

INITIAL FORMATION: Postulant and Novitiate Program

Marist Brothers Novitiate

Esopus, New York USA



**“Forming men
capable of vowing their entire life to God
in an apostolic Marist community”
(C. 95)**

INITIAL FORMATION:
Postulancy and Novitiate

“The vitality of our religious family and its fidelity to its mission depend, to a great extent on the formation of its members” (C. 95).

The Initial Formation of the Marist Brothers includes three different and progressive stages: Postulancy, Novitiate, and Temporary Profession, and lasts from 6-8 years. Initial Formation, in each of its stages, seeks to “form men capable of vowing their entire life to God in an apostolic Marist Community” (C.95). The first two stages Postulancy (six months) and Novitiate (eighteen months) are offered in a collaborative program at the Marist Novitiate in Esopus, New York (USA). The program for Temporary Professed Brothers is in the home Province of the Brother.

- The Master of Novices is appointed by the Brothers Provincial to oversee the Postulant and Novitiate Programs and those men who are in Initial Formation. He also serves as Superior of the Novitiate Community.
 - The Master of Novices works closely with a liaison Brother from each Province in overseeing the Initial Formation Program
- The Novitiate Formation Team are those professed Brothers who have been appointed to live in the Novitiate Community and serve as a support to the Master of Novices, the men in formation, and the Initial Formation Program.

THE FIVE MAJOR COMPONENTS OF INITIAL FORMATION

Prayer, Discernment, Community, Study and Ministry

1. **PRAYER** The key relationship in Consecrated Life and in Formation is one's relationship with God. Those in formation are helped to deepen this relationship through personal, communal and liturgical prayer, with a particular focus on our Marist Spirituality. On Friday of each week there is a Day of Prayer and Reflection which offers those in formation the opportunity to spend an extended time in silence. Each year a week-long retreat helps to foster the contemplative side of the man in formation.

2. **DISCERNMENT** In order to foster a contemplative and discerning attitude those in formation will participate in both Accompaniment and Spiritual Direction. (C. 98; F.G. 168)

- **ACCOMPANIMENT** focuses on the discernment of a vocation to the Marist Brothers. Areas of both the inner and outer life give the content of this conversation. The Novice Master accompanies the Postulant and Novice each week, (F.G. 263). Each month there will be a group accompaniment led by the Master of Novices.
- **SPIRITUAL DIRECTION** seeks to pay attention to God's movement within the life of the man in formation. The areas discussed in Accompaniment may also be shared in Spiritual Direction. Each person in Initial Formation is expected to have a Spiritual Director. Someone other than the Novice Master serves as the Spiritual Director.

3. **COMMUNITY** As a member of the community, those in Initial Formation participate fully in the day-to-day experiences of community living (F.G. 177, 279), this includes sharing in the responsibilities for shopping, preparing meals, and cleaning the house. The community for Postulants and Novices is the Novitiate Community in Esopus, NY (USA)

- **MANUAL LABOR** As a component of an integrated formation program, manual labor is part of the schedule of those in formation. Present in our Marist traditions from the first days, manual labor is an important aspect for both formation and community building. (C. 99; F.G. 205, 206; 268)
- **IMMERSION EXPERIENCES** Throughout Postulancy and Novitiate there are organized immersion experiences throughout the regions of the Province of the USA. These are arranged to offer those in Initial Formation an opportunity to meet the Brothers of the Province and to spend time in the various communities and ministries of the region. Likewise it gives the Brothers the chance to meet our new members.

4. **MINISTRY** There are a variety of ministerial opportunities which are part of the Initial Formation Program. For the Postulant and Novice, participation in ministry is meant to offer some experience of himself as a minister as part of the discernment process. Opportunities include: assistance at the Marist Retreat House; the Immersion Experience; community-ministry visits; and weekly ministry during the Postulancy and Novitiate. This ministry, chosen in collaboration with the Novice Master, gives the Postulant and Novice an opportunity of continued discernment of his call, gifts and areas of growth in ministry. (C. 101; Statutes 101.1, 101.2; F.G. 265-268) Participation in ministry will be regularly evaluated in terms of balance and formation goals. Regular supervision is part of all ministry experiences.

- See Appendix 1 concerning formation for, and policies concerning working with children and vulnerable adults

5. **STUDY** Over the 2 years of Postulancy and Novitiate there are a series of Seminars offered each week. These are offered to help the postulant and novice come to know in a deeper way: himself, his relationships with others and God, and Marcellin Champagnat and the Marist Brothers. The focus is one of praxis, how does this information help one in discerning and living the life of a Marist Brother.

- **INTERCOMMUNITY FORMATION PROGRAM:** Those in all stages of the Initial Formation participate in the Intercommunity Formation Program sponsored by the Religious Formation Conference. This program offers those in Formation workshops pertinent to his stage of formation and the opportunity to join with other men and women in Initial Formation in a prayerful community experience. This program is offered six times a year for Postulants and Novices. Over a two year cycle the following topics are covered: discernment, transition, prayer, community, the Vows, Social Justice Issues.
- **INITIAL FORMATION SUMMER PROGRAM:** Each summer those who are in Initial Formation participate in a Summer Program at the Novitiate. These days gather our Postulants, Novices and those in Temporary Profession for an extended time of prayer, community, reflection and relaxation together.

This Initial Formation Program is praxis-based and represents an adult model of incorporation and formation into the Marist Brothers. As such the program detailed in this document is adapted to the individual needs of those who are in Initial Formation. This is done at the discretion of the Master of Novices.

STUDY: TOPICS FOR SEMINARS

Over the 2 years of Postulancy and Novitiate there are a series of Seminars offered each week. These are offered as one of the five components of the Initial Formation Program intended to help the postulant and novice come to know in a deeper way: himself, his relationships with others and God, and Marcellin Champagnat and the Marist Brothers. The focus is one of praxis, how does this information help one in discerning and living the life of a Marist Brother. The specific seminar topics fulfill the content named in the Formation Guide. Certain topics may be added or deleted depending upon the needs and background of the Postulant/Novice (C.97, 98, 99; Statutes 97.1; F.G. 139-154, 197-231).

The Seminars offered are:

- Postulancy: Foundations for Initial Formation,
- Formation to the Marist Brothers,
- Patrimony of the Marist Brothers, and
- Foundations of Christian Faith.

In addition weekend workshops offered by the Religious Formation Conference on the topics of: Vows, Prayer, Community Living, Ministry, Social Justice, Transition and Discernment will be offered.

As part of the Postulancy and Novitiate Program there will be language studies in one of the other three official languages of the Institute: Spanish, French, or Portuguese.

POSTULANCY: FOUNDATIONS FOR INITIAL FORMATION

The overall focus of the Postulancy Seminars is helping the Postulant in his transition into Initial Formation by offering introductory topics related to: self, relationships with others and God, and the Consecrated Life as a Marist Brother in the Roman Catholic Church.

I. Introduction to Initial Formation of the Marist Brothers

1. Call
2. Vocation
3. Initial Formation – Postulancy
4. Introduction to Marist Initial Formation: Prayer
5. Introduction to Marist Initial Formation: Community
6. Introduction to Marist Initial Formation: Discernment
7. Introduction to Marist Initial Formation: Ministry
8. Introduction to Marist Initial Formation: Study
9. Needs, Hopes, Expectations in Initial Formation
10. Being Marist: Introduction to the culture of the Marist Brothers
11. Living The Vows for Those in Initial Formation
12. Living Mindfully 1: Sabbath Time
13. Living Mindfully 2: Journal Writing, Spiritual Reading; Dreamwork
14. Personal-Formation Plan
15. Our Sacred Story
16. Sammon, Sean *Marcellin Champagnat: A Heart That Knew No Bounds*
17. Relationship with Others: Sexuality, Relationships and Intimacy
18. Transition
19. Liminal Time and Place

II. Relationships: Self, Others, God

1. Relationship with Self: Body, Mind, and Spirit
2. Relationship with Others: Sexuality, Relationships and Intimacy
3. Relationship with God
4. Personal Prayer: *Praying our Experiences*
5. Personal Prayer: The Examen
6. Personal Prayer: Lectio, Meditation, Centering Prayer
7. Communal Prayer: Psalms and the Liturgy of the Hours
8. Communal Prayer: Praying with Mary, Marcellin & the Saints
9. Liturgical Prayer: The Eucharist
10. Discernment
11. Discernment to enter Novitiate: Prayer
12. Discernment to enter Novitiate: Consecration
13. Discernment to enter Novitiate: Ministry
14. Discernment to enter Novitiate: Community

III. Foundations of Catholicism

1. *The Mystery of Faith* (Foundations of Catholicism): The Trinity
2. *The Mystery of Faith*: Grace
3. *The Mystery of Faith*: Incarnation
4. *The Mystery of Faith*: Salvation
5. *The Mystery of Faith*: Church
6. *The Mystery of Faith*: Baptism
7. *The Mystery of Faith*: Eucharist
8. *The Mystery of Faith*: Sacraments of Vocation
9. *The Mystery of Faith*: Reconciliation
10. *The Mystery of Faith*: Tradition

FORMATION TO THE MARIST BROTHERS

There are two primary foci of this Novitiate seminar: an extensive study of the Constitutions of the Marist Brothers and other Marist Documents, and topics related to someone in Initial Formation.

I. The Constitutions of the Marist Brothers of the Schools

1. C-1 “The Identity of the Marist Brother in the Church”
2. C-6 “Formation”
3. C-4 “Our Prayer Life”
4. C-3 “Marist Community”
5. C-2 “Our Consecration”
6. C-10 “Administration of Temporary Goods”
7. C-9 “Government of the Institute”
8. C-5 “Our Apostolic Life”
9. C-7 “Admission to the Institute and Religious Profession”
10. C-8 – “Separation from the Institute”
11. C-11 “Vitality of the Institute”

II. Formation Topics

1. The Novitiate – Personal Formation Plan
2. *Water from the Rock* (Marist Spirituality)
3. Personal Prayer
4. Community Prayer
5. Liturgical Prayer
6. The Triduum
7. Skills for Community Living
8. Addictions & Family Systems and Community Living
9. (Circular) *Marvelous Companions*
10. Chastity - Sexuality, Intimacy, Celibacy
11. Poverty & a Life of Simplicity
12. (Circular) *Use of Our Material Goods*
13. Obedience & Discernment
14. Obedience & Conscience
15. *In His Footsteps* (Marist Educational Pedagogy)
16. Issues in Ministry
17. Introduction to Discernment for Application for First Vows
18. (Circular) *He Gave Us the Name of Mary*
19. (Circular) *A Revolution of the Heart*
20. (Circular) *Making Jesus Known and Loved*
21. Profession of Vows: Liturgy & Celebration
22. Intercultural Community Living (IFP)
23. Our Global Responsibility as Vowed Religious (IFP)
24. Discipleship in John: Invitation to See (IFP)
25. Archetype of the Monk

PATRIMONY OF THE MARIST BROTHERS

The Seminar on the Patrimony of the Marist Brothers includes an extensive reading and discussion of the Primary and Secondary sources of: the life and words of Marcellin Champagnat, the early Brothers, Marist Saints, Marist Documents, the Marist Brothers in the USA, Australia, and the World, and the Society of Mary. There is also a section on Mary, the mother of Jesus.

Postulancy

Sammon, Sean *A Heart that Knows No Bounds*

Novitiate

I. Life of the Founder Marcellin Champagnat

1. Furet, Jean-Baptiste *Life of Marcellin Champagnat* (Section 1) Chapters 1-3
2. Farrell, Stephen *Achievement from the Depths* Chapters 1-4
3. Furet, Jean-Baptiste *Life of Marcellin Champagnat* (Section 1) Chapters 4-7
4. Farrell, Stephen *Achievement from the Depths* Chapters 5
5. Furet, Jean-Baptiste *Life of Marcellin Champagnat* (Section 1) Chapters 8-11
6. Farrell, Stephen *Achievement from the Depths* Chapters 6-7
7. Furet, Jean-Baptiste *Life of Marcellin Champagnat* (Section 1) Chapters 12-17
8. Farrell, Stephen *Achievement from the Depths* Chapters 8-11
9. Furet, Jean-Baptiste *Life of Marcellin Champagnat* (Section 1) Chapters 18-23
10. Farrell, Stephen *Achievement from the Depths* Chapters 12-16

II. The Words of the Founder

1. Furet, Jean-Baptiste *Life of Marcellin Champagnat* (Section 2) Chapters 1-6
2. Furet, Jean-Baptiste *Life of Marcellin Champagnat* (Section 2) Chapters 7-13
3. Furet, Jean-Baptiste *Life of Marcellin Champagnat* (Section 2) Chapters 13-19
4. Furet, Jean-Baptiste *Life of Marcellin Champagnat* (Section 2) Chapters 20-24
5. Sester, Paul *Letters of Marcellin Champagnat*
6. Sester, Paul *Letters of Marcellin Champagnat*
7. Sester, Paul *Letters of Marcellin Champagnat*
8. Avis, Leçons, Sentences
9. Avis, Leçons, Sentences

IV. The Early Brothers

1. Bigotto, Giovanni *The Source and The Stream* (Marcellin & Francois)
2. Michel, Gabriel *A Modest Hero: Brother Francois*
3. Delorme, Alain *Our First Brothers* (Chapters 1-10)
4. Delorme, Alain *Our First Brothers* (Chapter 11-20)
5. Delorme, Alain *Marvellous Companions* (Chapters 1-9)
6. Delorme, Alain *Marvellous Companions* (Chapters 10-17)

V. Marist Saints

1. Moraldo, Nito *Home-Baked Bread* (Life of Venerable Brother Alfano Vaser)
2. Alberti, Claudio *While He lived, He Worked...* (Life of Blessed Brother Bernardo)
3. Barriuso, Teodoro *Seeds of Life 47 Marist Brother Martyrs in Spain*
4. Bigotto, Giovanni *Walking to the End of Love* (Marist Martyrs in Africa)
5. Bigotto, Giovanni *I Want to Awake the Dawn* (Brother Basilio Rueda)
6. Delorme, Alain *15 Days of Prayer with Henri Verges*

VI. Marist Documents

1. *Water From the Rock* (Marist Spirituality)
2. *Water From the Rock* (Marist Spirituality)
3. *In the Footsteps of Marcellin Champagnat* (Vision for Marist Education)
4. *In the Footsteps of Marcellin Champagnat* (Vision for Marist Education)
5. Circular: (Sean Sammon) *A Revolution of the Heart*
6. Circular: (Sean Sammon) *Making Jesus Known and Loved*
7. Circular: (Sean Sammon) *Marvelous Companions*
8. Circular: (Benito Arubes) *Concerning Our Material Goods*

VII. Marist Brothers in the World

1. History and Presence of the Marist Brothers in the World
2. Voegtle, Leonard *Go to the Land I Will Show You* (Marist Brothers in the USA)
3. Marist Brothers of the United States of America: Overview from 1911 to the Present
4. The Marist Brothers of Australia

VIII. The Marist Family

1. McMahon, Frederick *Travellers in Hope* (founders of the Society of Mary): Priests
2. McMahon, Frederick *Travellers in Hope* (founders of the Society of Mary): Sisters

IX. Mary

1. Mary in the Scripture
2. Mary and the Church
3. The Marian Dogmas
4. Mary in the Documents of Vatican II and Today
5. Images of Mary: Mary in the Arts
6. Praying with Mary
7. The Marist Brother and Mary Our Good Mother
8. Circular: (Sean Sammon) *In Her Arms or In Her Heart*
9. Circular: (Emili Turú) *He Gave Us the Name of Mary*

FOUNDATIONS OF CHRISTIAN FAITH

The seminar Foundations of Christian Faith offers an overview of the basic components of the Christian/Catholic faith. Each of the nine topics will be covered during five seminars. This seminar is intended for those with a theological background as well as those with little formal study. Key to these topics is the practical application to formation and the life of a Marist Brother.

1. Hebrew Scriptures

- a. Pentateuch
- b. Wisdom Literature
- c. Psalms
- d. Historical Books
- e. Prophets

2. Christian Scriptures

- a. Synoptic Gospels
- b. Gospel of John
- c. Acts
- d. Paul
- e. The Letters

3. Jesus of History, Christ of Faith

- a. God the Father/Creator
- b. Jesus: Incarnation
- c. Jesus: Teachings and Miracles
- d. The Paschal Mystery
- e. The Holy Spirit

4. The Sacraments

- a. Sacraments of Initiation: Baptism
- b. Sacraments of Initiation: Confirmation
- c. Sacraments of Initiation: Eucharist
- d. Sacraments of Healing: Reconciliation, Anointing
- e. Sacraments of Commitment: Matrimony, Orders

5. Morality

- a. Elements of Christian Morality
- b. Sources of Christian Morality
- c. Moral Issues
- d. Issues in Sexual Morality
- e. Sin

6. Church

- a. The History & Models of the Church
- b. The History of Religious Life
- c. Vatican II – Documents
- d. Vatican II – Documents
- e. Contemporary Issues within the Church

7. Social Justice

- a. Liberation Theology
- b. Social Teaching of the Church
- c. Social Teaching of the Church
- d. Issues in Social Justice: Environment, Peace, Equality
- e. Issues in Social Justice: Politics, and the Economy

8. The Christian Life

- a. Evangelization thru Ministry
- b. Youth Ministry
- c. Educational Ministry
- d. Ministry in Hospitals, Social Agencies, the Parish
- e. The Preferential Option for those who are poor

9. Christian Spirituality

- a. Early Church
- b. Middle Ages
- c. Renaissance/Reformation
- d. Modern Era
- e. Contemporary

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

The daily, weekly, and monthly schedule is arranged so that those in formation might have a structure that will foster a reflective and centering experience. There is an attempt to create a balanced day, week and month with time for the five components of Initial Formation (prayer, discernment, study, community and ministry) as well as personal-formative time and free time.

Monday

8:00 Morning Prayer
 8:30 Breakfast
 9:30 Seminar
 12:00 Marial Prayer
 12:15 Lunch
 1:15 Personal-Formative Time¹
 5:15 Evening Prayer: Eucharist
 6:00 Dinner
 7:30 Free Time²

Tuesday

7:30 Morning Prayer
 8:00 Eucharist
 8:30 Breakfast
 9:30 Ministry (until 5:00 PM)
 5:15 Evening Prayer
 6:00 Dinner
 7:30 Free Time

Wednesday

7:30 Morning Prayer
 8:00 Eucharist
 8:30 Breakfast
 9:30 Seminar
 12:00 Marial Prayer
 12:15 Lunch
 1:15 Personal-Formative Time
 5:15 Evening Prayer
 6:00 Dinner
 7:30 Free Time

Thursday

7:30 Morning Prayer
 8:00 Eucharist
 8:30 Breakfast
 9:30 Seminar
 12:00 Marial Prayer
 12:15 Lunch
 1:15 Personal-Formative Time
 3:00 (once a month) Group Accompaniment
 5:15 Evening Prayer
 6:00 Dinner
 7:30 Free Time

Friday

Day of Prayer & Reflection³
 5:15 Sharing on the Day & Evening Prayer
 6:00 Dinner
 7:30 Free Time

Saturday⁴

Varied experiences/opportunities
 For those who are home:
 5:15 Evening Prayer
 6:00 Dinner

Sunday

Community-Sabbath Day⁵
 Eucharist
 5:15 Dinner
 8:30 Night Prayer

¹PERSONAL-FORMATIVE TIME: Each Monday, Wednesday and Thursday has a four hour (1:15-5:15) period of Personal-Formative Time (PFT). This time allows the man in formation the time and space to pursue areas of a personal/formative nature as part of his formation plan. Examples of activities which would be appropriate in this time: prayer, reading, exercise, hobbies, spiritual direction/accompaniment, preparing a meal for the community, doctor/dentist appointments. This time is not intended for connecting with other people, using the internet/web, doing laundry or cleaning, shopping or watching TV. Personal-Formative time is quiet time in the Novitiate.

²FREE TIME: Most evenings, and Saturday are free time. This indicates that there is no community/novitiate schedule and therefore the Postulant and Novice is free to do personal things such as: connecting with family and friends (in person, letters, email, Skype), socializing with others – movies, sports events, visiting NYC, watching TV with the community, and resting. This also offers more time for those activities listed in Personal-Formative Time.

- There will also be periods of free time throughout the two years where the community/novices will be encouraged to plan events away from the Novitiate (i.e. a weekend in NYC).
- Time visiting with the family will be discussed with the Novice Master and the Provincial Council Liaison
 - Family members are welcome to visit the Novitiate

³DAY OF PRAYER AND REFLECTION: This is a weekly opportunity for a more intensive and prolonged time of prayer and reflection – particularly related to the themes presented and discernment. The day begins upon waking (morning Mass is optional) and concludes at 5:15 PM with a sharing on the day & community evening prayer, a social and dinner. These times need not be spent in the Novitiate; time at a retreat house/hiking or any place that helps the reflective process is appropriate. Prayer (all forms); spiritual reading, use of the journal are appropriate activities. The Novitiate is silent until 5:15 PM (including meals).

⁴SATURDAY: Each month there are a variety of experiences/opportunities that take place on Saturdays: generally there will be two free Saturdays, one weekend with the Intercommunity Formation Program, and one day devoted to extended Manual Labor.

⁵SABBATH-COMMUNITY DAYS: The Novitiate Community and Program respect the tradition of Sunday as a Sabbath Day. Regularly we will plan to celebrate the Eucharist together, to share a meal, to enjoy recreation together as a community. The celebration of the Sabbath ends with Night Prayer.

POSTULANCY

“A gradual immersion into Marist Life”

“We offer the young men who show an interest in our way of life an opportunity to deepen their experience of human and Christian life.” (C. 96)

The Postulancy Program is six months long and is held at the Novitiate in Esopus, NY. The assumption is that the Postulant is coming from a busy world of work and relationships. Entering Initial Formation is a radical shift from the busyness of that world to a more reflective and contemplative time of prayer, discernment, community living, ministry and study. During the early days of the program the Postulant is formally welcomed to Initial Formation in a Rite of Welcome with members of the Novitiate Community and other Brothers.

- **IMMERSION EXPERIENCES:** During Postulancy the first Immersion Experience will take place. These experiences which continue through the Novitiate are opportunities to visit each of the regions, communities and ministries of the Province. Coordinated by a local Brother the purpose of these visits includes: 1) meeting the Brothers, and spending time within in schools and communities; 2) by allowing other Brothers to see and experience those in formation there is an opportunity to gain feedback about those in formation; 3) help in the discernment process for both the postulant/ novice and for the Brothers. There is preparation for these experiences and an opportunity to process the experience after the visit.

SEPTEMBER 2013

(9/9)

- Th Arrival
- F Welcome & Orientation
- Sa Settling-in/shopping
- Su Sabbath-Community Day

(9/18)

- M Day of Reflection: Mission & Charism
- T Day of Reflection: Call
- W Day of Reflection: Vocation
- Th Initial Formation: Postulancy
- F Tour of the Mid-Hudson Region
- Sa House Cleaning/Free afternoon
- Su **Rite of Welcome & Entrance into Postulancy**

(9/23)

- M Introduction to Marist Initial Formation: Prayer
- T Introduction to Marist Initial Formation: Discernment
- W Introduction to Marist Initial Formation: Community
- Th Introduction to Marist Initial Formation: Study
- F Introduction to Marist Initial Formation: Ministry
- Sa NYC: Postulant Trip
- Su Sabbath-Community Day

(9/30)

- M Needs, Hopes, Expectations in Initial Formation; Personal Life Plan
- T Ministry Day
- W Living the Vows in Initial Formation; Immersion: Gatehouse
- Th Personal-Formation Plan; Spanish
- F Day of Prayer & Reflection
- Sa Intercommunity (10/5) History of Religious Life
- Su Intercommunity (10/6) History of Religious Life
Lecture: Ron Rohlheiser

OCTOBER 2013

(10/7)

- M Free Day
- T Ministry Day (MBCE: Intra)
- W Being Marist: Introduction to the Culture of the Marist Brothers
- Th Day of Prayer and Reflection
- F Community Weekend
- Sa Community Weekend
- Su Community Weekend; Beatification of Hno. Crisanto & Companions

(10/14)

- M Columbus Day; Free Day
- T Ministry Day (MBCE: Notre Dame Academy)
- W Our Sacred Story, 1; Immersion: Cottage
- Th Our Sacred Story, 2; Spanish
- F Day of Prayer & Reflection
- Sa Free Day
- Su Sabbath-Community Day

(10/21)

- M Marcellin Champagnat: A Heart That Knew No Bounds
- T Ministry Day
- W Marcellin Champagnat: A Heart That Knew No Bounds
- Th Living Mindfully (Encounter); Group Accompaniment
- F Day of Prayer & Reflection (Encounter)
- Sa Manual Labor/Free Day (Encounter)
- Su Sabbath-Community Day (Encounter)

(10/28)

- M Relationship with Self: Body, Mind, and Spirit (Mike Sheerin & Burt)
- T Relationship with Self: Body, Mind, and Spirit; Ministry (Mount)
- W Ministry Day (Mount Retreat); Immersion: Eden Terrace
- Th Relationship with Others Sexuality, Relationships and Intimacy;
Spanish; Holy Cross Monastery
- F Day of Prayer & Reflection
- Sa Free Day
- Su Sabbath-Community Day; **Jack's Birthday**

NOVEMBER 2013

(11/4)

- M Relationship with God
- T Ministry Day (Extra)
- W Personal Prayer: Praying our Experiences
- Th Immersion: Pelham/Champagnat Hall/OLG/MSM
- F Immersion: Pelham/Champagnat Hall/OLG/MSM
- Sa Intercommunity (11/9) Religious Life in a Cosmological Context
- Su Intercommunity (11/10) Religious Life in a Cosmological Context (Sharing)

(11/11)

- M Intercommunity Weekend/Free Day (Sharing)
- T Ministry Day (Extra) (Sharing)
- W Personal Prayer: Lectio, Meditation, Centering Prayer
- Th Personal Prayer: The Examen
- F Day of Prayer & Reflection
- Sa Free Day
- Su Sabbath-Community Day

(11/18)

- M Communal Prayer: Praying with Mary, Marcellin & the Saints
- T Ministry Day
- W Communal Prayer: Psalms and the Liturgy of the Hours (GM)
- Th Proximate Preparation for the Retreat: "Relationship with God" (GM)
- F Day of Prayer & Reflection (GM)
- Sa Manual Labor/Free Day (GM)
- Su Sabbath-Community Day (GM)

(11/25)

- M Discernment (GM)
- T Ministry Day (GM)
- W Liturgical Prayer: The Eucharist (GM)
- Th Thanksgiving (GM)
- F Free Day (GM)
- Sa Free Weekend (GM)
- Su Free Weekend (GM)

DECEMBER 2013

(12/2)

- M Retreat: “Relationship with God”
- T Retreat: “Relationship with God”
- W Retreat: “Relationship with God”
- Th Retreat: “Relationship with God”
- F Retreat: “Relationship with God”
- Sa Intercommunity (12/7) – Advent Retreat
- Su Intercommunity (12/8) – Advent Retreat

(12/9)

- M Free Day
- T Ministry Day
- W Processing the Retreat “Relationship with God”
- Th Discernment to enter Novitiate: Prayer
- F Day of Prayer & Reflection
- Sa Free Day
- Su Sabbath-Community Day

(12/16)

- M Discernment to enter Novitiate: Consecration
- T Ministry Day
- W Discernment to enter Novitiate: Ministry
- Th Discernment to enter Novitiate: Community
- F Day of Prayer & Reflection
- Sa Manual Labor/Free Day
- Su Sabbath-Community Day

(12/23)

- M Day of Prayer: Incarnation
- T Christmas Eve
- W Christmas Day
- Th Free Day
- F Free Day
- Sa Free Day
- Su Free Day

(12/30)

- M Free Day
- T Free Day
- W Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God & New Year’s Day
- Th Day of Prayer: Foundation of the Institute
- F Day of Prayer & Reflection

JANUARY 2013

(1/6)

- M The Mystery of Faith (Foundations of Catholicism): The Trinity
- T Ministry Day
- W The Mystery of Faith: Grace
- Th The Mystery of Faith: Incarnation
- F Day of Prayer & Reflection
- Sa Free Day
- Su Sabbath-Community Day

(1/13)

- M The Mystery of Faith: Salvation
- T Ministry Day
- W The Mystery of Faith: Church
- Th The Mystery of Faith: Baptism
- F Day of Prayer & Reflection
- Sa Free Day
- Su Free Day

(1/20)

- M Martin Luther King Day; IMMERSION – Bayonne
- T IMMERSION - Bayonne
- W The Mystery of Faith: Eucharist
- Th The Mystery of Faith: Sacraments of Vocation
- F Day of Prayer & Reflection
- Sa Manual Labor/Free Day
- Su Australia Day - Sabbath-Community Day

(1/27)

- M The Mystery of Faith: Reconciliation
- T Ministry Day
- W The Mystery of Faith: Tradition
- Th Council of Elders on Consecrated Life
- F Day of Prayer & Reflection
- Sa Preparation for Rite of Incorporation
- Su (2/2) Feast of the Presentation: Rite of Initiation into The Religious Life

NOVITIATE: Phase 1 – The Canonical Year
**“Deepening the Marist Way of Life:
 The Canonical Year and Solidarity Experience”**

“The novitiate is a time of initiation into the requirements of Marist religious life. The novice, helped by the Master of Novices and his team, discerns God’s will for him (C. 97)

The first phase of the Marist Brother’s Novitiate begins with a Rite of Initiation into Religious Life & Reception of the Habit (or symbol of the Congregation) (F.G. 236) This marks the Novice’s entrance into a period of deepening his study and living the life of the Marist Brother. This Canonical Year of the Novitiate includes: continued participation in the Intercommunity Formation Program, regular seminars in the Novitiate, and a month-long Solidarity Experience. (Statutes 101.1) The five elements of the Postulancy Program (prayer, discernment, community, ministry, and study) continue throughout the Novitiate. (F.G. 201)

- **SOLIDARITY EXPERIENCE** is an opportunity for the Novice to spend a month in another Novitiate within the congregation. This will allow the Novice an opportunity to: experience another culture within the congregation, enlarge the circle of peer support with other Marist Brother Novices, have a direct experience of ministry with those who are economically disadvantaged, and to improve his language skills in another language.

FEBRUARY 2014

(2/3)

- M Foundations: Hebrew Scripture
- T Ministry Day
- W Formation: C-1 “The Identity of the Marist Brother in the Church”
- Th Patrimony: *The Life of Marcellin Champagnat* part 1
- F Day of Prayer & Reflection
- Sa Intercommunity (2/8) Intercultural Community Living
- Su Intercommunity (2/9) Intercultural Community Living

(2/10)

- M Free Day
- T Ministry Day
- W Formation: C-6 “Formation”
- Th Patrimony: *Achievement from the Depths*
- F Day of Prayer & Reflection
- Sa Free Day
- Su Free Day

(2/17)

- M Presidents Day – Free Day
- T Ministry Day
- W Formation: The Novitiate – Personal Formation Plan
- Th Patrimony: *The Life of Marcellin Champagnat* part 1
- F Day of Prayer & Reflection
- Sa Manual Labor/Free Day
- Su Sabbath-Community Day

(2/24)

- M Foundations: Hebrew Scripture
- T Ministry Day
- W Formation: C-4 “Our Prayer Life”
- Th Patrimony: *Achievement from the Depths*
- F Day of Prayer & Reflection
- Sa Free Day
- Su Sabbath-Community Day

MARCH 2014

(3/3)

- M Foundations: Hebrew Scripture
- T Ministry Day
- W Ash Wednesday Formation: *Water from the Rock, 1*
- Th Patrimony: *The Life of Marcellin Champagnat* part 1
- F Day of Prayer & Reflection
- Sa Intercommunity (3/8) Our Global Responsibility as Vowed Religious
- Su Intercommunity (3/9) Our Global Responsibility as Vowed Religious

(3/10)

- M Foundations: Hebrew Scripture
- T Ministry Day
- W Formation: *Water from the Rock, 2*
- Th Patrimony: *Achievement from the Depths*
- F Day of Prayer & Reflection
- Sa Free Day
- Su Sabbath-Community Day

(3/17)

- M Immersion: Illinois
- T Immersion: Illinois
- W Immersion: Illinois
- Th Immersion: Illinois
- F Immersion: Illinois
- Sa Immersion: Illinois
- Su Immersion: Illinois

(3/17)

- M Foundations: Christian Scripture
- T Ministry Day
- W Formation: Personal Prayer
- Th Patrimony: *The Life of Marcellin Champagnat* part 1
- F Day of Prayer & Reflection
- Sa Free Day
- Su Sabbath-Community Day

(3/24)

- M Foundations: Christian Scripture
- T Ministry Day
- W Formation: Community Prayer
- Th Patrimony: *Achievement from the Depths* (Encounter)
- F Day of Prayer & Reflection (Encounter)
- Sa Manual Labor/Free Day (Encounter)
- Su Sabbath-Community Day (Encounter)

APRIL 2014

(3/31)

- M Foundations: Christian Scripture
- T Ministry Day
- W Formation: Liturgical Prayer, 1
- Th Patrimony: *The Life of Marcellin Champagnat* part 1
- F Day of Prayer & Reflection
- Sa Free Day
- Su Sabbath-Community Day

(4/7)

- M Foundations: Christian Scripture
- T Ministry Day
- W Formation: Liturgical Prayer, 2
- Th Patrimony: *Achievement from the Depths*
- F Day of Prayer & Reflection
- Sa Intercommunity (4/12) Discipleship in John: An Invitation to See
- Su Intercommunity (4/13) – Discipleship in John: An Invitation to See

(4/14)

HOLY WEEK

- M Free Day
- T Ministry Day
- W Seminar: The Triduum
- Th Holy Thursday
- F Good Friday
- Sa Holy Saturday
- Su Easter Sunday

(4/21)

- M Easter Monday (Free Day)
- T Ministry Day
- W Formation: C-3 “Marist Community,”¹
- Th Patrimony: Mary in the Scriptures
- F Anzac Day – Free Day
- Sa Free Day
- Su Sabbath-Community Day

(4/28)

- M IMMERSION: Roselle
- T Ministry Day
- W Formation: C-3 “Marist Community,”²
- Th Patrimony: Mary and the Church
- F Day of Prayer & Reflection
- Sa Manual Labor/Free Day
- Su Sabbath-Community Day

MAY 2014

(5/5)

- M Foundations: Foundations: The Jesus of History, The Christ of Faith
- T Ministry Day
- W Formation: Skills for Community Living
- Th Patrimony: The Marian Dogmas
- F Day of Prayer & Reflection
- Sa Free Day
- Su Sabbath-Community Day

(5/12)

- M Foundations: The Jesus of History, The Christ of Faith
- T Ministry Day
- W Formation: Multicultural/Intergenerational Living
- Th Patrimony: Mary in the Documents of Vatican II and Today
- F Day of Prayer & Reflection
- Sa Free Day
- Su Sabbath-Community Day

(5/19)

- M Foundations: The Jesus of History, The Christ of Faith
- T Ministry Day
- W Formation: Family Systems and Community Living
- Th Patrimony: Images of Mary: Mary in the Arts
- F Day of Prayer & Reflection (Marist Youth Leadership)
- Sa Free Day (Marist Youth Leadership)
- Su Free Day (Marist Youth Leadership)

(5/26)

- M Memorial Day – Free Day (Marist Youth Leadership)
- T Ministry Day
- W Formation: Reading Day – Prayer/Community
- Th Ascension Thursday – Holy Day Patrimony: Praying with Mary
- F Day of Prayer & Reflection
- Sa Manual Labor/Free Day
- Su Sabbath-Community Day

JUNE 2014

(6/2)

- M Foundations: The Jesus of History, The Christ of Faith
- T Ministry Day
- W Reading Day – Prayer/Community
- Th Patrimony: The Marist Brother and Mary our Good Mother
- F Solemnity of Marcellin Champagnat – Day of Prayer “Marcellin”
- Sa Free Day
- Su Sabbath-Community Day

(6/9)

- M Foundations: The Jesus of History, The Christ of Faith
- T Ministry Day
- W Reading Day – Prayer/Community
- Th Patrimony: (Circular) *In Her Arms or In Her Heart*
- F Day of Prayer & Reflection
- Sa Free Day
- Su Sabbath-Community Day

(6/16) SOLIDARITY EXPERIENCE

- M Proximate Preparation for the Solidarity Experience
- T
- W
- Th
- F
- Sa Jubilee
- Su

(6/23) SOLIDARITY EXPERIENCE

- M
- T
- W
- Th
- F
- Sa
- Su

JULY 2014(6/30) SOLIDARITY EXPERIENCE

- M
- T
- W
- Th
- F
- Sa
- Su

(7/7) SOLIDARITY EXPERIENCE

- M
- T
- W
- Th
- F
- Sa
- Su

(7/14) SOLIDARITY EXPERIENCE

- M Free Day
- T Reflection Day: The Solidarity Experience
- W Group Reflection on the Solidarity Experience
- Th Group Reflection on the Solidarity Experience
- F Day of Prayer and Reflection
- Sa
- Su

(7/21) PROVINCE ASSEMBLY

- M
- T
- W
- Th
- F
- Sa
- Su

AUGUST 2014(7/28) INITIAL FORMATION SUMMER PROGRAM: Sexuality, Chastity & Celibacy

- M
- T
- W
- Th
- F
- Sa
- Su

(8/4) INITIAL FORMATION SUMMER PROGRAM: Sexuality, Chastity & Celibacy

- M
- T
- W
- Th
- F
- Sa
- Su

(8/11) VACATION WEEK

- M
- T
- W
- Th
- F
- Sa
- Su

(8/18) VACATION WEEK

- M
- T
- W
- Th
- F
- Sa
- Su

(8/25)

- M Morning of Orientation
- T The Year Ahead: Hopes, Needs, Expectations
- W Creation of a Personal Formative Plan
- Th Free Day
- F Day of Prayer & Reflection
- Sa Free Day
- Su Free Day

SEPTEMBER 2014

(9/1)

- M Labor Day – Free Day
- T Ministry Day
- W Formation: C-2 “Our Consecration”
- Th Patrimony: *The Source and The Stream* (Marcellin & Francois)
- F Day of Prayer & Reflection
- Sa Free Day
- Su Sabbath-Community Day

(9/8)

- M Foundations: The Sacraments
- T Ministry Day
- W Formation:C-2 “Gospel Counsel of Chastity”
- Th Patrimony: *A Modest Hero: Brother Francois*
- F Day of Prayer & Reflection
- Sa Free Day
- Su Sabbath-Community Day

(9/15)

- M Foundations: The Sacraments
- T Ministry Day
- W Formation: Chastity - Sexuality, Intimacy, Celibacy, 1
- Th Patrimony: *Our First Brothers* (Chapters 1-10)
- F Day of Prayer & Reflection
- Sa Manual Labor/Free Day
- Su Sabbath-Community Day

(9/22)

- M Foundations: The Sacraments
- T Ministry Day
- W Formation: Chastity - Sexuality, Intimacy, Celibacy, 2
- Th Patrimony: *Our First Brothers* (Chapters 11-20)
- F Day of Prayer & Reflection
- Sa Free Day
- Su Sabbath-Community Day

(9/29)

- M Foundations: The Sacraments
- T Ministry Day
- W Formation: Chastity - Sexuality, Intimacy, Celibacy, 3
- Th Patrimony: *Marvellous Companions* (Chapters 1-9)
- F Day of Prayer & Reflection
- Sa Free Day
- Su Sabbath-Community Day

OCTOBER

(10/6)

- M Foundations: The Sacraments
- T Ministry Day
- W Formation: C-2 “The Gospel Counsel of Poverty”
- Th Patrimony: *Marvellous Companions* (Chapters 10-17)
- F Day of Prayer & Reflection
- Sa Free Day
- Su Sabbath-Community Day

(10/13)

- M Columbus Day – Free Day
- T Ministry Day
- W Formation: Poverty and a Life of Simplicity
- Th Patrimony: *Home-Baked Bread* (Life of Venerable Brother Alfano Vaser)
- F Day of Prayer & Reflection
- Sa Free Day
- Su Sabbath-Community Day

(10/20)

- M Foundations: Morality
- T Ministry Day
- W Formation: C-10 “Administration of Temporary Goods”
- Th Patrimony: *While He lived, He Worked...* (Life of Blessed Bernardo)
- F Day of Prayer & Reflection
- Sa Manual Labor/Free Day
- Su Sabbath-Community Day

(10/27)

- M Foundations: Morality
- T Ministry Day
- W Formation: (Circular) *Use of Our Material Goods*
- Th Patrimony: *Seeds of Life 47 Marist Brother Martyrs in Spain*
- F Day of Prayer & Reflection
- Sa Free Day
- Su Sabbath-Community Day

NOVEMBER

(11/3)

- M Foundations: Morality
- T Ministry Day
- W Formation: C-2 “The Gospel Counsel of Obedience”
- Th Patrimony: *Walking to the End of Love* (Marist Martyrs in Africa)
- F Day of Prayer & Reflection
- Sa Free Day
- Su Sabbath-Community Day

(11/10)

- M Foundations: Morality
- T Ministry Day
- W Formation: Obedience & Discernment
- Th Patrimony: *I Want to Awake the Dawn* (Brother Basilio Rueda)
- F Day of Prayer & Reflection
- Sa Free Day
- Su Sabbath-Community Day

(11/17)

- M IMMERSION: Queens & LI
- T IMMERSION: Queens & LI
- W IMMERSION: Queens & LI
- Th IMMERSION: Queens & LI
- F IMMERSION: Queens & LI
- Sa Free Day
- Su Sabbath-Community Day

(11/24)

- M Foundations: Morality
- T Patrimony: *15 Days of Prayer with Henri Verges*
- W Day of Prayer - Gratitude
- Th Thanksgiving
- F Free Day
- Sa Free Day
- Su Free Day

DECEMBER

(12/1)

- M Foundations: The Church
- T Ministry Day
- W Formation: Obedience & Conscience
- Th Patrimony: History and Presence of the Marist Brothers in the World
- F Day of Prayer & Reflection
- Sa Free Day
- Su Sabbath-Community Day

(12/8)

- M Immaculate Conception – Holy Day - Day of Prayer “Mary”
- T Ministry Day
- W Formation: C-9 “Government of the Institute”
- Th Patrimony: *Go to the Land I Will Show You* (Marist Brothers in the USA)
- F Day of Prayer & Reflection
- Sa Free Day
- Su Sabbath-Community Day

(12/15)

- M Foundations: The Church
- T Ministry Day
- W Reading Day – The Vows
- Th Patrimony: Marist Brothers of the USA: Overview 1911-Present
- F Day of Prayer & Reflection
- Sa Manual Labor/Free Day
- Su Sabbath-Community Day

(12/22)

- M Foundations: The Church
- T Ministry Day
- W Day of Prayer - Christmas
- Th Christmas
- F Boxing Day – Free Day
- Sa Free Day
- Su Free Day

(12/29)

- M Free Day
- T Free Day
- W Free Day
- Th Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God & New Year’s Day
- F Feast of the Institute
- Sa Free Day
- Su Sabbath-Community Day

JANUARY 2015

(1/5)

- M Foundations: The Church
- T Ministry Day
- W Formation: C-5 “Our Apostolic Life,”1
- Th Patrimony: *Travellers in Hope* (founders of the Society of Mary): Priests
- F Day of Prayer & Reflection
- Sa Free Day
- Su Sabbath-Community Day

(1/12)

- M Foundations: The Church
- T Ministry Day
- W Formation: C-5 “Our Apostolic Life,”2
- Th Patrimony: *Travellers in Hope* (founders of the Society of Mary): Sisters
- F Day of Prayer & Reflection
- Sa Free Day
- Su Free Day

(1/19)

- M Martin Luther King Day – Free Day
- T Ministry Day
- W Formation: “*In His Footsteps*”
- Th Patrimony: *Life of Marcellin Champagnat* (Section 2)
- F Day of Prayer & Reflection
- Sa Free Day
- Su Free Day

(1/26)

- M Australia Day - Free Day
- T Ministry Day
- W Formation: “*In His Footsteps*”
- Th Patrimony: *Life of Marcellin Champagnat* (Section 2)
- F Day of Prayer & Reflection
- Sa Manual Labor/Free Day
- Su Sabbath-Community Day

NOVITIATE: Phase 2
**“Deepening the Marist Life:
Consecrated Life and Commitment”**

The second phase of Novitiate is six months long. During this time, the Novice participates in: regular presentations on Consecrated Life, a weekly Ministry Day and a Pilgrimage-Retreat to l’Hermitage.

- PILGRIMAGE-RETREAT In preparation for the Profession of First Vows the Novice makes a Pilgrimage-Retreat at l’Hermitage. This includes both visiting the pilgrimage sites associated with Marcellin Champagnat and the early Brothers and a ten-day Directed Retreat. (C. 99, 102; Statutes 102.2; F.G. 222, 225, 249)

Novitiate concludes with the First Profession of Vows.

FEBRUARY 2015

(2/2)

- M Immersion - Florida
- T Immersion – Florida
- W Immersion – Florida
- Th Immersion – Florida
- F Immersion – Florida
- Sa Immersion – Florida
- Su Immersion – Florida

(2/9)

- M Foundations: Social Justice
- T Ministry Day
- W Formation: Introduction to Discernment for Application for First Vows
- Th Patrimony: *Life of Marcellin Champagnat* (Section 2)
- F Day of Prayer & Reflection
- Sa Free Day
- Su Sabbath-Community Day

(2/16)

- M Presidents Day – Free Day
- T Ministry Day
- W Ash Wednesday - Formation: Issues in Ministry
- Th Discernment Days
- F Discernment Days
- Sa Manual Labor/Free Day
- Su Sabbath-Community Day

(2/23)

- M Foundations: Social Justice
- T Ministry Day
- W Formation: C-7 “Admission to the Institute and Religious Profession”
- Th Patrimony: *Life of Marcellin Champagnat* (Section 2)
- F Day of Prayer & Reflection
- Sa Free Day
- Su Sabbath-Community Day

MARCH 2015

(3/2)

- M Foundations: Social Justice
- T Ministry Day
- W Formation: C-8 – “Separation from the Institute,” C-11 “Vitality”
- Th Patrimony: *Letters of Marcellin Champagnat*
- F Day of Prayer & Reflection
- Sa Free Day
- Su Sabbath-Community Day

(3/9)

- M Foundations: Social Justice
- T Ministry Day
- W Formation: (Circular) “He Gave us the Name of Mary”
- Th Patrimony: *Letters of Marcellin Champagnat*
- F Day of Prayer & Reflection
- Sa Free Day
- Su Sabbath-Community Day

(3/16)

- M Foundations: Social Justice
- T Ministry Day
- W Formation (Circular) “A Revolution of the Heart”
- Th Patrimony: *Letters of Marcellin Champagnat*
- F Day of Prayer & Reflection
- Sa Free Day
- Su Sabbath-Community Day

(3/23)

- M Foundations: The Christian Life
- T Ministry Day
- W Formation (Circular) “Making Jesus Known and Loved”
- Th Patrimony: Reading Day - *Avis, Leçons, Sentences*
- F Day of Prayer & Reflection
- Sa Manual Labor/Free Day
- Su Sabbath-Community Day

(3/30) HOLY WEEK

- M Foundations: The Christian Life
- T Ministry Day
- W Day of Reflection: The Triduum
- Th Holy Thursday
- F Good Friday
- Sa Holy Saturday
- Su Easter Sunday

ARPIL 2015

(4/6)

- M Immersion: TX
- T Immersion: TX
- W Immersion: TX
- Th Immersion: TX
- F Immersion: TX
- Sa Immersion: TX
- Su Immersion: TX

(4/13)

- M Foundations: The Christian Life
- T Ministry Day
- W Formation: (Circular) *Marvelous Companions*
- Th Patrimony: *Avis, Leçons, Sentences*
- F Day of Prayer & Reflection
- Sa Free Day
- Su Sabbath-Community Day

(4/20)

- M Foundations: The Christian Life
- T Ministry Day
- W Formation: Independent Study – Consecrated Life
- Th Patrimony: *Avis, Leçons, Sentences*
- F Day of Prayer & Reflection
- Sa Anzac Day - Free Day
- Su Sabbath-Community Day

(4/27)

- M Foundations: The Christian Life
- T Ministry Day
- W Formation: Independent Study – Consecrated Life
- Th Patrimony: Independent Study
- F Day of Prayer & Reflection
- Sa Manual Labor/Free Day
- Su Sabbath-Community Day

MAY 2015

(5/4)

- M Foundations: Christian Spirituality
- T Ministry Day
- W Formation: Profession of Vows
- Th Patrimony: Independent Study
- F Day of Prayer & Reflection
- Sa Free Day
- Su Sabbath-Community Day

(5/11)

- M Foundations: Christian Spirituality
- T Ministry Day
- W Formation: Preparation for Profession Liturgy
- Th Ascension Thursday – Holy Day - Patrimony: Independent Study
- F Day of Prayer & Reflection
- Sa Free Day
- Su Sabbath-Community Day

(5/18)

- M Foundations: Christian Spirituality
- T Ministry Day
- W Formation: Preparation for Profession Liturgy
- Th Patrimony: Independent Study
- F Day of Prayer & Reflection
- Sa Free Day
- Su Sabbath-Community Day

(5/25)

- M Memorial Day – Free Day
- T Ministry Day
- W Formation: Preparation for Profession
- Th Patrimony: Independent Study
- F Day of Prayer & Reflection
- Sa Manual Labor/Free Day
- Su Sabbath-Community Day

JUNE 2015

(6/1)

- M Foundations: Christian Spirituality
- T Ministry Day
- W Formation: Preparation for Profession
- Th Patrimony: Independent Study
- F Day of Prayer & Reflection
- Sa Solemnity of St. Marcellin Champagnat
- Su Sabbath-Community Day

(6/8)

- M Day of Prayer – Marcellin Champagnat
- T Ministry Day
- W Formation: Preparation for Profession
- Th Patrimony: Independent Study
- F Day of Prayer & Reflection
- Sa Free Day
- Su Sabbath-Community Day

(6/15) SUMMER WORK WEEK

- M
- T
- W
- Th
- F
- Sa
- Su

(6/22) SUMMER WORK WEEK

- M
- T
- W
- Th
- F
- Sa
- Su

(6/29) INITIAL FORMATION SUMMER PROGRAM

- M
- T
- W
- Th
- F
- Sa
- Su

JULY 2015(7/6) INITIAL FORMATION SUMMER PROGRAM

M
T
W
Th
F
Sa
Su

(7/13)

M Free Day
T Free Day
W Proximate Preparation for Pilgrimage-Retreat
Th Proximate Preparation for Pilgrimage-Retreat
F Proximate Preparation for Pilgrimage-Retreat
Sa
Su

(7/20) PILGRIMAGE-RETREAT

M
T
W
Th
F
Sa
Su

(7/27) PILGRIMAGE-RETREAT

M
T
W
Th
F
Sa
Su

AUGUST 2015

(8/3)

M Free Day
T Reflection on Pilgrimage-Retreat
W Free Day
Th Free Day
F Day of Prayer & Reflection
Sa Free Day
Su Sabbath-Community Day

(8/10)

M Free Day
T Preparation for First Profession of Vows
W Day of Prayer
Th Free Day
F Free Day
Sa **First Profession of Vows**

Appendix 1: **Working with Children and Vulnerable Adults**

The following is taken from the Policy Manual of the Marist Brothers of the Province of the United States of America:

The Marist Brothers of the Province of the United States of America
Policies for Maintaining Ethical Ministry with Minors

For the purposes of this document, the term “Member” may be a professed religious of the Marist Brothers of the Schools, Province of the USA, a Marist Brother Novice or candidate. A “minor” is anyone under the age of 18. For the purposes of this document, the term “minors” also includes adults who would be considered uniquely vulnerable to abuse because of physical or mental disabilities.

The primary concern of the Marist Brothers of the Schools is the welfare of the young people entrusted to our care. This solicitude is consistent with our Church mission and professional commitment. Child Abuse in any form is not in keeping with the Gospel, is not within the scope of religious life or ministry, and is not permitted or condoned in any manner. The Marist Brothers have a responsibility to protect minors from all forms of abuse and neglect. In our work, we have an opportunity to observe children who are victims of physical, emotional, or sexual abuse. Child abusers come from every trade and profession and from all socioeconomic strata. Sadly, some children are abused by those whom they should be most able to trust: parents, teachers, or clergy. As Marist Brothers, our concern is two-fold: the victims of abuse and potential future victims. We urge every Member to become thoroughly conversant with the procedures and policies concerning the standards of conduct for ministry with minors established by the institution where he works, as well as pertinent local, state, and federal law concerning child abuse and abuse of “vulnerable adults.” Members in each of these institutions are subject to the policy in effect in that institution and to this province policy.

The Provincial of the Marist Brothers of the Schools, Province of the USA, sees to it that all the Members are educated concerning the Province’s policy, about various types of misconduct and behavior, about procedures for reporting abuse of minors or vulnerable adults, responding to incidents and allegations of sexual abuse, the establishment and purpose of Review Boards, and the prescribed course of supervision and care of members who have abused minors or vulnerable adults. It is important that the Members are aware that this policy applies to them not only in their ministry role but in their relationship with their friends and families, as well.

In addition, this policy pertains to Brothers from other Provinces of the Marist Brothers or religious from other Institutes who may reside in one of our communities. These Brothers/Religious are expected to familiarize themselves with this policy and attend all relevant educational programs offered by the Province. Like all Brothers of the U.S.A. province they are required to sign the “accountability form” verifying that they have read this document and they agree to follow this policy.

Formation & Education Program for those in Initial Formation

The following formation and educational components of the Initial Formation Program have been accepted by Presidium, the accreditation agency, as complying with standards for those in Initial Formation:

Weekly Accompaniment with Novice Master (1 hour per week)

Monthly Spiritual Direction (1 hour per month)

Seminar: Living The Vows for Those in Initial Formation (2 ½ hours)

Seminar: Relationship with Others: Sexuality, Relationships and Intimacy (2 ½ hours)

Seminar: Introduction to Ministry (2 ½ hours)

Seminar: Skills for Community Living (2 ½ hours)

Seminar: Sexuality, Intimacy, Celibacy (6 hours)

Seminars: Relationships and Intimacy (6 hours)

Seminars: Vow of Chastity (10 hours)

Seminars: Community Living (10 hours)

Seminar on Ministry with a focus on appropriate behaviors in the ministerial relationship (2 ½ hours)

Weekend workshop offered by the Intercommunity Novitiate Program on the Vow of Chastity (2 days)

Availability of books, periodicals, videos on the topic of Sexuality, Intimacy and Chastity/Celibacy

Full participation in all the requirements for Brothers, Novices and Candidates which fulfill the Presidium accreditation requirements, in on-going education in the area of sexuality.

This document was approved by Brother John Klein and the Provincial Council (Province of the United States of America) at their October 2004 meeting. The program was developed by the members of the Life-long Formation Team (Brothers Robert Andrews, Don Bission, Robert Clark, John Kachinsky and Steve Milan) and the members of the Ad Hoc Initial Formation Committee (Brothers Robert Clark, Michael Laratonda, John Malich and Michael Sheerin). This Initial Formation Program document was revised in April 2008, and June 2009.

In preparation for a joint novitiate between the Provinces of Australia and the United States of America the program was adapted to the specific needs of those in formation – approved by: Brother Ben Consigli (Province of the United States of America) and Brother Jeff Crowe (Province of Australia) June 2013.