MARIST BROTHERS USA

# Friday Notes

JUNE 5, 2026

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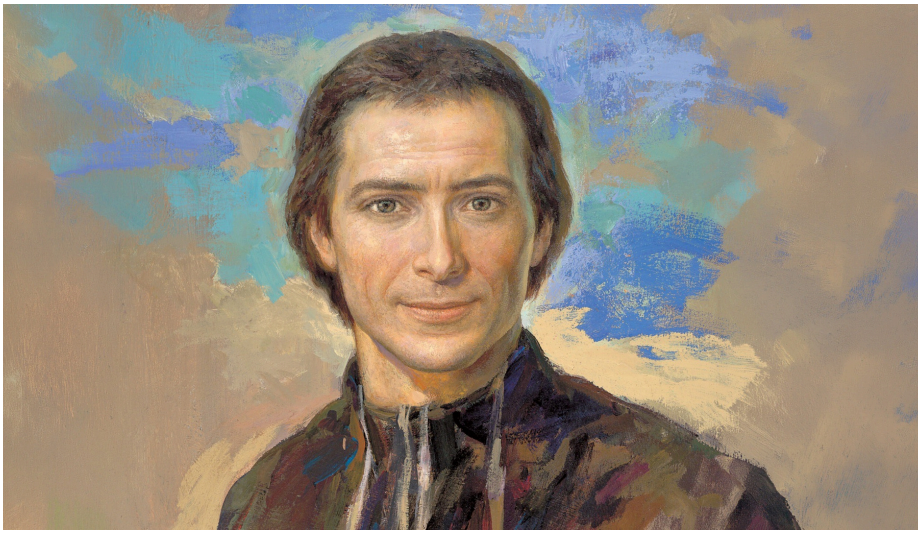


As the Marist family prepares to celebrate the Feast of Saint Marcellin Champagnat tomorrow, June 6, **Superior General Br. Peter Carroll has shared his annual feast day message**, reflecting on the role of sacrifice in the life of our Founder and in the future of the Marist mission.

Br. Peter recalls that Marcellin's dream of making Jesus Christ known and loved among young people was built through countless acts of generosity, perseverance, and trust in God. Despite hardship, uncertainty, and limited resources, Marcellin remained faithful to the mission entrusted to him.

Drawing on the calls of the XXIII General Chapter, Br. Peter invites Marists to become "Builders of a New Hermitage" by embracing growth in vocation, spirituality, community, leadership, and mission. He reminds us that answering these calls requires courage, generosity, and a willingness to give of ourselves for others.

As we celebrate Champagnat's feast day, may we be inspired by Marcellin's example of faith, sacrifice, and unwavering trust in God and Mary.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**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
LINK

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

**Marist Always: A Champagnat Pilgrimage**
*L'Hermitage, France*
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 2026

More than 220 Marist youth, team members, and guests from across the USA and Canada gathered this weekend at Marist University for the annual Marist Youth Gathering (MYG), centered on the theme, My Why. Through prayer, workshops, liturgies, music, and community-building activities, participants are exploring what inspires them to live as Marists and deepen their faith. Check out this week's Ministry Spotlight on page 2 for more details!

### School Board Meetings

As another ministry year comes to a close, we offer our heartfelt thanks to the dedicated men and women who serve on the Boards of our schools and ministries, including the MBCE Board, which gathers on Tuesday. Their generosity, wisdom, and commitment to the Marist mission provide invaluable support to our ministries and the young people they serve. We are grateful for their faithful leadership and for the many ways they help our Marist works flourish.

### Global Gathering of Marist Schools

Marist educators from around the world gathered on June 3 to celebrate the Feast of Saint Marcellin Champagnat and reflect on the XXIII General Chapter theme, Builders of a New Hermitage. Participants heard from Br. Peter Carroll, Br. Hipólito Pérez, and members of the General Council on the future of Marist education and mission. **The webinar recording is available here**:

# MINISTRY SPOTLIGHT

## Marist Youth Gathering 2026

### Marist University, Poughkeepsie, New York

**More than 220 Marist youth, team members, and guests from across the United States and Canada gathered at Marist University from May 28-31 for the annual Marist Youth Gathering (MYG), centered on this year's theme, My Why. Throughout the weekend, participants engaged in prayer, workshops, small group conversations, liturgy, community-building activities, and the always-popular Champagnat Games. The gathering provided an opportunity for young people to deepen their faith, build new friendships, and connect with fellow Marists from across North America.**

The weekend featured keynote presentations, music, and opportunities for participants to explore the people, experiences, and values that shape their sense of purpose and Marist identity. Participants were welcomed by Superior General Br. Peter Carroll through a special video message and concluded the weekend with words from Provincial Br. Dan O'Riordan, who challenged them to continue living their Marist "why" in service to others and in response to God's call.

The Marist Youth Gathering continues to be one of the signature experiences for young people in the Marist community, bringing together students and young adults from across our schools and ministries to celebrate faith, community, leadership, and the spirit of St. Marcellin Champagnat.

## CONGRATULATIONS, GREEN TEAM GRADUATES!

As the school year comes to a close, we offer our congratulations and gratitude to the graduating seniors who have helped strengthen their local Green Teams and the wider Province Green Team network. Thank you for your leadership, enthusiasm, and commitment to caring for our common home. We wish you every blessing in the next chapter of your journey and look forward to seeing the impact you continue to make in the world.

Join an upcoming webinar on June 9 exploring two significant gifts to the Church: the annual World Day of Prayer for Creation and the newly promulgated Mass for the Care of Creation. Participants will learn about the significance of this new liturgical resource, its connection to the Season of Creation (September 1–October 4), and practical ways to celebrate and promote care for creation in parish and ministry settings. Liturgical resources, homily ideas, prayers, and other pastoral tools will be shared with all registered participants.

### WEBINAR: CELEBRATING THE WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR CREATION WITH THE NEW MASS

📅 **June 9, 2026**

🕗 **8:00 a.m. ET**

🌿 Open to all and free of charge, including diocesan and parish leaders, priests, educators, Laudato Si' Animators, JPIC coordinators, and anyone interested in care for creation.

## STAY CONNECTED WITH THE MARIST GREEN TEAM

As the school year comes to a close, we offer our congratulations and gratitude to the graduating seniors who have helped strengthen their local Green Teams and the wider Province Green Team network. Thank you for your leadership, enthusiasm, and commitment to caring for our common home. We wish you every blessing in the next chapter of your journey and look forward to seeing the impact you continue to make in the world.

# MARISTS OF CHAMPAGNAT

## EPISODE 9 OF MY MARIST LIFE IS HERE!

In this episode of My Marist Life, host Eric Gonzales speaks with Daniela Solis, a Marist of Champagnat, about her return to SJA to serve as Associate Campus Minister and Service Coordinator. Listen in to hear how she is living out the Marist Mission in this new role.

Listen now on Spotify! **New episodes will drop the first of every month.**

We hope this podcast becomes a space for reflection, storytelling, and connection as we continue to live the Marist Mission together. Spread the word and share with anyone who might be inspired by these conversations!

LISTEN NOW

## *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

REGISTER NOW

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.

## 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

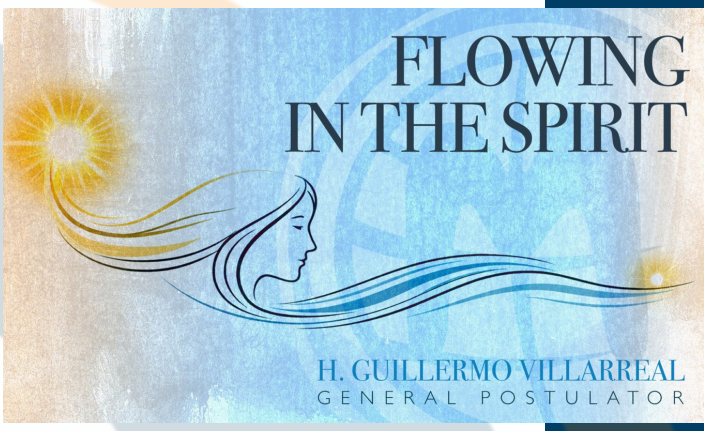
# NEWS FROM THE GENERAL HOUSE

## FLOWING IN THE SPIRIT

### WEEK 13 - CHARITY THAT TRANSFORMS HISTORY

This week's Flowing in the Spirit reflection examines how holiness is lived through justice, mercy, and commitment to others. Drawing on the witness of Marist blesseds and martyrs, Br. Guillermo Villarreal invites readers to consider how charity, lived concretely in our relationships, communities, and ministries, becomes a force for transformation in the world.

--Read the complete article here.

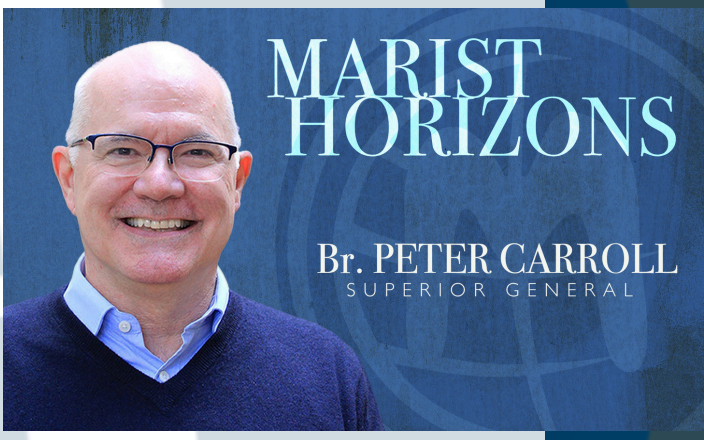



***Flowing in the Spirit*** *is a year-long series of weekly reflections offered by Br. Guillermo Villareal, our Postulator General responsible for advancing the causes of our Marist saints.*

## MARIST HORIZONS – 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 visits to Hong Kong and Japan.

--Read the complete article here.




## REFLECTING ON MARCELLIN'S SPIRITUAL TESTAMENT

The Institute has shared a reflection entitled The Spiritual Testament of Marcellin Champagnat and the Spirituality of the Heart. Drawing from Marcellin's final spiritual message to the Brothers, the article explores themes of love, fraternity, the presence of God, and devotion to Mary while inviting today's Marists to deepen a spirituality rooted in the heart. The reflection also includes links to download the Spiritual Testament in multiple languages.

--Read the complete article here.

# OUR MARIST FAMILY: *Across Arco Norte*

ARCO NORTE
MARISTES·MARISTS·MARISTAS

## REGIONAL FORMATION

During May 2026, the Arco Norte Region, in collaboration with the Marist Foundation for International Solidarity (FMSI) and the regional Solidarity Team, conducted the first cycle of Regional Training in Project Management with a Focus on Children's Rights. Approximately 40 Marists from across the Region participated in the four-session virtual program. The training strengthened participants' skills in project design and management through a rights-based approach, promoting the protection, participation, and dignity of children, adolescents, and young people. It also provided opportunities to reflect on the Marist mission's commitment to vulnerable youth and the role of our projects as instruments of transformation, justice, and hope.

## CELEBRATING CREATIVITY AND CARE FOR CREATION

The Arco Norte Region recently celebrated the Province of Central Mexico's commitment to both the arts and care for our common home through the closing of the 12th Marist Creative Writing Encounter and the presentation of REVBÉLATE 2026, the 12th Marist Anthology of Literary Creation. Held at Colegio México Bachillerato in Mexico City, the event featured short stories, poetry, and essays written by students from Marist schools across the province under the theme Marists in Action for Our Common Home.

The gathering provided young people with an opportunity to share their creativity, reflect on ecology and care for creation in the spirit of Laudato Si', and build friendships with fellow Marists from throughout the region. Congratulations to the student authors, educators, and participating delegations whose creativity and commitment continue to inspire awareness, transformation, and hope.

*Learn more about the Arco Norte Region on Facebook!*

# Province News:

The Marists of Champagnat Commitment Ceremony will be held this **Sunday, June 7, at 5:00 p.m. Eastern**. Participants who have completed Pathway 1 will also be recognized and receive a certificate marking this milestone in their Marist journey. Please keep all those making their commitment in your prayers.

LINK

The Christopher Columbus community gathered this week to honor Br. Kevin Handibode as he begins his retirement. Throughout his remarkable Marist vocation, Br. Kevin has touched countless lives as an educator, coach, principal, president, and dedicated fundraiser. His legacy of leadership, service, and commitment to the Marist mission will continue to be reflected in the generations of Explorers he has inspired and guided over the years. Click here to read an article that appeared in the Miami Herald in tribute to Br. Kevin and his incredible impact.

We were pleased to welcome four fellow Marists from Europe to the USA Province this past week. Their visit included participation in the Marist Youth Gathering as well as time with our novices and formation team at St. Barnabas.

# 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 24:36-51
- CANADA NEWS
- MEXICO OCCIDENTAL
- CHAMPAGNAT GLOBAL
- NORANDINA

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

- The repose of the soul of Arlene Molnar, sister-in-law of Br. Raoul Molnar, who passed away recently. 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.

- 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 Lavallee, 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'Keeffe, 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 Pelliciari, 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, cousin of Br. Michael Laratonda.
- For Jorge Bribiesca, nephew of Juan Bribiesca Ruiz, who is undergoing cancer treatment.

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