

**The Beacon.Com - Marianist Family Retreat Center E-News – October 2006**  
(Be sure to visit our web site at [www.capemaymarianists.org](http://www.capemaymarianists.org) for a complete schedule, retreat photos and application)

To find out more of what is happening in the greater Marianist Family – click here [www.marianist.com/fol](http://www.marianist.com/fol) for Marianist Family Online - the Province E-Newsletter.

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Dear Friends,

Greetings to all of you from Cape May Point and all of the Marianists here!

Jessica and I recently returned from our annual pilgrimage to Dayton, Ohio – what we like to call “Marianist Central.” It just seems as if no matter what part of Dayton you find yourself one would be within a stone’s throw of a Marianist religious community, university, high school, art studio or one of several lay communities.

While we were there we once again gathered the many Dayton/Ohio-area families who have experienced a Marianist Family Retreat (either here or at one of the other program sites) for a time of fellowship and fun. Since the number of families has grown so much over the past several years, this year we (with great assistance from Peggy Brun!) organized a Marianist family picnic.

We specifically asked those attending to consider the possibility of forming a new Marianist lay community. One of our many goals as a Center is to be a place where families can come and experience the spirit and hospitality of a Marianist Family Retreat, but also one that encourages families to take this experience back to their communities. Being part of and serving as a Marianist lay community is one of many ways families can do this.



Who knows where we'll show up for our next family picnic – maybe it will be where your family lives!

***Celebration of Marriage*** – September 15-17

To see photos from this retreat click here

[www.capemaymarianists.org/2006\\_Married\\_Couples.htm](http://www.capemaymarianists.org/2006_Married_Couples.htm)

Once again the Celebration of Marriage Retreat was a wonderful experience for all of those who attended. The team, led by Tony & Sharon Bellitto, were great (as evidenced by the extremely positive feedback received). We are grateful for all of those who gave so much to plan this retreat and are especially thankful to all of those who attended.

***Thanksgiving Family Retreat – November 17-19 (the weekend before Thanksgiving)***

Families (and “friends that are like family”) are invited to experience a retreat of gratitude and appreciation on how to share the goods of the earth’s harvest of plenty. Traditional themes of affirmation, forgiveness, and commitment will be united with the spirit of Thanksgiving Day. For more information, rates and an application visit:

[www.capemaymarianists.org/Applicationmenu.htm](http://www.capemaymarianists.org/Applicationmenu.htm)

***Advent Family Retreats - December 1-3, 8-10, 15-17***

**Openings:**   Advent 1 – 2 more families  
                  Advent 2 – 4 more families  
                  Advent 3 – full, wait list only

Come and join us with your family during this most holy season of Advent. This is a time to step back from the craziness of the season to reflect on the Christ story of this time. Our program includes skits, presentations, special family rituals, Eucharist and of course – Christmas cookie-making! For more information, rates and an application visit our website at

[www.capemaymarianists.org/Applicationmenu.htm](http://www.capemaymarianists.org/Applicationmenu.htm)

***Male Spirituality Retreat Weekend - November 10 – 12 (only 10 spots remain!)***

This weekend, open to men from all walks of life, focuses on unique male issues on the spiritual journey. The retreat will consist of Eucharist and other prayer, input, quiet time, small group sharing, socializing, and fun within a supportive, intentional community of men. \$110/person.

For more information and an application visit our website at:

[www.capemaymarianists.org/Applicationmenu.htm](http://www.capemaymarianists.org/Applicationmenu.htm)

***Young Adults Wanted! New Orleans Mission Trip***

Although it has been over a year since Hurricane Katrina devastated the Gulf Coast Region, help is still needed with clean-up and rebuilding efforts.

In response to this need, we at Mary's House are looking to organize a group of 12-14 young adults to go to New Orleans and assist in the relief efforts. The trip will be sponsored by Catholic Charities of the Camden Diocese and will run either from Dec.26th -30th or Dec. 27th-31st depending on flight availability.

You must be 18 or older to participate in this trip. In addition, the work is emotionally, physically and spiritually difficult. You must be in good physical health. We will be cleaning out houses that have been closed up for over a year – there will be mold as well as vermin. No experience is necessary.

If you are interested in the trip, please contact Jessica Sherwen by phone (609-884-3829) or email [jsherwen@capemaymarianists.org](mailto:jsherwen@capemaymarianists.org) as soon as possible, but no later than Thursday October 12th. As you can imagine, we need to start booking flights.

What a wonderful way to celebrate Christmas by shining the light of Christ's love on others!

***Want to spend a year learning about Marianist life?***

The North American Center for Marianist Studies (NACMS) is now accepting applications for its full-time internship. The position is open to both lay Marianists and vowed religious.

The internship is a great opportunity to build or bolster your understanding of Marianist life. Best of all, you may even get to share your gifts and talents with



the Marianist world. Past interns have assisted with presenting Marianist programs, editing, and conducting research.

The intern will be mentored by NACMS staff for studies in Marianist history, Marianist spirituality, and the interface between things Marianist and the contemporary church and culture.

NACMS is a heritage center that serves the Marianist world through providing programs, publications, research, and resources to the comprehensive Marianist Family.

Internship applicants should be available to work 40 hours a week in Dayton, Ohio. A stipend and medical insurance are provided as compensation. The customary length of the internship is a year.

Please contact Carol Ramey, the NACMS director, for additional information. She can be reached at 937/429-2521 or [carol.ramey@notes.udayton.edu](mailto:carol.ramey@notes.udayton.edu) . For the online application for the internship click [www.nacms.org/nacmswebpage/who/Intern%20Application.asp](http://www.nacms.org/nacmswebpage/who/Intern%20Application.asp)

### *Marriage Moments and Parenting Pointers*

*Contributed by Susan Vogt, [www.SusanVogt.net](http://www.SusanVogt.net)*

#### ***On Marriage...***

“Often the difference between a successful marriage and a mediocre one consists of leaving about three or four things a day unsaid.” (Harlan Miller) Good communication is not always about what we say to each other but what we choose not to say.

#### ***On Parenting...***

“Every parent is at some time the father of the unreturned prodigal, with nothing to do but keep his house open to hope.” (John Ciardi) Has your child disappointed you in some way recently? You need to hold him or her accountable, but that doesn't mean you can't welcome your child back with open arms. Can you think of any offense that is not forgivable? God can't.

Blessings to All!

The Marianists

Cape May Point