

Society of Mary

Marists in the United States



November 10, 2023

Recipient of the 2023 Rev. Louis J. Luzbetak, SVD Award



Ken Johnson-Mondragon

Ken Johnson-Mondragon, a former Marist, has been awarded the 2023 Rev. Louis J. Luzbetak, SVD award for Exemplary Church Research, named for Georgetown University's Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate (CARA) first executive director for significant lifetime contributions to research on the Catholic Church.

Ken's approach to research was informed by four years as a parish youth minister and pastoral associate. From 1999 to 2015, he was director of the National Research and Resource Center for Hispanic Youth and Young Adult Ministry with the Institute Fe y Vida, a national Catholic formation institute. From 2015 to 2017 he was director of Latino Research and Development for RCL Benziger, one of the country's oldest and largest publishers of Catholic faith formation resources. Under appointment by the Secretariat for Cultural Diversity in the Church of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, from 2017 to 2021, he was coordinator of research for the V Encuentro, where his skill at gathering, analyzing, and reporting on data from the four-year national consultation process produced research reports at the diocesan, regional, and national levels to inform a variety of stakeholders of its effect on the life of the Catholic Church in the U.S. Ken's distinguished service in a succession of positions of increasing importance led to his appointment in 2022 as the first director of pastoral engagement for the California Catholic Conference.

Ken has been the author or co-author of dozens of academic articles and book chapters, and in 2007, St. Mary's Press published his edited book, *Pathways of Hope and Faith among Hispanic Teens*. His USCCB efforts resulted in the bilingual publication of *Proceedings and Conclusions of the V National Encuentro of Hispanic/Latino Ministry*. His other awards include the Leadership Award of the 2008 National Catholic Network de Pastoral Juvenil Hispana, and in 2015 the Catholic Press Award for his best book review of *Young Catholic America: Emerging Adults In, Out of, and Gone from the Church*, by Christian Smith and others. (Credit: Award ceremony program)

Congratulations Ken for your remarkable contribution to Catholic research in the United States.

TEDxYouth@Marist School Explores Uncharted Ideas



Marist School Honors 2023-2024 Faculty and Staff Award Winners



J.B. Mannelly, Jr. Honored with 2023 St. Peter Chanel Award



Marist Broadcasting Club Sets the Stage for Excellence



Marist Homecoming 2023

Marist Homecoming 2023 left the school community “glowing”! Following spirit week, the campus came alive with Homecoming celebrations across campus on November 3rd. The day’s festivities kicked off at the Pep Rally which was aglow with students dressed in neon. Midfield, the Blue & Gold Athletics Circle induction ceremony took place just before the Marist War Eagles’ varsity football team triumphed over the Riverwood Raiders with a score of 42-6 at Hughes Spalding Stadium. The excitement continued the following day when students attended the Homecoming Dance, with this year’s “Glowco” theme.



On All Saints Day, the Marist School community gathered for Mass to remember the saints of the Catholic Church who embraced Jesus’ messages of love, compassion, and selflessness during their lives. They also prayed for the countless individuals who lived holy lives but who have not yet been formally canonized by the Church. Alumni Chaplain Father Mark Kenney, S.M. reminded us that we are all considered saints on earth and are called to live by the important teachings of the Beatitudes.

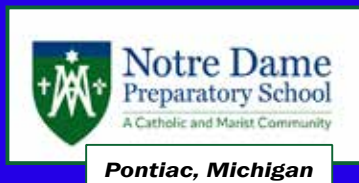


On October 21st, Dr. Linda Lehmil, Executive Director of Reach for Excellence and Ms. Teresa Enriquez Taxis, Hispanic Initiative Coordinator for Reach for Excellence held a workshop with 8th grade parents to discuss high school options and the admissions process. Dr. Lehmil and Ms. Enriquez Taxis reviewed individual steps and deadlines for eight independent schools as well as local charter and magnet programs.

Parents learned about everything from creating a Ravenna account, the admissions portal used by the Atlanta Association of Independent Schools, to registering for open houses, as well as each school’s transportation options. The Reach for Excellence team also provided contacts and information for financial aid applications.

Reach for Excellence’s mission includes not just preparing students for the rigors of college preparatory high schools and programs, but also ensuring that their families have the tools and resources that they need for the journey.

The current Reach for Excellence scholars are a talented and diverse group. Each Saturday, they come from four counties across the metro area, with 69% living in DeKalb County. A little more than half of the students are female and over 90% are eligible for free or reduced lunch. Currently, 48% of our students identify as Hispanic, 45% as Black, 6% as Asian, and 1% as other. Impressively, over 90% of our students speak a language in addition to English.



Notre Dame Prep Earns Platinum Recognition



Author of Book on Saints Visits NDP

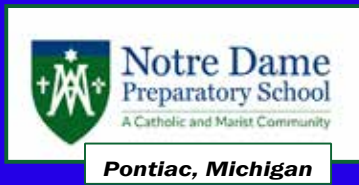
Nationally recognized author Carey Wallace, who grew up in Michigan, visited NDP on November 6th. Read more about her [HERE](#).

2023 St. Peter Chanel Society Annual Dinner



On November 1st, NDP students, faculty and staff held a beautiful all-school Mass to celebrate the Solemnity of All Saints, honoring the holy men and women who are canonized saints.





NDP PK3-1st students recently celebrated Día de los Muertos by contributing to a community ofrenda (altar) with Profe Tapia. Students in 2nd-5th grades contributed different elements for a community ofrenda with Profe Wyza. Fifth graders also created their own mini ofrendas and went to the Detroit Institute of Arts Museum to learn more about ofrendas.



Sophomore Retreat

ND Academy sophomores had breakfast, games, small group discussions, Adoration, Mass with Fr. Roy Lee, free time together, and were gifted with a parting gift to end the retreat. The gift included a candle and card that encourages students to, "Share the light of Christ. Carry God's love in your heart and pass it on to others!"



All Saints Day Mass with Bishop Bernard Shlesinger III, All Saints Day Parade and Saint Presentations





All Saints Day Mass



All Souls Liturgy



73rd Annual Bal de Paris





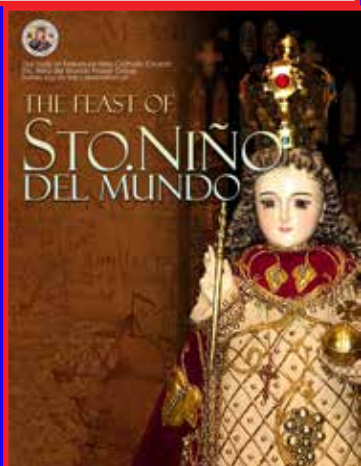
Brookhaven, Georgia

On October 25th, John Nhân Trần, Auxiliary Bishop of Atlanta, confirmed 76 OLA teens. Please keep these young people in your prayers as they continue on their journey of faith.



On October 22nd, the OLPH community celebrated the Feast of Sto. Niño del Mundo. The veneration of Sto. Niño (the Holy Child) has been closely incorporated in Philippine Catholicism since the country's discovery by explorer Ferdinand Magellan in 1521. On the baptism of the reigning chief into Christianity, Magellan gifted a statue of the Child Jesus to the reigning ruler, Rajah Humabon. To this day, the statue is the oldest Christian artifact in the Philippines. The image, which became one of the most venerated cultural icons, has since then been replicated in different parts of the country and given other titles, one of which is Sto. Niño del Mundo.

Sto. Niño del Mundo (Holy Child of the World) depicts the Holy Child in imperial attire, holding a sceptre on one hand and a golden globus cruciger on the other.



Reflecting, Celebrating and Remembering!

The boys from Balay Kalambuan (Transitional Care Program) joined the Marist Seminarians for a Festival of Saints at St. Peter Chanel Formation House in Davao, Philippines, culminating in a visit to the graves of the Marists.





Veterans Day

The Marists would like to honor the men and women of the United States who have served in the military - especially our benefactors, alumni, our Marist laity and our own Marist Chaplain Colonel Joseph M. Fleury, SM (ret.).

We recognize your sacrifices and all the good you have done in this world. We are grateful for your service.

Happy Thanksgiving!

As Thanksgiving approaches, the Marists thank you for your support and prayers this year. We're so grateful!

May you have a Thanksgiving full of blessings.



NOVEMBER 28, 2023 IS GIVING TUESDAY!

The Society of Mary (Marists) is honored to participate in this year's *#iGiveCatholic* as a part of the annual national day of giving called Giving Tuesday.

Our fundraising goal for this appeal on November 28, 2023 is \$5,000.

Please consider sharing your blessings with us. All gifts given to the Marists on November 28th or during the Advanced Giving Day phase (November 13th - 27th) will count towards our fundraising goal.

WAYS TO DONATE

- [Facebook Page](#)
- [Website](#)
- [#iGiveCatholic](#)

With gratitude for your support, May God bless you!



Synodality Corner . . .

The Synod on Synodality is a three-year process of listening and dialogue that began in 2021. The first session of the Synod in Rome concluded at the end of October 2023.

Until the next session begins, let's remember some highlights of this first Synod session from Pope Francis.

"We have always been a pilgrim Church, restlessly searching for our home in Christ. At times, however, we have given in to the temptation to settle in, to become complacent and content with the way things are, and we have been satisfied with doing things the same way over and over. Pope Francis is calling the entire People of God to turn this around, to begin journeying anew as searchers walking together as equal children of God to meet and rejoice in the encounter with Christ."