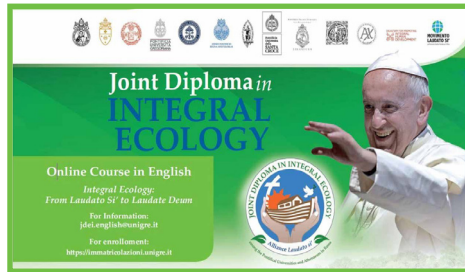


# Society of Mary

## Marists in the United States



January 19, 2024



Special Announcement: The Joint Pontifical Universities of Rome are presenting for the first time their Integral Ecology Course online, in English. Read more [HERE](#).

The program format is a 3-hour session held once a month. More information about the program can be found [HERE](#).

If you are registered for the program, the recorded sessions will likely be available to you if you are unable to attend during the live presentation because of the time difference. Enroll for the program [HERE](#).



Latest edition of  
[Marist Matters](#) magazine



Over Martin Luther King weekend, a group of students from Marist School accompanied by 3 teachers visited Washington, DC. Fr. Joe Hindelang, SM, Provincial, had the opportunity to meet the group on Sunday morning and celebrate Mass with them before they headed out on another day of sightseeing.



During a recent MLK Assembly at Marist School, Mr. Christopher Michaud spoke about his experience teaching at Centro Hispano Marista.

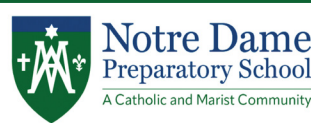


## Expanding Arts Programming with the IB



## Self-Defense in the Shark Tank

Future doctor and NDP junior in entrepreneurship and marketing class takes her passion for karate — she's a second-degree black belt — and develops a 'Shark Tank' product plan for a sparring robot. Read more [HERE](#).



Pontiac, Michigan

## HALL OF FAME

Br. Louis Plourde, SM, will be inducted as an Honorary Lifetime Member into the Michigan High School Football Coaches Association Hall of Fame for "long-term service and support to the school community and its football program!"



## Notre Dame Prep Bolsters Security Footprint







## A group of students in a school hallway, lined up, participating in a religious service. A priest in green vestments is performing a ritual with a censer. A large cross is visible in the background.





## 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.

*"Pope Francis stresses that this practice of synodality is active, engaging, and exciting. It offers all of us, working together, an opportunity to become a new way of being Church in our world. We are called to open our eyes and ears and hearts to all the ways God is leading us so that we can all become more effective disciples. When clergy and laity all participate, everyone learns and grows. This deeper level of sharing may take some getting used to, but the fruits of the labor will be richly satisfying."*

## Week of Prayer for Christian Unity (January 18<sup>th</sup>-25<sup>th</sup>)

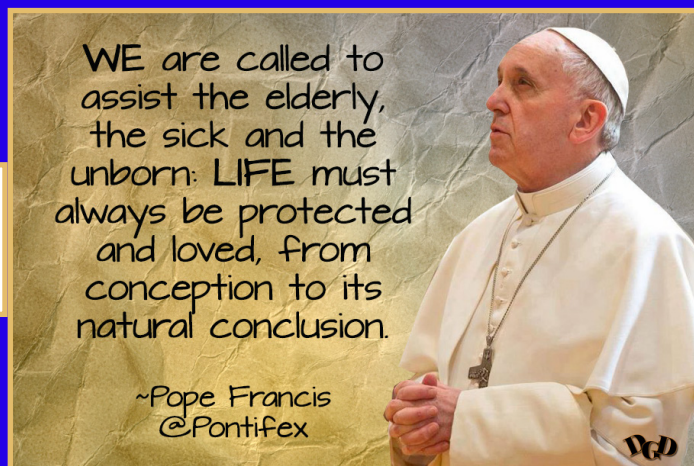


The Marists invite you to observe the week by participating in prayer for Christian unity. As we pray, let us call to mind this year's theme: "You shall love the Lord your God... and your neighbor as yourself." (Luke 10:27)

The theme, taken from the first chapter of the Gospel of Luke, reflects the connection between love of God and love of neighbor with a particular concern for challenging the boundaries of who is considered "neighbor". In this pericope, Jesus is questioned as to the path to eternal life. His answer is not to only observe the commandments, but to also imitate the love of God in the giving of self for another. It is a call for charity, mercy, justice, and unity.

Click [HERE](#) to view more resources.

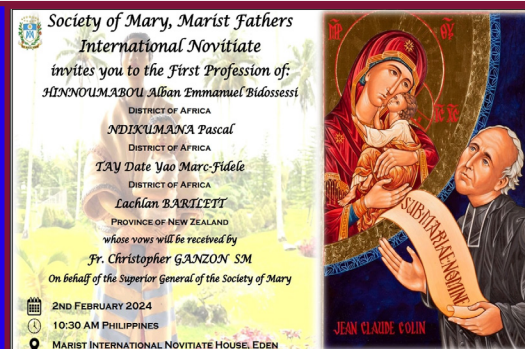
**On this 51<sup>st</sup> year of the March for Life let us remember the words of Pope Francis ...**





## Vocation Corner

Please remember in your prayers the four Marist Novices (Alban, Pascal, Marc and Lachlan) as they approach their first profession into the Society of Mary on February 2, 2024 in Davao, Philippines



### JOURNEY OF FAITH: (Novice Year)

This week, with the Archdiocese of Suva, 4 seminarian from Marist College, Society of Mary, departed on their journey of faith to the Philippines. The 4 young gentleman, Iowane Smith, Adriano Vakaoqotabua, Maciu Banicakau and Mikaele Inia Vakaloloma recently completed their 3 years of studies at the Pacific Regional Seminary of St. Peter Chanel. This is their journey to rediscover one self in this vocation and more importantly to deepen their understanding in discerning more on Marist Spirituality during their Novice year.

Continue to remember this 4 seminarians prayer and pray for more vocation within the Archdiocese of Suva.



During the first week of January, the Superior General of the Society of Mary, Fr John Larsen SM, spoke to the young Marists of the International Theologate community 'Casa di Maria.' He reflected on the theme of 'Creativity within Mission.' In his reflections, he highlighted the importance of discernment throughout the decision process and encouraged our young Marist to 'live creatively.'



Recent renewal of vows of several of the young Marists in the International Theologate 'Casa di Maria' community in Rome, Italy: Charlie, Hemi, Joe, Lesley, Peter, Lewis, Robert, Jean-Paul, and Leonard.

*"When they make profession, Marists declare before the Church and one another their intention to live out their baptism more fully. They choose to follow Christ more closely by a radical commitment to the spirit of the Beatitudes in a community that has one heart and one mind. They consecrate all that they are and have to the service of the Gospel wherever they may be sent in the name of the mission entrusted to the Society."* (Constitution of the Society of Mary no.93)



### Climb to Mt. Belemingoy

Higher places give a better view of things around us. It helps one appreciate what we have and forget for a while what we lack while we are down there at the bottom of life.

In June 2023, right after the school year ended, the St. Peter Chanel community with the two postulants and friends of the community spent time outdoors and climbed the popular Mount Belemingoy in the southern part of Mindanao, Philippines. Two Marist priests, two postulants, a fitness instructor, school registrar, a Marist staff, a Marist laity, 3 friends of the community and a tour guide braved the 6 hours climb to spend a night by the scenic lake on the crater of the volcano. They spent time in prayer, reflection and assessment of the past school year's experience. The descent from the mountain brought feelings of peace and renewed enthusiasm for new school year.



**Celibate chastity: sacrifice  
because of the kingdom**



**The Importance of Curiosity to a  
Vocation**

**A refection from the Mass readings  
of January 14th, 2004, Second  
Sunday in Ordinary Time.**

**Marist Spirituality Reflections  
by Fr. David Kennerley, SM**

The [article](#) found at the link below is the tenth in a series of 12 reflections on Marist Spirituality by Fr. David Kennerley, SM. Fr. Kennerley was formerly Novice Master for the Society of Mary and later as the New Zealand Provincial. He is currently involved in spirituality in Hawke's Bay, New Zealand.



*Fr. David Kennerley, SM*

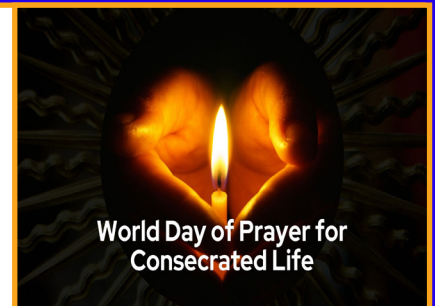
**Part 10: Instruments of Mercy**

(Printed with permission from Fr. David Kennerly, SM)

**Mark your Calendars ...World Day for Consecrated Life,  
February 2, 2024**

In 1997, Pope Saint John Paul II instituted a day for women and men in consecrated life. This global celebration is attached to the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord on February 2<sup>nd</sup>. This Feast is also known as Candlemas Day; the day on which candles are blessed symbolizing Christ who is the light of the world. So too, those in consecrated life are called to reflect the light of Jesus Christ to all peoples.

There are several ways to celebrate World Day for Consecrated Life. Invite sisters, brothers, and priests to publicly renew their vows at Mass, send cards of support to newer entrants, ask to visit a mother house to meet and pray with sisters, brothers, and priests, invite a vocation director to visit your classroom, Board meeting, or faith group to learn more about consecrated life. Send flowers, make a donation to a religious community, or invite someone to discern their vocation to consecrated life! View additional resources [HERE](#).







### **Marist Vocation Prayer**

*Jesus, Good Shepherd, we ask you to look on this family of Mary, your Mother, with eyes of mercy.*

*Lord, we ask you to enrich the Marist world with the fire of your Holy Spirit.*

*May Mary's subtle and delicate presence enable us to breathe her spirit. So that, committed to our own vocation, we will be credible witnesses of your Gospel.*

*And, renewed and strengthened with the fire of your Spirit, we may help bring to life the seed of a vocation which you have implanted in the hearts of the young.*

*Enable us to accompany them in the fulfillment of their personal vocation. Lord Jesus, give us vocations according to your heart. Amen.*

**Jean Claude Colin**

**– Pray for us.**

### **Oración por las vocaciones Maristas**

*¡Oh Jesús, Buen Pastor! Dígnate a mirar a esta familia de María con tus ojos misericordiosos.*

*Señor, te pedimos que enriquezcas el mundo marista con el fuego de tu Espíritu Santo.*

*Que la presencia sutil y delicada de María nos conduzca a respirar su espíritu. Así, comprometidos con nuestra propia vocación, seremos portavoces creíbles de tu Evangelio.*

*Y, renovados y fortalecidos con el fuego de tu Espíritu, podamos ayudar a dar vida a la semilla de la vocación que has implantado en el corazón de los jóvenes.*

*Permítenos acompañarles en el cumplimiento de su vocación personal.*

*¡Oh Jesús, danos vocaciones según tu corazón! Amén.*

**Padre Juan Claudio Colín, ruega por nosotros.**