



October 4, 2006

VOCATION NEWS

Did you know...

We're back, beginning our 5th Year!

- Our Vocation Team for 2006-2007 includes:

Sr. Patricia Knopp, SND, Aaron Sonnenburg, Brian Halderman, George Kemmett, Dennis Schmitz, Ken Templin, John McEnhill, Jim Wisecaver, Tom Pieper, Charlie Wanda, Sean Downing, Michael Sullivan and Evangeline Escobar and you. Thanks to our team!

- Thanks to the Provincial Council who has been very supportive in our vocation efforts.
- Thanks to Donna Tucker who works very hard and has to put up with me! Donna just became a grandmother! Congratulations!
- We have been blessed by God with four men entering our Aspirancy Program:
 - Casa Maria Community in San Antonio: Brandon Alana-Maungaotega, Ken Barrett and Ray Dominguez
 - Marianist Community in Dublin: Alan Smith.

We welcome these men and we continue to pray for them during this year. If you want to welcome them yourself, their e-mail addresses are in the brand new "green" personnel.

- The following men are members of our Contact Program for this year:
 - Arturo Amador, Moreno, CA
 - Matthew Bogner, Austin, TX

October 4, 2006

- Jeff Campbell, Lorain, OH
- Norman Capinpin, San Antonio, TX (Volunteer Program)
- Tom Fox, Houston, TX
- Luis Guerra, Cleveland, Ohio (LaLanne Program)
- Joseph Melendrez, Dayton, Ohio
- Christopher Nieport, San Antonio, TX (Volunteer Program)
- Reynard Nivera, Honolulu, HI
- Brandon Paluch, Compton, CA
- Jonathan Pyles, Dayton, OH
- Theodore Rhoades, Kapolei, HI
- Michael Schulz, Dayton, OH
- Kip Young, Bloomington, IN

Please pray for them!

- New vocation brochures were printed over the summer. They will soon be distributed to the communities. Please feel free to share them. Thanks to Joan Suda and Diane Guerra.
- Did you see the new vocation website? Thanks to Brian Halderman for his work and to Tom Giardino for helping with funding!

Check it out: www.marianist.com/vocations

- Several members of the vocation team participated in the NRVC Convocation in Irvine, California. There were several very good talks and presentations. DVD copies of the keynote speakers will soon be available for communities to borrow and maybe use for a community discussion on vocations. Our team also met after the convocation to discuss Marianist vocation things!
- Thanks to the Hollywood Community as they prepare for their Vocation Evening! Thanks to John, Kevin, Ray and George!
- Vocation materials ordered by the campus ministers of our schools will be sent out this week.
- A Vocation Office Resource list will be handed out at the Director's Meeting. If your community would like some vocation materials, please fill out the form and send it to me.

- Special thanks to the St. Al's Community for hosting Brian Meyers, an inquirer from Cleveland. Brian is a student in Cincinnati and will soon meet with the DeSales Crossing Community! Advance thanks to the community there!
- Again, thanks to the St. Al's Community for their continued work with Jeff Campbell, a member of our Contact Program! Thanks!
- Contact Tom Fox from Houston visited St. Louis this past weekend for a homecoming experience at SLU. Tom met with me and we visited the Marybrook and Maryland Avenue communities.
- Neville O'Donohue from the community in Dublin visited the U.S. this past summer and took some classes at the Aquinas Institute in St. Louis. Neville stayed with the Lindell Avenue community and also participated in the Behavioral Assessment workshop in Chicago. Neville is our vocation director in Ireland. Thank you, Neville, for all you do!
- Thanks to The West Hills Community for hosting their Sunday Discernment Meetings. They have become very popular with people in the L.A. area. Thank you!
- A Discernment Retreat was held last weekend in Hawaii. Thanks to the communities out there! From Dennis Schmitz: *"The retreat went very well. The retreat dealt with the entire Marianist Family. Jeannie Pinpin and Dustyn helped me put it together. The panel included some very powerful and moving stories from lay Marianists. I wish some of the Brothers could hear these stories and see how deeply they have affected people's lives. It is very gratifying. Ken Templin, Jerry Bommer and Franklin Pao all helped with the retreat. We also had a great workshop from Jack Ventura. Jack gave a MLC workshop for over 25 people. It was a great experience and several MLC groups are either starting up or refounding themselves."*
- There was another Discernment Retreat this past weekend at Governor's Island. Charlie Wanda writes the following: *"The retreat was attended by Andrew Millar, graduate of Purcell-Marian, Beth Kuhns, member of the LaLanne Program, Eric Stoiber and Brian O'Toole both first year students at UD. The retreat was conducted by Tom Pieper, S.M. with assistance from Maureen O'Rourke, Andrew Kosmowski, S.M. and Charlie Wanda, S.M. Fr. Jim Russell was available for the sacraments. The retreat centered around the Marianist charism with introductions to the Lay Marianists, the Daughters of Mary and the Society of Mary."* Thank you everyone for your participation!

- Congratulations to Terry Weik for recently becoming pastor at St. Joseph's Catholic Community in Eldersburg, Maryland. I was privileged to attend Terry's installation and to talk with Luis Guerra, a member of our Contact Program.
- What are you doing for our future? Are you working for vocations? Why? Why not?
- The National Vocation Office is sponsoring a day workshop on screening candidates for admission to the Society of Mary. Dr. Robert Furey will be the presenter. Members of our regional vocation teams will attend. The workshop is also open to other religious communities.
- Thanks to Paul Fitzpatrick for attending the Vocation meeting for the Archdiocese of Boston. Thank you, Paul, for attending and sending me the information from the meeting!
- There will be a retreat for members of our Contact program the weekend of December 8-10, 2006 at Tecaboca. Sean Downing is the retreat coordinator and Ed Brink will be the main presenter.
- Please pray for vocations! Please pray for vocations!
- The booklet of the names of our men in formation will soon be published. We are waiting for a list from one of our regions. Please be patient!
- There will be a retreat for artists on the weekend of February 16-18, 2007 at the Marianist Retreat Center at Eureka. Brian Zampier is the retreat coordinator. More details to follow!
- If you, your community, or your school is doing anything for vocations, please let me know so that I can share it with the Province.
- Upcoming Vocation Events:
 - October 19-20: Formation Advisory Council (St. Louis)
 - November 8: Screening Candidates Workshop (St. Louis)
 - November 10-12: Formation Weekend (San Antonio)
 - December 8-10: Contact Retreat (Tecaboca)
- This newsletter is sent to the Directors and I request that they print it and make it available to the community. If an individual community member would like a copy, please contact me and we will put you on the list.

- Brothers, there are many good things happening within our province in terms of vocations. Let us give thanks to God and continue working together sharing the Gospel message of Jesus and the charism of our holy Founder.
- Thanks for all you do! **Pray! Evangelize! Experience! Mentor! Invite!**

Peace!

P.S.—Please send me your vocation activities!