



Friday Notes

JUNE 26, 2026

053



USA BROTHERS BEGIN SERVICE EXPERIENCE IN LIBERIA

Our Brothers from the USA are off to a wonderful start in Liberia! Bros. David Freiler and Miguel Garcia have been serving alongside the Missionaries of Charity with men in recovery and young mothers and also spent time with Life Village Orphanage. Meanwhile Bros. Robert Dittus, Brian Poulin, and Ryan Richter have been spending time with students at Marist Brothers Catholic School and Sister Shirley Kolmer Memorial Catholic School. The group has been warmly welcomed by the Marist Brothers of West Africa, whose incredible hospitality has made this experience possible. Stay tuned for a more in-depth look at their time in Liberia in next week's *Friday Notes*!



Anyone interested in joining the Champagnat Hall community for their Independence Day barbecue on Saturday, July 4th at 12 noon is asked to contact Br. Steve Milan by Tuesday, June 30th

UPCOMING EVENTS



Kids 1 Camp

MID-HUDSON VALLEY CAMPS

MBCE - Esopus, NY

June 28 - July 4, 2026



Camp Session 1

CAMP MARIST

Lake Ossipee, NH

June 28 - July 4, 2026



Pilgrimage to L'Hermitage

L'Hermitage, France

July 1-6, 2026



Molloy Freshman Camp

MID-HUDSON VALLEY CAMPS

MBCE - Esopus, NY

July 5 - 11, 2026



Provincial Council Meeting

Long Branch, NJ

July 10 - 11, 2026



Marist Leadership Institute

Long Branch, NJ

July 12 - 15, 2026



Congratulations to Cameron Boozer!

Congratulations to Christopher Columbus High School Class of 2025 graduate Cameron Boozer, who was selected third overall by the Memphis Grizzlies in this week's NBA Draft. Cameron left Columbus as one of the nation's most accomplished high school basketball players, and the Marist community celebrates this exciting milestone as he begins the next chapter of his career. We wish Cameron every success at the professional level!



Join the Marist Mission

Mount Saint Michael Academy is currently seeking a Director of Campus Ministry, and Saint Joseph Academy is seeking a Campus Minister. These positions offer an opportunity to accompany young people in faith, service, and spiritual growth while supporting the Marist mission in our schools. Please share these openings with anyone who may be interested in serving in Marist education.



FMSI Annual Report 2025

The Marist Foundation for International Solidarity has released its 2025 Annual Report, highlighting the impact of 695 projects in 69 countries. The report showcases how Marists are working alongside local communities to promote children's rights, education, inclusion, and justice while responding to today's most urgent humanitarian needs. **Explore the many ways the global Marist family is helping build a world where every child can thrive.**

MINISTRY SPOTLIGHT

Foundation Stones 2026

FOUNDATION STONES RETREAT INVITES YOUNG MEN TO EXPLORE MARIST RELIGIOUS LIFE

From June 14-20, eleven young men from Marist schools across the United States gathered at the Marist Brothers Center at Esopus for the annual Foundation Stones Retreat.

Throughout the week, participants joined Brothers in prayer, service, reflection, and community while learning more about Marist religious life and the possibility of a vocation as a Marist Brother.



Mornings were spent preparing the Esopus property for the summer camp season, while afternoons featured workshops on Marist spirituality, discernment, community life, mission, ministry, and the vows. Participants also enjoyed time for recreation and fellowship, including a day trip to New York City, a visit to Marist University, and several community-building activities. The retreat offered a meaningful opportunity to experience Marist life firsthand and reflect on God's call in their lives. [Click here to read the full story and view photos from the week.](#)



Throughout the 2025-2026 school year, Marists across the Province continued to deepen their commitment to care for creation through education, service, advocacy, and community action. Guided by the Province's Laudato Si' Action Plan, students, educators, Brothers, and Lay Marists participated in initiatives that connected faith, sustainability, and the Marist mission.

Highlights of the year included the Fourth Annual Marist Earth Day Weekend at the Marist Brothers Center at Esopus, ecology-focused formation opportunities for novice Brothers, participation in Laudato Si' Week, local Green Team projects, and a global Earth Day webinar hosted by the Marist Foundation for International Solidarity (FMSI). Together, these efforts reflected a growing commitment to ecological conversion across Marist schools, ministries, and communities.

As the school year comes to a close, we give thanks for the many individuals who continue to care for our common home through both large and small acts of stewardship.

Read our full year-in-review feature highlighting ecology and sustainability efforts across the Province!



TURN OVER A NEW LEAF: SUMMER ECOLOGY READING



Pope Leo XIV Says Care for Creation Is a Requirement of Faith



Pope Leo XIV: Environmental Crisis Reflects Wider Socio-Economic Challenges



Climate delays risk greater suffering, Catholics warn

MARISTS OF CHAMPAGNAT



CHECK OUT EPISODE 9 OF MY MARIST LIFE!

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

EPISODE 9



MY MARIST LIFE:

Returning to Serve - Daniela Solis

SJA graduate, former Marist Youth leader, and now Associate Campus Minister & Service Coordinator. Hear her journey of faith, service, leadership, and what it means to live the Marist mission today. Streaming on June 1st on Spotify! #MyMaristLife



with Daniela Solis



Host Eric Gonzales

JOURNEY TO THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

There is still time to register for the 2026 Marists of Champagnat USA National Assembly, taking place July 14-17 in Long Branch, New Jersey. Centered on the theme Beacons of Joy, this year's gathering will feature inspiring keynote speakers, prayer, fellowship, and a wide variety of workshops designed to deepen your Marist identity and strengthen your faith. Whether you are new to the journey or have been involved for years, there is something for everyone.



Journey to the National Assembly

Engaging Workshops for Every Journey

Meaningful conversations and engaging workshops await!
Designed to deepen your faith and strengthen your Marist identity, our workshops will inspire you to live as a Beacon of Joy.

Featured Workshop Topics:

- Being Catholic Adjacent
- Praying for Our Adult Children
- The Breath of Ruah
- The Black Madonna
- Integral Ecology
- Being a Holder of the Lantern
- Marian Spirituality in Light of Social Justice
- Lord, Teach Me How to Pray
- Finding Joy in Urban Education
- The LaValla Gospels
- The Call of the General Chapter



LAST CHANCE TO REGISTER FOR THE ASSEMBLY
Taking Place from July 14 - 17 in Long Branch, NJ

REGISTER FOR ASSEMBLY

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 Lamphier or Maureen Hagan.

DONATE





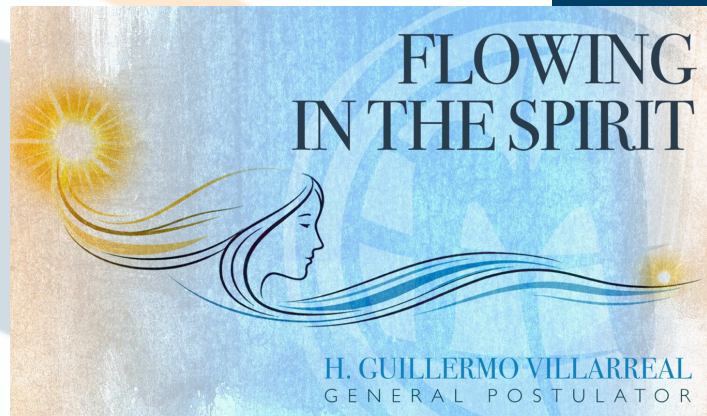
NEWS FROM THE GENERAL HOUSE

FLOWING IN THE SPIRIT

WEEK 16 - ONE PROCESS, TWO STAGES: HOW THE CHURCH DISCERNS HOLINESS

This week's Flowing in the Spirit reflection explores how the Church carefully discerns holiness through the beatification and canonization process. Br. Guillermo Villarreal explains the distinct roles of the diocesan and Roman phases, showing how they work together as one unified process to ensure that authentic models of Gospel living are recognized for the good of the entire Church.

[--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.

SHARING THE LAY MARIST VOCATION

A new issue of Sharing, the Lay Marist Newsletter from the Secretariat of Laity, is now available. This edition features stories, reflections, and initiatives from lay Marists around the world, highlighting the many ways the Marist mission is lived in diverse cultures and communities. It also includes formation resources connected to The Breath of Ruah: Lay Marists of Champagnat, Vocation and Organisation, continuing the work of the International Forum on Lay Marists of Champagnat.



Sharing

THE LAY
MARIST
VOCATION

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

MARIST HORIZONS: PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE

In the June edition of *Marist Horizons*, Superior General Br. Peter Carroll reflects on the General Government's recent Plenary Meeting, where leaders gathered to begin shaping a new Pastoral Strategic Plan for the Institute. Rooted in the calls of the 23rd General Chapter and guided by months of listening and discernment, the planning process seeks to strengthen the Marist mission for the future. Br. Peter also outlines the General Government's eight key responsibilities in serving the worldwide Institute and shares hope that a draft of the Pastoral Plan will be presented for wider reflection later this year.

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



OUR MARIST FAMILY:

Across Arco Norte

PROVINCE OF NORANDINA



COLOMBIA CELEBRATES YEARS OF MARIST SERVICE

As part of the Month of Champagnat celebrations, the Marist community in Colombia gathered on June 18 to honor colleagues whose years of dedication have helped bring the Marist mission to life. Staff members celebrating 10, 15, 20, 30, and even 35 years of service were recognized for their commitment, generosity, and the lasting impact they have made in Marist ministries. Their faithful service continues to inspire and carry forward Champagnat's dream.



PROVINCIAL VISITS MARIST COMMUNITIES IN SOUTHERN ECUADOR

From June 8–17, Br. Leonardo Yepes Núñez, Provincial, visited Marist communities and ministries in southern Ecuador, spending time with students, educators, and leadership teams in Loja, Catacocha, and Macará. The visits provided opportunities for conversation, encouragement, and shared prayer while strengthening the bonds that unite the Marist family and renewing the commitment to serve children and young people in the spirit of St. Marcellin Champagnat.

FORMER MARIST EDUCATORS VOLUNTEER IN COLOMBIA

Three former teachers from Instituto Champagnat in Pasto spent a week volunteering at the Santa María de la Torre Community Center in Medellín, sharing the Marist spirit with local children through activities focused on St. Marcellin Champagnat, care for our common home inspired by Laudato Si', and the dignity of every person.



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

MARIST YOUNG PROFESSIONALS

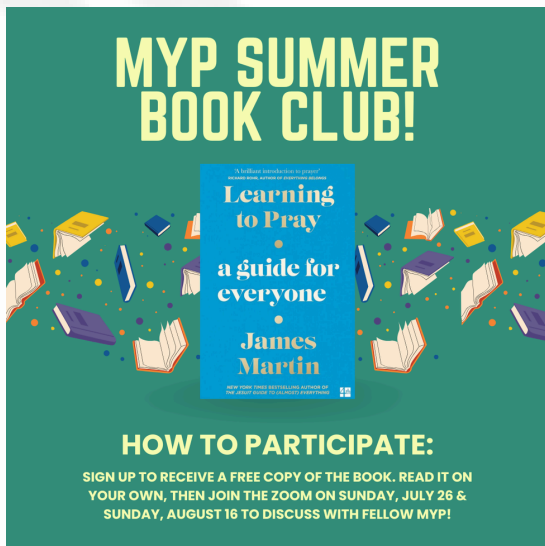


HELP NEEDED

Marist Young Professionals are invited to serve as dorm prefects during this summer's Marist Youth Leadership Camp, July 20-25. Volunteers will support high school participants, reconnect with fellow Marists, and help create a meaningful leadership experience. Travel expenses are covered.

Interested MYPs are encouraged to sign up today!

JOIN THE
INAUGURAL
MYP
SUMMER
BOOK
CLUB!



Participants will read and reflect on Learning to Pray: A Guide for Everyone by Fr. James Martin and gather for virtual discussions on July 26 and August 16. Free copies of the book are available for those who register. Whether you're confident in your prayer life or looking for new ways to grow, all are welcome.

FALL MISSION TRIP

PLAN		<i>Kentucky</i> 2026 MYP Mission Trip!
	YOUR	
September 3-7 Labor Day Weekend Magnificat Farm Jackson, KY Cost: \$300 See below for details!		FALL

MYPs are invited to join a fall mission trip to Jackson, Kentucky, September 3-7. The experience will include service projects, prayer, shared life, and opportunities to explore the natural beauty of Eastern Kentucky. The cost is \$300 and includes transportation, lodging, meals, programming, and service project expenses.

Space is limited, and interested participants are encouraged to reserve their spot early.

JULY Birthdays

SATURDAY, JULY 4

BR. MICHAEL LARATONDA

SATURDAY, JULY 11

BR. JAMES VAGAN
BR. ROBERT CONLEY

MONDAY, JULY 20

BR. THOMAS SCHADY

TUESDAY, JULY 28

BR. HUGH ANDREW

READING THIS WEEK



MARIST NEWS



MATTHEW 22:15-33



CANADA NEWS



MEXICO OCCIDENTAL



CHAMPAGNAT GLOBAL



NORANDINA

This week, please remember in your prayers...



- Our Brothers who are in Liberia and the Brothers and other individuals who will meet and accompany them through their experience.

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

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