

Society of Mary

An International Religious Congregation

Marists in the United States



June 14, 2024



The Marist Priests and Brothers would like to congratulate the graduates of Marist School in Atlanta, Georgia; Notre Dame Academy in Duluth, Georgia; Notre Dame Preparatory School in Pontiac, Michigan; and École Notre Dame Des Victoires in San Francisco, California.

As you learned throughout your years in school, Marists are people who are called to do the work of Mary in her name and in her spirit. As you continue your journey in life, may you continue to bring the spirit of Mary to the people you encounter. We wish the graduates of the Class of 2024 the best of luck and know that you will continue to be in our prayers.

Senior Sendoff



Marist School
Atlanta, Georgia

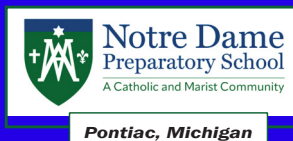


Graduation Ceremony



Baccalaureate Mass





Baccalaureate Mass & Graduation Ceremony



A Class Like No Other

8th Grade Graduation

The NDP 8th grade Mass (celebrated by Fr. Leon Olszamowski, SM) and graduation ceremony was held at St. Mary of the Hills Catholic Church in Rochester Hills, Michigan.



8th Grade Transition Mass, Student and Parent Blessing, & Signature Awards Night



8th grade Class of 2024



Kindergarten Graduation



Marist School

Atlanta, Georgia

This spring, Marist School alumni came together to celebrate their milestone reunions. Alumni from nine different classes, ending in fours and nines, marked their significant graduation anniversaries at the “Nine Classes, One Party” event featuring food trucks, live music, and guided tours of campus. The festivities continued the next day with a heartfelt Family Mass in Young Gym, bringing everyone together in a moment of reflection and gratitude. The events concluded with many alumni participating in the annual Alumni Golf Tournament, adding a touch of friendly competition to the memorable weekend.



Notre Dame Preparatory School

A Catholic and Marist Community

Pontiac, Michigan

Irish Up!

NDP recently had the opportunity to connect with new students who will be joining the middle school in the Fall. They participated in a few labs, practiced coding, drove some robotic cars, and much more!





Alumni Mass and reception to celebrate NDV's Centennial!



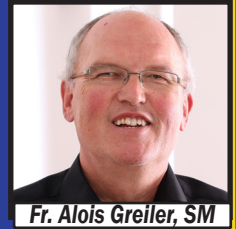
A Fond Farewell and A New Beginning



Upcoming Marist Retreat

The Marist Fathers and Brothers of the US Province will be attending their annual retreat from June 24th-26th and assembly on June 27th at the Carmelite Spiritual Center in Darien, Illinois. The theme of this year's retreat is "Fr. Colin and Discernment: Sowing Seeds for the Future."

The retreat will be led by Fr. Alois Greiler, SM from Germany who has led the U.S. Province annual retreat in the past. Fr. Alois has a doctorate in theology from Leuven University in Belgium, and has written books on Vatican II and history and spirituality of the Marists. He has worked in formation of Marists and priests, research and writing, in schools, and in a parish.



Fr. Alois Greiler, SM



Sr. Georgeanne Marie Donovan, SMSM

The assembly will be facilitated by Sr. Georgeanne Marie Donovan, SMSM. Sr. Georgeanne has recently completed two terms as Congregational Leader (Superior General) for the SMSMs in Rome, Italy. She has been involved in missionary work, formation, catechetical/liturgical coordination, and leadership.

We ask for your prayers for the Marists and they will certainly be praying for you and your families.

Prayer for the Marists on Retreat

*Come Holy Spirit, Fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle in them the fire of your love.
Send forth your Spirit and they shall be created,
And You shall renew the face of the earth.
O, God, who by the light of the Holy Spirit,
Did instruct the hearts of the faithful,
Grant that by the same Holy Spirit we may be truly wise and
ever enjoy His consolations,
Through Christ Our Lord.
Amen.*



Sofia and Luca Laskowski former students from Marist School in Atlanta, Georgia, recently stayed at Albergue de la Santa Cruz in Sahagún, Spain, a hostel run by the Marists along the Camino de Santiago.





Preparation for New Classrooms and Staff Quarters - Wainoni

Dylan, Lutoviko, Andrew and the community of Queen of Martyr's parish in the island of Makira, Solomon Islands are overjoyed and grateful to the Marist Mission Centre in Australia for the continuous financial help to build more classrooms and staff quarters for the school in the parish. They wasted no times in hiring heavy machineries to begin clearing and digging. The new school started in 2018 and it's the second Catholic school in the island since the first school was established in 1912 and closed in 1928.



Launching Year of the Parish

Responding to Pope Francis calls for a Synodal Church, the Diocese of Bougainville launched the Year of the Parish with a theme: 'Parish in Communion, Participation and Mission.' Here the Mar-ist confreres in Buin, Frs. Wesley, Taria and Posirou began the synodal process of journeying with the people through listening, discerning and participation for mission at Turiboiru Parish.



Matti, Digos, Philippines

Installation of Fr. Lionel "Long" Mechavez, SM as second parish priest of Our Lady of Fatima on June 2, 2024.



Love is Never Wasted in 35 Years

Balay Pasilungan culminated the celebration of its 35th Foundation Anniversary on May 25th. Representatives from its partners, collaborators, and networks joined the Balay Pasilungan community to mark this special occasion.

Since 1989, Balay Pasilungan, founded by Fr. Pat Devlin SM and administered by the Society of Mary-Marist Fathers and Brothers, has provided a safe place for children in need of special protection. Our shelter home offers refuge from street life, family breakdown, and exploitation.



Marist Asia Foundation recently welcomed Taylor Lemmon, International Programs Officer of the Australian Marist Solidarity. She not only took time to see how the projects are going but also personally engaged with every student and to those with special needs.



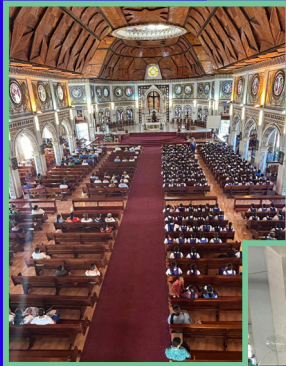
The Dakar International Literature Festival was held at the end of last month at Cours Sainte Marie de Hann in Dakar, Senegal. It provided an opportunity for the students from first and second levels to meet and exchange with writers from Luxembourg, Gabon, Congo, and Kinshasa.





160th anniversary of Marist Missionary Sisters (SMSM) in Samoa

Since 1864, the SMSMs have served Samoa and other Pacific countries through prayer, education, health services and the formation of Christian families.



Marist Brothers (FMS) Annual Marist Youth Gathering 2024



Juneteenth Prayer

Dear Lord, we celebrate the glorious day
When African American enslaved people were
freed.

Grant us their spirit of hope and faith
For the day of jubilee

Thank you for the untold contributions by
African Americans

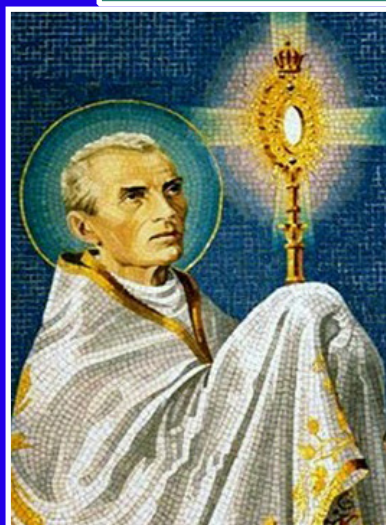
To our culture and nation
And may oppression, prejudice and
exploitation

Be driven from our nation. Amen.

www.prayerides.org



Feast of St. Peter Julian Eymard August 2nd



Act always through love for Our Lord in the Most Blessed Sacrament. Do all for Him and nothing but for Him alone.

~ St. Peter Julian Eymard



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.

“No one should be excluded or exclude themselves,” says Pope Francis in his call for active, across-the-board participation in the synodal process. This is a challenge in many parishes and dioceses and for many of the faithful, but it can open the door to much fruitful growth. Think of all the people in your parish who teach children, consult on the fiancé council, proclaim the word, and share Eucharist. And think of those who, just by their presence at Mass, witness to their faith. We all have so much to share.”



This will be the last Society of Mary USA E-Newsletter until mid-August. We look forward to sharing more news about our Marist ministries with you when this publication resumes!

In the meantime, we encourage you to continue following our posts on the Society of Mary USA [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#) pages.

Thank you for your continued support! Wishing you a safe and relaxing summer!



Vocation Corner

St. Peter Chanel Formation House Davao City, Philippines

As the academic year ended, the Marist aspirants continued their manual labor to beautify and clean the chapel before going back to their homes for summer vacation. An act of service to show their love to our Mother Mary and the community. They are working effectively and efficiently by heart by distributing their tasks and working as a symbol of teamwork, where helping hands are really nurtured inside the formation.

As they continue to persevere in their vocation, let us help them by including them in your prayers. Let the seed of vocation grow inside them.



An Experience of Marist Formation Work Today



Reflections on Key Elements of Marist Spirituality by Fr. David Kennerley, SM

The [article](#) found at the link below is the third in a series of 20 reflections on Marist Spirituality for educators by Fr. David Kennerley, SM. Fr. Kennerley originally created these reflections for teachers meeting at lunch. The idea was that they would have material to reflect on once a week across the school year. This series of reflections can be useful for any small group or personal reflection interested in deepening their knowledge of key elements of Marist Spirituality.

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.

Part 3: A Gracious Choice

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



**Encouraging vocation culture
in Hispanic families**



**Cabrini attracts
widespread interest**



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.**