



# Friday Notes

MAY 29, 2026

049



On Sunday, more than 100 members of the Marist family and friends gathered at the Marist Brothers Center at Esopus to celebrate the 60th anniversary of Father Richard LaMorte's priesthood. During the liturgy, Br. Dan O'Riordan unveiled a plaque dedicating the MBCE chapel to Fr. LaMorte in recognition of his many years of faithful service as a Marist Brothers Affiliate and his enduring presence at Esopus. The dedication honors a man whose ministry has touched generations of Marists and helped make MBCE a place of welcome, prayer, and encounter. The celebration was made even more special by the young volunteers from Mount Saint Michael Academy, whose generosity and hard work helped make the day a tremendous success.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**Marist Youth Gathering**  
Marist College - Poughkeepsie, NY  
May 28 -  
May 31, 2026

**Marist Young Adult Summit**  
Camp Mariste - Quebec, Canada  
June 4 -  
June 7, 2026

**Marists of Champagnat Cohort 6 Commitment Ceremony**  
June 7, 2026 @ 5pm ET

**Foundation Stones**  
Esopus, NY  
June 14 -  
June 20, 2026

**Kids 1 Camp**  
MBCE - MHVC Camps  
June 28 -  
July 4, 2026

**Marists of Champagnat National Assembly**  
Long Branch, NJ  
July 14 -  
July 17, 2026

REGISTER NOW!



### Marist Youth Gathering

More than 220 Marist youth, team members, and guests from across the USA and Canada gathered at Marist University this weekend for the annual Marist Youth Gathering (MYG). Centered on the theme "My Why," participants explored faith, friendship, and purpose through prayer, workshops, community, and reflection.



### School Board Meetings

The Central Catholic High School Board will gather next Monday for its last meeting of the school year. The Province is grateful for the dedicated men and women who serve on the Boards of our USA ministries and help foster and strengthen the Marist mission.



### The Vocation of a Marist Educator

As Vincent Pastore concludes thirty years of educational ministry at Central Catholic High School, the school community **reshaped a reflection he first wrote in 2003** on the vocation of teaching, the impact of students, and the privilege of accompanying young people each day. More than two decades later, his words remain a moving testament to the heart of Marist education.

# MINISTRY SPOTLIGHT

## Saint Joseph Regional High School

Montvale, New Jersey

*Saint Joseph Regional High School (SJR) has a longstanding connection with the Marist Brothers USA Province through its shared commitment to Catholic education, faith formation, and the development of young men grounded in service and leadership. While SJR is a diocesan school founded in the tradition of the Xaverian Brothers, it became part of the Marist family thanks to the initiative of Br. John Dunning and other Marist Brothers who served there and invited the school particularly into our mission at Esopus. SJR fully embraces the values of brotherhood, humility, presence, and dedication to young people while forming students as “Vir Fidelis” – faithful men who are called to think critically, lead with integrity, and serve others as Christian disciples in the spirit St. Marcellin Champagnat.*

### FIRST ANNUAL ‘SERVICE KNIGHT’

SJR recently hosted its First Annual Service Knight [sic], a student-led initiative centered on faith, service, and community. Led by Luke Santos '27, Michael Schroll '26, and Ciaran Fahey '28, the event partnered with the Outreach Program to prepare 10,000 meals for those in need. Through months of fundraising, planning, setup, and coordination, these students helped bring together the entire Saint Joe’s community – including current students, future students, alumni, and parents – in a powerful witness of service and solidarity. The evening reflected the spirit of Catholic and Marist education in action, as hundreds worked side-by-side to make a meaningful impact for families facing food insecurity.



### LIVING THE MARIST CALL TO SERVICE

SJR’s Donnelly Scholars spent May 26 volunteering at the Community Food Bank of New Jersey, organizing and packing food boxes for local pantries served by the FoodBank. Their efforts supported individuals and families throughout the local community who experience food insecurity while living out the Marist call to service and solidarity.

## LAUDATO SI' WEEK INVITES MARISTS TO REFLECT ON THE INTERCONNECTEDNESS OF CREATION

During Laudato Si' Week 2026, Marists around the world joined the wider Church in prayer, reflection, and renewed commitment to care for our common home. Organized by the ecology group of the Marist Solidarity International Network, the week featured daily video reflections rooted in Laudato Si', the Marist Rule of Life, and Gathered Around the Same Table, inviting Marists to deepen their ecological awareness through the lens of faith and community.

The week-long series concluded on May 24 with a reflection on the Cry of the Earth and the Cry of the Poor featuring Sam King of the United States Province. Throughout the week, reflections invited Marists everywhere to live with greater simplicity, gratitude, and care for all creation.

- Andres Vidal '26 of Christopher Columbus High School (pictured below) recently received the Caring for Creation Award from Barry University in recognition of his environmental leadership inspired by Laudato Si'. Over the past year, Andres has helped lead sustainability initiatives at Columbus focused on environmental education, recycling, community outreach, and promoting care for our common home throughout school life.

- Sam King attended the monthly Religious Organizations Along the River (ROAR) meeting on Wednesday. **Here is a link to the recording** of the May 13th webinar on Rights of Nature in connection to the NYS Great Lakes and State Waters Bill of Rights. **Advocacy Opportunity from ROAR: *Urge your New York State legislators to support the NYS Moratorium on Data Centers (Senate S9144A / Assembly A10141A)***. Supporters say the rapid expansion of data centers increases energy demand, fossil fuel pollution, water usage, and electricity costs. The proposed moratorium would pause new construction while environmental and community impacts are fully assessed. Assemblymember Jeffrey Dinowitz is a co-sponsor of the bill; supporters are encouraged to thank him for his support. Two actions you can take: **email your NYS Assemblymember and Senator**, and call your NYS Assemblymember.





# MARISTS OF CHAMPAGNAT

*From Maureen Hagan:*

Our **Marists of Champagnat National Assembly** is quickly approaching, and all Brothers and Lay Marists from Cohorts 1–6 are warmly invited to gather for the 2nd National Assembly, taking place July 14–17, 2026, at San Alfonso Retreat House in Long Branch, New Jersey.

Centered on the theme “Beacons of Joy,” the Assembly will offer an opportunity to reconnect, strengthen relationships across the Marist family, and renew our shared commitment to the Marist mission. Check-in will begin at 2:00pm on Tuesday, July 14, and the Assembly will conclude with lunch on Friday, July 17.

The cost to attend is \$400 per person. Registration is due by June 1, and payment is due by July 1. Organizers stress that cost or travel should not prevent anyone from participating. Assistance is available for those needing support with registration or travel expenses, and participants who are able to help support another Marist’s attendance or donate airline miles may also indicate that on the registration form.

Payment may be made [via PayPal](#) or by check payable to “Marist Brothers” and mailed to:

Maureen Hagan  
213 W. 4th Ave.  
Roselle, NJ 07203

Participants flying to the Assembly are encouraged to use Newark Liberty International Airport unless they have other plans in the New York/New Jersey area. Vans will be available to transport participants between Newark Airport and the retreat house. Attendees are asked to arrive by 1:00pm on Tuesday, July 14, and schedule departures after 4:00pm on Friday, July 17. A second van pickup can be arranged later on Tuesday if needed. Participants are asked to send flight details to Maureen Hagan as soon as possible.


[REGISTER NOW](#)

## EPISODE 8 OF MY MARIST LIFE IS HERE!

In this episode of My Marist Life, host Eric Gonzales speaks with Juan Bribiesca Ruiz, a Marist from Mexico whose life is rooted in service to young people, especially those with special needs. Through his years at Camp Marist and his deep faith inspired by Marcellin Champagnat, Juan shares a powerful witness of community, resilience, and living the Marist mission in everyday life.


[LISTEN NOW](#)

**My Marist Life**  
New Episode 5/1/26



Juan B. Ruiz      Eric Gonzales  
Host

In this episode, Eric Gonzales speaks with Juan Bribiesca Ruiz about living the Marist mission through service to young people and Camp Marist. His story reflects faith, community, and the spirit of Marcellin Champagnat.



## SUPPORTING THE MARISTS OF CHAMPAGNAT

The work of the Marists of Champagnat continues to be largely subsidized by the Province. Members are invited to consider making a contribution to help support formation resources, Lay Council gatherings, and Assembly expenses. Any amount is appreciated, and monthly contributions are especially helpful. Questions may be directed to **Chuck Lampier** or **Maureen Hagan**.

[DONATE](#)

## ‘AT THE SAME TABLE’

A monthly newsletter to share reflections, community news, and opportunities for Brothers and Lay Marists to grow together in the spirit of St. Marcellin Champagnat. **Click the book to read!** →





# NEWS FROM THE GENERAL HOUSE

## GLOBAL GATHERING OF MARIST SCHOOLS FOR THE FEAST OF SAINT MARCELLIN CHAMPAGNAT

To mark the feast of Saint Marcellin Champagnat, the Marist Global Network of Schools will gather on June 3 for its annual international meeting, bringing educators together to honor our founder and renew the mission of Marist education.

Inspired by the XXIII General Chapter theme, Builders of a New Hermitage, the gathering will reflect on the calls shaping the future of Marist education. Br. Peter Carroll, Superior General, will offer an opening message, followed by Br. Hipólito Pérez, Vicar of the Institute, who will present the five major calls of the General Chapter. Members of the General Council will then share how these calls can be lived out in Marist schools today.

The webinar will conclude with prayer and remarks from Br. Carlos Alberto Rojas. Two sessions will be offered to accommodate global participation: June 3 at 10:00 AM ET (16:00 Rome) and 3:00 AM ET (09:00 Rome).



2026  
CELEBRATION  
CELEBRACIÓN  
**CHAMPAGNAT**  
CÉLÉBRATION  
CELEBRAÇÃO  
2026



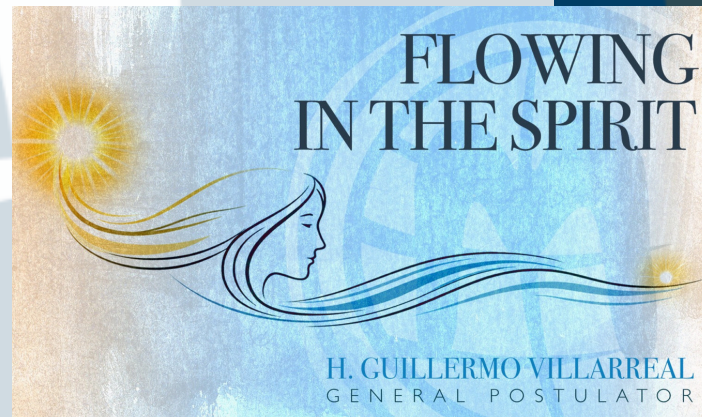
3:00am ET ➔

10:00am ET ➔

## FLOWING IN THE SPIRIT WEEK 12 - HOLINESS AS THE HORIZON OF MARIST MISSION

The latest Flowing in the Spirit reflection explores holiness as the horizon of Marist mission, reminding us that Marist education is not simply about academic success, but about accompanying young people toward lives rooted in faith, wholeness, compassion, and hope through the everyday witness of the Marist spirit.

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

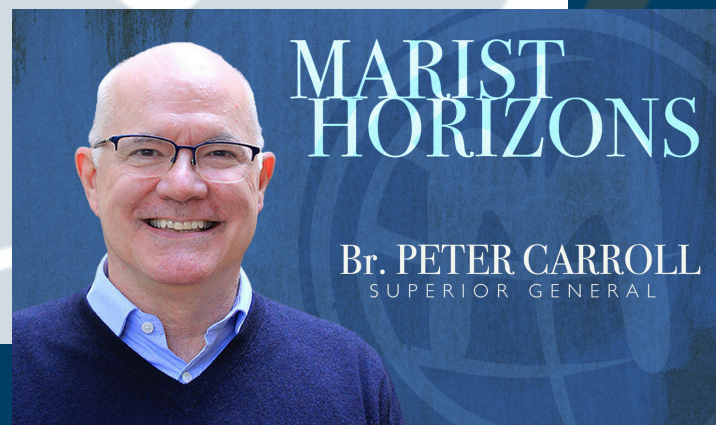


*Flowing in the Spirit* is a year-long series of weekly reflections offered by Br. Guillermo Villarreal, our Postulator General responsible for advancing the causes of our Marist saints.

## MARIST HORIZONS – MAY 2026

Br. Peter Carroll's latest Marist Horizons reflection explores the strengths, challenges, and future of Marist life and mission across the diverse Region of Asia, highlighting recent gatherings in Manila along with his visits to Hong Kong and Japan.

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



# OUR MARIST FAMILY:

# Across Arco Norte



## Province of México Central

### DÍA DEL NIÑO Y DE LA NIÑA

Marist schools across Mexico recently celebrated Día del Niño y de la Niña, honoring the joy, energy, and dignity of every child. Through games, music, colors, and shared community celebrations, students and educators came together to recognize the importance of creating spaces where young people feel welcomed, valued, and loved.



### CELEBRATING CREATIVITY AND CARE FOR CREATION

Students from across the Marist school network recently gathered at Colegio México Acoxta for the closing of the 12th Marist Creative Writing Encounter, highlighted by the presentation of the student collection *Marists in Action for Our Common Home*. The collection brings together the reflections, creativity, and voices of young writers from Marist schools throughout the region, centered on themes of ecology, care for creation, and commitment to our common home in the spirit of *Laudato Si'*.

The gathering also provided students representing their school communities an opportunity to build friendships, engage in dialogue, and share their hopes and perspectives for caring for the world around them.

The Marist community celebrated all of the student authors whose work was included in the collection and expressed gratitude to the many delegations that participated in this meaningful day of encounter, culture, and shared mission. [Watch a recap here!](#)

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

# Job Openings!

- **Marist Chicago** - Marist High School in Chicago is seeking an Administrative Assistant to the Dean's Office beginning August 3, 2026. The position supports the daily operations of the Dean's Office through attendance coordination, student services, communication, office management, and administrative support while helping foster a positive and student-centered environment. Interested candidates should submit a cover letter, resume, and three references to Don Pirkle at [pirkle.donald@marist.net](mailto:pirkle.donald@marist.net). Learn more at [www.marist.net](http://www.marist.net).
- **Archbishop Molloy** - Archbishop Molloy High School is seeking a dynamic, student-centered, and experienced professional to serve as its first full-time Director of Athletics. This leadership position will oversee a highly successful athletic program featuring 46 teams across 20 sports while guiding the future growth of Molloy athletics through strategic planning, coach development, student-athlete support, and community engagement. The Director of Athletics will play a key role in advancing the school's Catholic Marist mission and fostering excellence, leadership, and sportsmanship both on and off the field. Learn more at [www.molloyhs.org](http://www.molloyhs.org).
- **Central Catholic High School** - Central Catholic High School is seeking a Chief Operating & Innovation Officer to provide strategic leadership for facilities, technology, campus safety, and athletic operations while advancing innovation across the school. Reporting directly to the President, this senior leadership role will help guide operational excellence and support the implementation of the school's long-term strategic vision. Learn more at [www.centralcatholic.net](http://www.centralcatholic.net).
- **Saint Joseph Academy** - Saint Joseph Academy is seeking a Campus Minister to help foster the spiritual life of the school community through retreats, liturgies, faith formation, service opportunities, and Marist ministry programs. Working closely with students, faculty, and families, the Campus Minister will play a vital role in nurturing a vibrant Catholic and Marist culture while accompanying young people in their faith journey. Learn more at [www.sja.us](http://www.sja.us).

# JUNE Birthdays

FRIDAY, JUNE 5

Br. Gerard Breton

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 10

Br. Paul Urban Phillip

TUESDAY, JUNE 16

Br. William Lavigne

SUNDAY, JUNE 21

Br. Nikolaos Rousopoulos

MONDAY, JUNE 22

Br. Eugene Birmingham

Br. Stephen Schlitte

## READING THIS WEEK



MARIST NEWS



MATTHEW 24:30-35



CANADA NEWS



MEXICO OCCIDENTAL



CHAMPAGNAT GLOBAL



NORANDINA

# *This week, please remember in your prayers...*



- For Jorge Bribiesca, nephew of Juan Bribiesca Ruiz, who is undergoing cancer treatment.
  - For the repose of the soul of Arlene Molnar, sister-in-law of Br. Raoul Molnar, who passed away last week. We pray also for her children, Crisi Urbanak, Paul Molnar, and Terri Iacuone, longtime volunteers at the Marist Brothers Center at Esopus, and for all who mourn her loss.
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- For Pope Leo XIV, as we ask God's blessings throughout his journey leading our Church.
  - For our Blue Marists in Syria and members of the Fratelli Project in Lebanon.
  - For all victims of the ongoing wars in the Middle East and Ukraine.
  - For all victims of gun violence in the USA and around the world.
  - For Br. Owen Ormsby, who is recovering from recent heart surgery.
  - For Stacey Baker, who is recovering from recent surgery.
  - For all of our Brothers in residence or rehabbing at Champagnat Hall, particularly Brs. John Herrmann and Pat Hogan, along with all those dealing with significant health concerns.
  - For Brs. Jim Adams, Charlie Filiatrault, Jim Halliday, Larry Lavalley, and Rene Roy, who are all receiving care outside of Marist community.
  - For Abby Hipkin, faculty member at Molloy and longtime Esopus volunteer, who is recovering from recent knee surgery.
  - For Terry Paul, Province Affiliate, who is suffering from Stage 4 Kidney Disease.
  - For Bill Cornforth, former Marist Brother ('69), who is experiencing serious medical concerns.
  - For David Irwin, who continues to need treatment for a brain tumor.
  - For Fr. Kevin Duggan, SM, who has had a recurrence of cancer.
  - For Gail Cassidy and Rita Greco, retired teachers from Roselle Catholic High School, both of whom are battling cancer.
  - For Jason Wolf, 22-year-old cousin of John Venturella, who was recently diagnosed with an inoperable brain tumor.
  - For Laura Blando, sister of Br. James Norton, as she continues a new round of chemotherapy.
  - For Mrs. MaryAnn Safrey, who is undergoing treatment for cancer.
  - For Mrs. Olga Dunning, sister-in-law of Br. John Dunning, who has been diagnosed with cancer.
  - For Mrs. Sue O'Keefe, as she struggles with pancreatic cancer.
  - For Saoirse McGarry, 23 years old, who has been diagnosed with Stage 4 lymphoma.
  - For the young son of Br. Jim McKnight's niece, Jacqueline, who is being treated for leukemia.
  - For Angel Herrera, a sophomore at Mount Saint Michael Academy.
  - For Cathy Puszcz, a teacher who spent her entire career at Marist in Bayonne, who is in critical care.
  - For Elaine Pelliciaro, who is recovering from surgery and intense rehabilitation therapy.
  - For Laura Gural, as she regains the use of her left side while recovering from a stroke.
  - For Mike Encke, husband of Jean Dalton (niece of Br. Jim Devine), who has cancer.
  - For Patrick Hughes, nephew of Sean O'Leary (Mount St. Michael '90).
  - For Patricia Hayes Franzem, who is recovering from surgery.
  - For Steve Mason, brother-in-law of Rick Martin, who is recovering from surgery.
  - For Teresa Kelly, wife of Mike Kelly (Tyngsboro, 1965).
  - For the husband of Eyda Alegret in Miami, who is recovering after a stroke.
  - For Tom Rubbone, a longtime Camp Marist volunteer and benefactor.
  - For Vince Andiorio in Chicago.
  - For William Ling, father of Province archivist Michelle Ling.
  - For Bill Taylor, brother-in-law of Br. Ken Curtin, who is recovering after a heart attack.
  - For Frederick Marinelli, father of Michael Marinelli and husband of Carmen Marinelli in Miami.
  - For Mrs. Peg Kelly, mother of Br. Frank Kelly, who is recovering from a broken hip.
  - For Rosemary Shields and Margo Andrew, cousins of Br. Michael Laratonda.

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