

Society of Mary

An International Religious Congregation

Marists in the United States



October 10, 2025



MARIST LAITY OF SOUTH FLORIDA ANNUAL COMMITMENT & BLESSING OF CHILDREN AND TEENS

On September 13th, the Marist Laity group at St. Andrew Catholic Parish (Coral Springs, Florida) had a wonderful “Today’s Marist” experience! By Mary’s gracious choice, nine adults - Norma with adult sons Felix and Hector; a married couple Irene & Orlando; Karen, Doris, Shaniza and Theresa - committed themselves to “Do Whatever He Tells You” and entered the Marist Laity branch of the International Society of Mary. Supportive presider was St. Andrew Parish’s parochial vicar Rev. Isaac Arickappalil, cmi.



This 20th annual Marist Commitment also embraced the Blessing of Children and Teens. Marist Laity members of South Florida return yearly in September to renew their consecration to the Most Holy Trinity with Mary, striving to continue Mary’s vocation of mercy in this present age, bringing Christ to the world. Celebrating with us this year was Lay Marist Christine Colomban from New Jersey, making this Christine’s third 24 hour visit to celebrate with South Florida Marists! The group had a delightful gathering for fellowship and light refreshments at Mary’s grotto on the parish grounds following the consecration. People ask: “What do I have to DO to be Marist?” Marists “DO Mary’s Work.” So, we Marists strive to identify with Mary’s vocation. What we DO is practice bringing Jesus Christ to the moments of our world. We DO mercy from our simple niche in life because we know we are “missionary by baptism; Marist by gracious choice.” (We) Marist Laity members are helping the world remember this!



On the following page are brief reflections and comments from some of the new Marist Laity members.



Reflection from Norma

"I feel so blessed and grateful to the Virgin Mary that I was able to experience such a beautiful ceremony."

Reflection from Doris

"I'm devoted to the Sweet Virgin Mary. It is a privilege of love and commitment to belong now to the Marist Family."

Reflection from Karen

"Being a Marist to me is holding the hand of Our Lady as she guides me softly to help bring others to Her Son by example and with love."

Reflection from Orlando and Irene

"As husband and wife, we are very blessed to be in Mary's Family. We believe that Mother Mary has plans for us to deepen our devotion to the Holy Trinity and to her works. It is showing and inspiring us Charity: Faith in Action, and the Essence of Love of God and Love of our Neighbor."

Reflection from Theresa

"I am so honored to be a Marist, I will lead by example to live a simple life, be there to help anyone who is in need, and be a humble servant like Mary was and do the will of God."



On October 2nd, the entire Marist School community gathered in Young Gym to celebrate Founders Day Mass, marking 124 years of excellence in Catholic education in Atlanta. The celebration included a joyful, spontaneous rendition of "Happy Birthday" to Marist School, a fitting tribute to a legacy that began in 1901 and continues to thrive.

In his homily, School Chaplain Father John Ulrich, S.M. reflected: "We celebrate Founders Day to remember that day 124 years ago when our beloved school opened its doors. We give thanks for the insight of those early Marist Fathers and for the generosity of so many who have helped our school flourish. We give thanks to almighty God for the blessings on our school and all our endeavors, and we give thanks to Blessed Mother Mary for calling each of us, by gracious choice, to be part of her school. We are grateful that we are and remain Sub Mariae Nomine—under the name of Mary."

The Mass also honored the election of Rev. Prof. Declan Marmion, S.M. as the 15th Superior General of the Society of Mary and recognized the Feast of the Guardian Angels.



On September 26th, Marist School 9th graders stepped away from the classroom and into a day of discovery, community, and service during Camp 3790. Designed to build class unity and deepen students' understanding of the Marist Way, the day included both off-campus adventure and meaningful on-campus service. Students began their day at Sojourn Adventures, where they teamed up with senior leaders and faculty to take on fun team challenges. Back on campus, the service portion of Camp 3790 invited students to Kuhrt Gym, where they gathered alongside senior leaders to hear from three speakers about the transformative power of community care. Marist parents of alumni Andy and Lisa Hiles shared the inspiring origin of The Sandwich Project. U.S. Army veteran and current Marist parent Gina Gentile '92 spoke about the healing power of community support for veterans. Marist Community Service Coordinator Mrs. Mary Ujda offered personal insight into the impact of kindness toward seniors in assisted living. Inspired by these stories, students rotated through three hands-on service stations: making sandwiches for local food-insecure neighbors through The Sandwich Project, designing posters to encourage veterans in a residential treatment program for Veterans Day, and creating birthday cards for residents at Sunrise Assisted Living. The day exemplified what it means to be Marist made for others.



Marist Hosts Longest-Running Exchange Program This Fall



Career Connections Program Invites New Internship Hosts

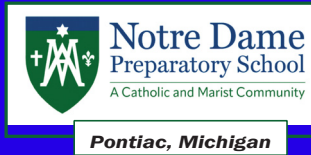


Marist Theater Opens 2025–2026 Season with “Radium Girls”



Marist Kicks Off NBC’s “Friday Morning Lights” with War Eagle Spirit and a Milestone Victory





NDP Octoberfest 2025



Middle School Parents' Day



Notre Dame Prep Talks: Marist Theme, Ardent Love of Neighbor



Building Bridges Fundraising Gathering!

Adriane Thompson NDP'26, Josiah Modest NDP'27, Pedro Escobedo NDP'22 (alum), Julian Gaytan-Lopez NDP'28 and Jovanhy Calzada-Lopez NDP'28 were on hand to tout the benefits of Building Bridges and a Notre Dame Prep education.

Founded by alum Paul Housey ND'88, Building Bridges is a nonprofit dedicated to inspiring underprivileged children in Pontiac, Mich., to believe in themselves by connecting them with adult role models and private high school scholarships. Since 2004, Building Bridges has partnered with Notre Dame Prep to sponsor dozens of high school students, connecting them with a high quality education and putting them on the path to college and a successful career.





Buddy Activities

Last week, 7th & Kindergarten used their time together to celebrate National Hispanic Heritage Month. In anticipation of the Feast Day of the Holy Guardian Angels, 7th Grade Big Buddies taught their Kindergarten Little Buddies the Guardian Angel Prayer in Spanish.

This week, the Pre-K and 5th grade buddies got to enjoy lunch together!



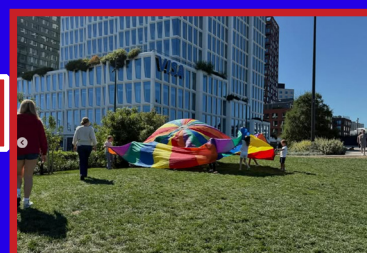
Freshman Retreat



Tableau Rosary Led by 4th-8th grade Students



Annual NDV Family Picnic





Society of Mary Election of New Superior General

We thank Fr. John Larsen, SM for his visionary and creative leadership for the last 8 years, and welcome Fr. Declan Marmion, SM, the recently elected Superior General, with our support for all that lies ahead.



(Left to Right) Fr. John Larsen, SM and Fr. Declan Marmion, SM



Marist Brothers Election of New Superior General

Past and present Superior Generals of the Marist Teaching Brothers - (Left to Right) Br. Ernesto Sánchez (2017–2025), Br. Peter Carroll (2025–2033) – newly elected Superior General, and Br. Emili Turú (2009–2017)

In one image, three stages of leadership, symbolizing the continuity of the Marist charism in the service of the Church and the world. Read more about Bro. Peter Carroll [HERE](#).



Legion of Mary Procession of Our Lady of the Rosary



Parroquia Virgen Misionera (La Perla, Peru)

Mass for the Sick



6 Bible verses to quiet the noise in your mind



Catholic organizations call on lawmakers to end government shutdown



At Red Mass, Cardinal McElroy presses Supreme Court to restore hope



October - American Archives Month



Every October, archivists across the country celebrate American Archives Month. This national event recognizes the essential role archives play in documenting our shared past and shaping the future of access to information. The Archives for the US Province of the Society of Mary contains photographs, manuscripts, audiovisual materials and electronic records documenting Marist history in the US from the arrival of the first Marists in Louisiana in 1863 until the present time. Along with information on Marist Fathers and Brothers and their ministries, the archives also contains valuable information on the communities where they served.

Archives Month is both a celebration and a call to action. Whether through attending an event, sharing archival stories, or simply exploring a local collection, everyone can take part in recognizing the importance of archives. Let's celebrate the professionals who safeguard our history and continue to advocate for the preservation of cultural memory.

October 16th is Ask an Archivist Day. If you have any questions about Society of Mary history or how to care for your own archives, please feel free to reach out to Marist archivist [Susan Illis](#) on October 16th or any day!