

In Loving Memory

Br. John G. Herrmann, FMS

FEBRUARY 7, 1941 - SEPTEMBER 28, 2026



Celebrating the Life of

Br. John G. Herrmann, FMS

1941 - 2026

"Oh, what consolation we have, when about to appear before God, to remember that we have lived in the favor of Mary, and in her own Society."

— Saint Marcellin Champagnat, Spiritual Testament, May 18, 1840

Marist Life at a Glance

Born:	February 7, 1941 • New York City
Entered Marist Formation:	September 5, 1956 • Marist Preparatory
Received the Marist Habit:	August 15, 1959 • St. Joseph's Novitiate
Bachelor's Degree:	1963 • Marist College
Perpetual Profession:	July 2, 1965 • Marist College
Master's Degree:	1967 • St. John's University
Died:	September 28, 2026 • Bronx, NY
Years of Marist Religious Life:	67 years



The Life of Br. John Herrmann, FMS

A Vocation Takes Root

John George Herrmann was born in New York City on February 7, 1941, the son of John Baptist Herrmann and Lillian Cecilia Holtz. His faith began at home. A fellow Brother later recalled John speaking on Good Friday about his mother's practice of keeping the hours from noon until three in quiet prayer.

On September 5, 1956, he entered Marist Preparatory in Esopus. He received the Marist habit at St. Joseph's Novitiate in Tyngsborough, Massachusetts, on August 15, 1959. He earned a bachelor's degree from Marist College in 1963 and made his perpetual profession there on July 2, 1965.



Br. John during his early years as a Marist Brother.

A faith nurtured at home became a lifelong commitment to the Marist mission.

Friends from his formation years remembered a young Brother who could be reserved, but was also playful, caring and ready to help. Those qualities stayed with him through decades of teaching and leadership.

A Vocation Lived in Education



Br. John in a Christ the King archival portrait, 1966.



Br. John at Marist High School in Bayonne, 1985.

Br. John taught at Resurrection-Ascension School in Rego Park, New York, from 1963 to 1964. His ministry also took him to Christ the King High School in Middle Village, New York, where archival photographs preserve glimpses of his early years in education.

He continued his own studies, earning a master's degree at St. John's University in 1967 and a professional diploma in administration and supervision at Hunter College in 1972. His service included Marist High School in Bayonne, New Jersey, and leadership as principal of Sacred Heart Middle School. Each school became part of the story he carried with him and shared so readily with others.

Teaching and administration gave him different ways to accompany young people. His friendships with former students endured long after their school years, connecting him to generations of Marist families.

A Legend of the Mount

Mount Saint Michael Academy held a lasting place in Br. John's life. As an educator, administrator and principal, he helped shape the school and generations of young men. He knew its history through the people who had lived it, and he kept their stories alive.

Former students remained part of his life long after graduation. A familiar name could begin another conversation, another recollection, another connection across the years.

In 2023, members of the Class of 1973 returned to celebrate fifty years since graduation. During their anniversary diploma presentation, they gave their former principal a standing ovation. One by one, they came forward to embrace him, leaving even Br. John momentarily speechless.

The Mount honored him as a Legend of the Mount in 2018. The affection shown by his former students offered its own tribute to the Brother whose presence had meant so much to them.



Br. John with members of the Mount's Class of 1973 at their fiftieth reunion, 2023.

The Stories He Carried

Br. John loved speaking about the Mount. His remarkable memory brought its past to life through the people he remembered. Friends stayed to listen because his stories connected them to a history he loved.

His interest in people and their histories also found expression in genealogy.



Br. John with former students at Mount Saint Michael Academy.

He enjoyed researching his ancestry and meeting distant relatives, delighting in the discoveries that widened his family circle.

He helped preserve Marist memories and wrote about fellow Brothers. His stories carried affection as well as information. They kept old friendships present and helped newcomers feel connected to the people and places that had shaped his life.



Br. John with his sister, 2022.

In his later years at Champagnat Hall, he remained close to the Mount and to his fellow Brothers. He died peacefully in his sleep on September 28, 2026. We remember with gratitude the faithful Brother who made room for others.

A Life Shared With Others



Leaving for the Novitiate, 1958.



At Camp Marist during his formation years, 1958–1959.



Br. John with Province Communications Director Erin Gilbert.

“So warm and welcoming, John will make you feel at home in an instant. Knowing him for a moment, you’ll feel he has been a lifetime friend.”

BR. PATRICK MCNAMARA, FMS

Jubilee reflections, June 15, 2019



FUNERAL AND MEMORIAL INFORMATION



WAKE

Friday, October 2, 2026, 2:00–4:30 p.m.
Sisto Funeral Home
3489 East Tremont Avenue
Bronx, New York 10465



FUNERAL MASS

Friday, October 2, 2026, 7:30 p.m.
Mount Saint Michael Academy
4300 Murdock Avenue
Bronx, New York 10466

Livestreamed via Zoom.



BURIAL

Saturday, October 3, 2026, 11:00 a.m.
Pinelawn Cemetery
2030 Wellwood Avenue
Farmingdale, New York 11735

The procession will depart Sisto Funeral Home at 9:30 a.m. Those going directly to the cemetery should arrive for the 11:00 a.m. burial.

WITH GRATITUDE

We give thanks for Br. John's faithful Marist life and for the welcome he shared so freely.

We entrust him to Mary, our Good Mother, and pray that he may rest in the peace of Christ.

IN REMEMBRANCE

Photographs and historical records:
Marist Brothers Archives

With gratitude to Br. John's family, fellow Brothers, former students and friends.

Produced by Erin Gilbert
Director of Communications
Marist Brothers USA Province

Let us continue to hold all who mourn Br. John's loss in our prayers.

May the angels lead him into paradise.