



Friday Notes

SEPTEMBER 11, 2026

064



Over Labor Day weekend, Marist Young Professionals gathered at Magnificat Farm in Jackson, Kentucky for several days of service, shared life and prayer. They came from all over the USA: Jens Salva (NY), Keanu Orfano (NY/FL), Marissa Berrios (NJ), Erin Nahaczewski (NJ), Joanina Daphnis (FL), Nayelis Herrera (FL), Br. Ryan Richter (IL) and Sophia Douglas (TX), united by their desire to live the Marist charism concretely and in community. They were joined by Ed Kennedy (Marist of Champagnat from NJ), as well as Ellen and Joshua van Cleef, along with young Joy and Emmanuel. The group worked at a local mini-pig sanctuary, building a compost toilet and clearing the land for a future barn. Despite scorching heat, the group worked with joy and determination to help further the vision of the Wilbur Pepper Mini-Pig Sanctuary as it looks to expand its footprint (hoofprint?) in the community and provide a safe haven for animals in need. The group also cooked a delicious meal at the Owsley County Community Kitchen, located near the pig sanctuary. Beyond the service projects, the group gathered for prayer and reflection each morning and evening. Guided by the theme of Love of Work, they reflected together on how their faith shapes the ways they serve and accompany others. Other highlights included doing art in nature at a swimming hole on the Magnificat Farm property, eating the world-famous corn dogs at the Breathitt County Honey Festival, hiking to the top of Natural Bridge, and enjoying the stars.

Read more about the MYP mission trip in next week's Ministry Spotlight!

UPCOMING EVENTS



Provincial Council Meeting

via Zoom

September 12, 2026



Community Leaders Meeting

Archbishop Molloy High School

September 13, 2026



MBCE Hall of Fame

MBCE - Esopus, NY

September 19, 2026



MSM Centennial Celebration Mass

Bronx, NY

September 29, 2026



Living Laudato Si Through A Marist Lens Book Launch Event

October 1, 2026



Sharing Our Mission: Creating Communities of Belonging

MBCE - Esopus, NY

October 3 - 6, 2026



Province Team Meeting

MBCE - Esopus, NY

October 6 - 7, 2026



Remembering September 11

As we mark the 25th anniversary of the September 11 attacks, we remember the nearly 3,000 lives lost, the families who continue to carry their absence and the courage of the first responders.

May this solemn anniversary renew our commitment to be people of peace and hope.



A New Home for Br. John Byrd

Br. Brian had the pleasure this week of visiting Br. John Byrd as he prepares to move into his new apartment at Mount St. Joseph. We are grateful to the Sisters of St. Joseph of Wheeling, West Virginia for opening their home to other religious and welcoming Br. John among them.

Marists of Champagnat Retreat

ALL ARE WELCOME!



Theme:
Detachment
The freedom to love
rightly, because our
hearts finally rest in
God alone.

Marists of Champagnat Retreat

A Marists of Champagnat Retreat will take place Saturday, October 3, on Fire Island, New York. Centered on the theme of detachment, the afternoon will offer time for prayer, reflection and Marist community.

Registration information is available on the Marists of Champagnat page.

MINISTRY SPOTLIGHT

Marist Young Adult Community Begins Eighth Year in Austin

Written by Br. Rob Clark

The Province's Marist Young Adult Community in Austin, Texas, began its eighth year this August with five young adults and Br. Rob Clark. Since the community was established, 26 young adults have taken part in this new expression of the Marist Brothers' charism.

Community life follows a weekly rhythm of prayer, shared meals, and hospitality. Each week, Marist Monday brings members together for an evening of brotherhood, prayer, and community sharing over a festive meal. The community has also welcomed hundreds of guests from the University of Texas.

Its mission statement captures the spirit of life in Austin:

We are a community of young adults and Marist Brothers united in faith by the love of Christ and guided by the Marist spirit. Our brotherhood is fostered by our commitment to hospitality, group prayer, shared meals, and a genuine concern for each person.



Front, from left: Luke Goesch and Jacob Steptoe. Back, from left: Ryan Wroblecki, Br. Rob Clark, Juan Pablo Herrera, a Saint Joseph Academy graduate, and Raj Ramachandran.

SEASON OF CREATION



Living Water
Season of Creation 2026

Immersion in Living Water
EZEKIEL 47:9, 12

WEEK THREE: WHERE THE RIVER FLOWS

During the third week of the Season of Creation, we reflect on Ezekiel's vision of a river bringing healing and renewal wherever it flows. Waters are made fresh, trees bear fruit and places once unable to sustain life begin to flourish. This image of Living Water reminds us of God's presence moving through creation and restoring life.

This week's call to contemplation invites us to consider our own place within that river. How are we being called to step into God's healing work and allow that grace to flow through our lives?

This week's call to action focuses on reducing our use of fresh water. During the coming week, consider taking shorter showers, turning off the faucet when water is not needed and being more mindful of the water required by the food and technology we use. These small choices can help us develop habits rooted in gratitude and care for this sacred gift.

[VIEW THE 2026 SEASON OF CREATION CELEBRATION GUIDE.](#)

ECOLOGY WEEKEND 2026

The annual Ecology Weekend will take place October 9–12 along the Hudson River. This gathering offers student leaders and Marists from across the Province an opportunity to deepen their commitment to the Care of Our Common Home.

Throughout the weekend, participants will take part in outdoor workshops, shared reflection and contemplative practices designed to nurture ecological spirituality and strengthen the Province's growing network of young environmental leaders.

REGISTRATION IS DUE BY SEPTEMBER 30.

A packing list and parental permission forms are also available. Completed permission forms should be sent to Matt Fallon at matt@maristyouth.com and Sam C. King.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

The first Marist Green Team meeting of the new school year will take place on Wednesday, September 16, at 12pm ET / 11am CT.



MARISTS OF CHAMPAGNAT



MARISTS OF CHAMPAGNAT RETREAT ON FIRE ISLAND

All are welcome to the Marists of Champagnat Retreat on Saturday, October 3, from 12:00–6:00 p.m. at Whyte Hall Community Center on Fire Island, New York.

Centered on the theme “Detachment: The freedom to love rightly, because our hearts finally rest in God alone,” the retreat will offer time for prayer, reflection, and Marist community.

The cost is \$40 per person and includes the retreat, lunch, and round-trip ferry transportation between Sayville and the Fire Island Pines. Transportation will also be available between the Sayville Long Island Rail Road station and the ferry terminal.

REGISTER FOR THE RETREAT

For more information, please contact
Rich Costa at rcosta@molloyhs.org.

Marists of Champagnat Retreat
ALL ARE WELCOME!



Theme:
Detachment
The freedom to love rightly, because our hearts finally rest in God alone.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 3, 2026
12:00 PM – 6:00 PM

Whyte Hall Community Center
577 Fire Island Blvd
Fire Island, NY 11782

\$40 per person. Register at:
www.molloyhs.org/mocretreat
Includes retreat fee, ferry transportation, and lunch



SCAN HERE TO REGISTER NOW!

Transportation: The Sayville Ferry Service will provide round trip chartered service between Sayville and the Fire Island Pines.
Driving: Park in the Fire Island Ferry Parking across the street from the ferry terminal. The cost is \$25/day.
Railroad: We will provide round trip transportation from the Sayville Long Island Railroad station and the ferry terminal.

For more information, please email Rich Costa at rcosta@molloyhs.org

MY MARIST LIFE: SEASON FINALE

ANOTHER WAY: ALICE MIESNIK ON FAITH, IDENTITY AND BELONGING

In the Season 1 finale of My Marist Life, Eric Gonzales speaks with Marist of Champagnat Alice Miesnik about her journey through religious life, education, leadership and writing.

Alice shares the story behind her book, *Another Way: A Journey of Faith, Love and Identity*, and reflects on vocation, unexpected change and creating communities where everyone feels welcomed, valued and known.

LISTEN NOW ON SPOTIFY!

Episode 12 @mymaristlife

My Marist Life Podcast

Guest: Alice Miesnik Host: Eric Gonzales



Listen Now on  Spotify



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 27: FROM JURIDICAL PROCESSES TO ECCLESIAL DISCERNMENT

The latest edition of *Flowing in the Spirit* traces the historical evolution of the Church's process for recognizing holiness. Once characterized by a highly formal judicial structure, the process has developed into a historical and theological discernment that considers each person's life within its particular context while continuing to identify reliable models of following Christ.

[Read the complete article →](#)

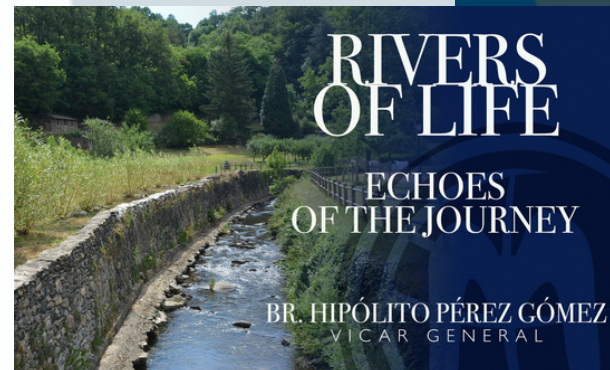


Flowing in the Spirit is a year-long series of weekly reflections offered by Br. Guillermo Villarreal, our Postulator General responsible for advancing the causes of our Marist saints.

BR. HIPÓLITO PÉREZ – SEPTEMBER 2026: AN AFFAIR OF THE HEART...

In his September "Rivers of Life" reflection, Vicar General Br. Hipólito Pérez considers the fragility of community life and the need to nurture it from within. Drawing on the call of the General Chapter to become "Builders of Communion," he reminds Marists that changes to structures alone cannot create truly fraternal communities. What matters most is a heart willing to listen, care and make room for others. Echoing Br. Seán Sammon, Br. Hipólito presents community as "an affair of the heart" and invites each of us to consider whether we are helping our communities flourish or simply learning to survive within them.

[Read the complete article →](#)



MARISTS TRANSFORMING LIVES: MARIST MERCY CARE

Marist Mercy Care in Addo, South Africa, supports children and vulnerable families in the communities of Valencia and Dunbrody. Through its early childhood development centers, feeding programs and community outreach, the Marist Social Work provides safe places where children can learn and grow while helping families meet essential needs. Its programs currently serve approximately 250 children and reach nearly 400 people through food assistance and outreach.

[Read more →](#)



Marists Transforming Lives highlights the many ways Marists and their ministries are making a difference in the lives of young people and their communities.



NEWS FROM THE GENERAL HOUSE

MARIST WORLD TO CELEBRATE CHILDREN AS BUILDERS OF PEACE

On November 20, the international Marist family will gather online for Children Builders of Peace: Our Voices Matter, Our Rights Count, Let Us Participate! Held in recognition of World Children's Day, the event will celebrate children and young people not simply as recipients of protection, but as active participants in building peace within their communities.

A central part of the initiative is the "Marist CRC," a collaborative visual interpretation of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child. Children from Marist schools and social works around the world are illustrating its articles, creating a document shaped through their own experiences and perspectives.

The program will also include testimony from young people who have brought their voices to the United Nations and a live international conversation about their work as builders of peace. Br. Peter Carroll, Superior General, will open the event, and Vicar General Br. Hipólito Pérez will offer the closing remarks.

CHAMPAGNAT GLOBAL WEEK 2026: SHAPING THE FUTURE OF EDUCATION

From October 26 through 30, Marist educators from around the world will gather virtually for Champagnat Global Week 2026. This year's theme, "Shaping the Future: Artificial Intelligence, Education and Humanity," will explore how schools can respond to the growth of artificial intelligence without losing sight of what makes education profoundly human.

Throughout the week, participants will consider the opportunities and challenges AI presents for education, hear directly from young people and explore how technology can support the Marist commitment to holistic education. Each session will be presented in collaboration with one of the international Marist mission networks.

Participation is free, with sessions available in English, Spanish, Portuguese and French.



**BROTHERS, SCHOOLS AND
MARIST SOCIAL WORKS ARE
INVITED TO PARTICIPATE.
REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN→**



**VIEW THE COMPLETE
PROGRAM AND
REGISTER→**

OUR MARIST FAMILY:

Across Arco Norte



ARCO NORTE FINANCE LEADERS GATHER IN BOGOTÁ



Finance leaders from across the Arco Norte Region gathered in Bogotá, Colombia, from September 1–2 to reflect on the progress made through the 2022–2025 Strategic Operational Plan and begin considering the next phase of regional collaboration.

The meeting provided an opportunity to review the work accomplished during the past four years, share experiences from across the region and identify areas that will require continued attention. Discussions focused on strengthening governance and professional management within the Provinces, making more effective use of strategic information and expanding opportunities for economic and financial cooperation.

Accompanied by Br. Jorge Gaio and Br. Mark Omede, participants also considered how closer collaboration can support the mission of each Province while strengthening the Arco Norte Region as a whole. Their time together reaffirmed the importance of responsible stewardship and shared planning in sustaining the Marist mission throughout the region.

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

CARBON OFFSET PROGRAM: TRAVEL MILEAGE REMINDER

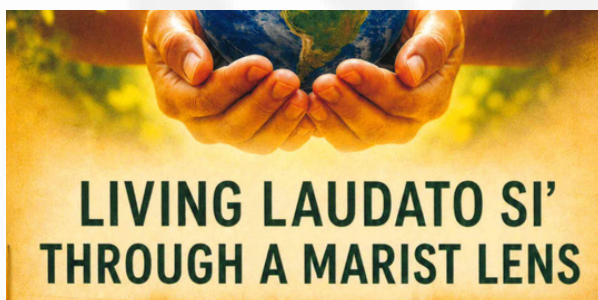
As the second year of the USA Province Carbon Offset Program concludes, Brothers and Province Team members are asked to submit an estimate of their work-related vehicle and flight mileage for September 1, 2025 through August 31, 2026. Please send your information to Br. Donnell at eoneary@gmail.com as soon as possible.

Vehicle mileage may include personal vehicles, taxis, Ubers and other local car travel. Please include the vehicle type, such as gas, hybrid or electric, if that information is available. Estimates are welcome and do not need to be exact.

Last year, the program generated approximately \$10,000 to support carbon-sequestering tree planting at Esopus and renewable energy projects across the Province.

SAVE THE DATE!

Join the Marist family on October 1 for a special event celebrating the launch of *Living Laudato Si' Through a Marist Lens*, a new book highlighting grassroots ecological action from across the Marist world.



AT SAN ALFONSO RETREAT HOUSE

Our friends at San Alfonso Retreat House in Long Branch, NJ, are always happy to welcome Marists to their retreats and programs. This September, they are offering:

The Beatitudes: A Call to Holy, Humble Discipleship – In Christ will take place September 25–27 and offer time for prayer and reflection on Christ's call to discipleship.

The retreat will be led by Fr. Anthony Michalik, C.Ss.R.

[Learn More and Register at sanalfonsoretreats.org!](http://sanalfonsoretreats.org)

MOUNT ST. MICHAEL ACADEMY CENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY MASS

Mount St. Michael Academy will celebrate 100 years of faith, brotherhood, service, and excellence with a **Centennial Anniversary Mass on Tuesday, September 29, at 10 a.m.** in the Richard Tricario Sports Center. A light celebratory reception will follow as the Mount community commemorates this historic milestone and honors a century of Mountie tradition and Marist legacy.

Space is limited. Visit Mount Saint Michael Academy's website for additional information and livestream details.

SEPTEMBER Birthdays

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 1
Br. John Dunning

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 7
Br. Thomas Long

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 10
Br. Fabien Landry (Canada)

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 14
Br. Gérard Bachand (Canada)

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15
Br. Charles Filiatrault

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 17
Br. Léopold Charland (Canada)

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 22
Br. James Adams

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 26
Br. René Mailloux (Canada)

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 29
Br. Brian Poulin

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30
Br. Steve Milan

READING THIS WEEK



MARIST NEWS



MATTHEW 26:1-16



CANADA NEWS



CHAMPAGNAT
GLOBAL

This week, please remember in your prayers...



- ...the repose of the soul of Bob Tiedemann, a beloved former history teacher at Christ the King High School in Queens, NY, who died on the Feast of St. Jeanne Jugan while residing with the Little Sisters of the Poor.

Wake: Sunday, September 13, from 2–6 p.m.

Krauss Funeral Home
1097 Hempstead Turnpike
Franklin Square, NY 11010

Funeral Mass: Monday, September 14, at 10 a.m.

Immaculate Conception R.C. Church
86-45 Edgerton Boulevard
Jamaica, NY 11432

... 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, Michael Laratonda, and Larry Lavalley, who are all receiving care outside of Marist community.

... 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.

... Rita Greco, retired teacher from Roselle Catholic High School, who is battling cancer.

... Jason Wolf, a cousin of John Venturella, who is receiving experimental treatment for a 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, 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 junior at Mount Saint Michael Academy.

... Cathy Puszc, a teacher who spent her entire career at Marist in Bayonne, who is in continuing care.

... Elaine Pelliciari, 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.

... Rosemary Shields, cousin of Br. Michael Laratonda.

... Corrine Richter, mother of Br. Ryan Richter, who is experiencing severe pain related to a chronic illness.

... Bob Sitler, a good friend of many Brothers and a parent of a Molloy alumnus, who is in the hospital in very serious condition.

... Fatima Arias, a close friend of Br. Abi Santiago, who is recovering from health concerns.

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