs. Olga Dunning, sister-in-law of Br. John Dunning, who has been diagnosed with cancer.
- Bill Taylor, brother-in-law of Br. Ken Curtin, who is recovering after a heart attack.

and let us remember... to pray for each other!