

## Where the Marist Family Meets for News

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### On the cover:

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**Marist High School**  
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[www.marist.net](http://www.marist.net)

**IN MY WINTER 2019 LETTER IN *THE POINT***, I spoke of the growing enthusiasm for the new science center we were planning to build. Through the kindness and generosity of many Marist families, alums, and friends, the plan has become a reality.

When the new school year began in August of 2019, our students returned to the most innovative Catholic high school science center in Chicagoland. Twenty-first century science facilities and a planetarium coupled with hands-on opportunities for learning science are preparing our students for new and emerging careers in science as well as a world in which scientific change and progress will shape and change every aspect of their lives.

As a Catholic high school, Marist's new science center is not just an additional ten science labs and a planetarium. It is a place where students can study and contemplate the remarkable relationship between faith and science. Quotations about the relationship between faith and science are all over the new science center in the hope that this new learning environment will foster not only knowledge but also faith.

While the science center has been in the forefront of Marist news since late summer, other wonderful things have been happening at Marist, too. Our fall sports season was remarkably successful and memorable with honors earned for football, boys' soccer, girls' cross country, boys' cross country, and girls' volleyball. As always, the Marist band has been at the heart of all this excitement.

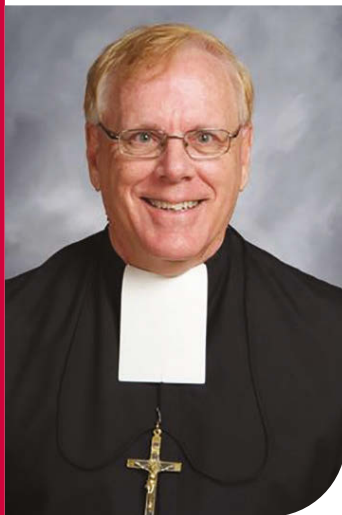
The Theatre Guild's performance of *Witness for the Prosecution* and numerous activities sponsored by Campus Ministry, Marist Youth, Liturgy Committee, and Student Council all added other essential and exciting dimensions to life at Marist High School.

While Marist is committed to presenting our students with the best academic opportunities possible, we are equally committed to doing this in the context of faith. The international document on Marist Education states that our task is "to be true to our mission of evangelization through education." Notice what comes first. Marist High School exists, first and foremost, to form our students in a faith that will serve them throughout their lives. This is the defining characteristic of Marist Chicago and all Marist schools throughout the world.

Marist High School is built on the foundation of faith, family, and future. We are grateful to all of you who are part of the legacy of this great school community. We are grateful to God for the blessings bestowed on Marist through our parents, grandparents, students, alumni, faculty, staff, and friends. St. Marcellin Champagnat urged the first Brothers to place all those for whom they prayed in the hearts of Jesus and Mary, and so we do the same for you.

Gratefully,

Brother Hank Hammer, FMS  
President



# Br. Hank announces last year as president

**M** Brother Hank Hammer, FMS, president of Marist High School, announced in September that he will step down from that role at the conclusion of the 2019-2020 school year. Brother Hank has served as president since 2014, and the current school year marks two complete terms as president. He is the fourth president in the school's history.

Under his leadership, advancement and alumni efforts were expanded and long-term financial and strategic goals were put in place. Brother Hank led the charge for Faith in the Future, a \$15 million campaign that culminated in the opening of Monastery Hall, Marist's 10-lab science wing with a planetarium. He has been a faithful supporter of the school's fine arts programs and has been a living presence of the Marist charism.


"The role of president was not one that I sought out, but I am happy to have been able to serve the Marist Chicago community," Brother Hank told faculty members. "It challenged me but also allowed me opportunities to learn and grow."

From 2009 to 2014, he worked as the academic dean for underclassmen at the school. Prior to that,

Brother Hank served as a teacher at Marist Chicago and Mount St. Michael Academy in New York. He was also principal at Marist Chicago from 1993 to 1996. In addition, he served the Marist

Brothers Province as vocation director, director of evangelization, and assistant provincial. His experience in a variety of administrative roles and his many years of service at Marist High School were excellent preparation for his role as president.

Brother Hank explained that while he does not know exactly what his next role will be, it is his hope that it will involve working directly with students at Marist Chicago. "I want to return to the work that inspired me to become an educator and a Brother," he said.

Marist has operated under the president/principal model since 1996. A search committee is leading the search for the school's next president who will start on July 1, 2020. 



## Student Life Highlights



◀ Freshman students participated in the second annual **First Year Experience and Retreat Day** on October 16. It was designed specifically for them to grow as

an inclusive, faith-filled community. In small groups, they participated in discussions on high school issues, community building exercises, games, and a prayer service where they signed their official class banner.



▲ Marist welcomed local elementary and middle school educators to the fifth annual **Monday at Marist** program in November. **Principal Larry Tucker '79** and Director of Curriculum and Instruction **Dr. Katie Baal** were joined by teachers **Ryan Doidge '09** (architecture/engineering), science teachers **Carrie Spano**, **Kevin Butler '05**, and **Jen Silva**, and English teachers **Sam Paoletti** and **Mary Cozzie** in sharing methods, activities, and resources to create an engaged, collaborative classroom.

*Continues on page 6 »*



## New course offers insight into future careers

**MARIST INTRODUCED THE** Engineer Your World course for the 2019–2020 school year. The two-semester class is a hands-on experience for students who want to learn about engineering and its role in shaping our world.

Students work in small groups on authentic engineering practices in a project-based learning environment and complete a series of socially relevant design challenges to develop engineering design skills and habits. Collaborative, student-directed projects build resilient problem-solving skills

and empower students to think like engineers, to adopt engineering processes, and to pursue engineering disciplines for the betterment of our world.

The class implements the curriculum designed by the University of Texas at Austin, which is where Marist teachers **Tracy Carlson** and **Ryan Doidge '09** attended a two-week training program in preparation of teaching the course. Carlson worked as an industrial engineer at Reynolds Aluminum Company for 14 years prior to becoming a teacher, and Doidge is a trained architect.

The course focuses on teaching students engineering habits and learning the importance of

thorough documentation. During the year, students will delve into mechanical, biomedical, chemical, civil, electrical, software, and aerospace engineering. The course is open to all grade levels, and student teams are created based on personality surveys. As for the mix of grade levels, freshman Braden Bartecki said it works out because the content is new to everyone.

Senior Augustino Pannarella said what drew him to the class was the opportunity to work hands-on and in a group. Students have to rely on each other to figure things out, and that's a goal that's important to Doidge. "I don't want them to look to me for the answer," he said. "I want them to look to each other even if that means they have to fail in the first attempts to find the solution."

Classmate Olivia Arp '22 said she's thinking about a career in the medical field, but because she loves math she thought engineering might be a good match, too. That's one of the benefits of the course: exposing students to realistic professional experiences. Carlson thinks that's important. "Given the cost of college, I think we should do as much as we can to expose students to different careers in high school so that they can make informed decisions about their college majors," she said.

Other courses at Marist offer students the opportunity to work in robotics, app building, architectural drawing, and more. [➔](#)



▲ Engineer Your World students Pannarella (from left), Arp, and Bartecki work on designing a moving vehicle with basic supplies (rubberbands, tape, pencils, cardboard, etc).

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## New faces embrace Marist traditions



Newly professed **MARIST BROTHER LUIS RAMOS, FMS**, joined the faculty for the 2019–2020 school year. He will teach freshmen and sophomores in the

Religious Studies Department.

Br. Luis attended Mount Saint Michael Academy in Bronx, New York, a Marist Brothers' school, which introduced him to the Marist charism.

It was midway through college when Br. Luis said the call to serve became

much louder. "Their common life and practices were attractive," Br. Luis said of the Brothers. "With so much done together and for the same mission, the Brothers never seemed to lose their individuality."

His first assignment is here at Marist Chicago. "Being assigned here was exciting news," he said. "I've always heard amazing things about the family atmosphere and quality education at Marist Chicago. It's a little far from New York City, my hometown, but I'm excited to be here." [➔](#)

# Explore Program gives students hands-on experience

**D**r. Jerry Kavouras '90, biology department chair at Lewis University, has mentored Marist students each of the past three summers. **Jacob Mozdzen '18** (University of Notre Dame '22), **Valerie Pavilonis '18** (Yale University '22), **Sean Giltmier '19** (Purdue University '23), **Shayna Garla '20**, and **William Tegge '20** designed their own research experiments and worked in the labs alongside undergraduates the summer before their senior years at Marist. At the end of the summer, students presented their research at the symposium alongside Dr. Kavouras's students.

Giltmier designed and conducted an experiment on the transfer of e. Coli. "Learning about Dr. Kavouras's research and conducting experiments with him and his students helped me to confidently decide to pursue a biology major at Purdue," Giltmier said.

Tegge and Garla conducted research together this past summer. "This research opportunity provided a real-world application for what I've learned in my science classes and a hands-on learning experience. It also solidified my confidence that I want to pursue research in college and work in environmental science," Garla said. "In school, students do labs that teach them the basics of the scientific method, but being able to apply this in the field and dive even deeper to learn about ethics and the scientific



▲ Shayna Garla '20 and William Tegge '20 organize water samples in a lab at Lewis University, Summer 2019.

community with Dr. Kavouras was an amazing opportunity that will stick with me as I do future research in college," Tegge said.

Summer research and internships allow students the opportunity to apply skills they are learning to the real world and provide them with invaluable lessons. ⓘ

## GET INVOLVED

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If you would like to get involved with the Explore Program, please visit:  
[www.marist.net/alumni/be-a-resource/](http://www.marist.net/alumni/be-a-resource/)

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**DR. KATHRYN (KATIE) BAAL** joined Marist as director of curriculum and instruction for the 2019-2020 school year. She will join

the administrative team in helping move forward Marist's mission to provide future-minded Catholic education.

In her role, Baal will partner with the curriculum coordinators, who oversee each academic department, to further develop Marist's student-centered vision

for curriculum and instruction. She will assist in course design, text selection, and designing learning goals and outcomes. She will also help develop the school's professional learning community through collaboration, tools and technology, and ongoing professional development.

Baal, who hails from the South Side originally, was principal of Loyola Academy in Wilmette, Ill., where she served for seven years. Prior to her tenure there, she served as the science department chair at Downers Grove North High School for seven years, and as a science instructor for eight years at

Maine South High School and St. Ignatius College Prep.

Her impressive experience matches many of the programs and goals at Marist, including overseeing a 1:1 iPad learning environment, focusing on faculty advancement of instructional practices, and growing student success through data and literacy. Baal has also managed the transition to a drop cascade bell schedule, which Marist implemented this school year. It features a rotating schedule, longer class periods, and time for advisory periods for students. ⓘ



◀ The sophomore retreat took a new direction this year, with all members of the class going on retreat over the course of one week to

help clean up and refresh city parks. The focus was on God's call for us to be stewards of the earth. The students not only put in the labor but also reflected on how it was an opportunity to put faith into action. They worked at Kennedy Park, Mount Greenwood Park, Calumet Park, Washington Park, Lincoln Park, Madigan Park, Hayes Park, and Bogan Park. Pictured is the group at Mt. Greenwood Park with Academic Dean of Underclassmen **Joe Inzinga '77** in the center.



▲ Marist Chicago juniors **Sarah Cintron, Tara Cronin, Madison Kuziela, Justin Lee, and Luke Schuler** attended LaValla Weekend at the Marist Brothers Center at Esopus in New York with Religious Studies teacher Br. Sam Amos, FMS. Students from nine U.S. Marist schools and one Canadian Marist school gathered for the annual event that not only connects fellow Marists in their shared charism but also opens students' eyes to the experiences of the least favored around the world.



◀ Seniors **Zack Stack** (from left), **Dan Winstead, Nicole Viz, Jack Molenhouse, and Connor McNamara** were named National Merit Semifinalists by the National Merit Scholarship Corporation in

Evanston, Ill. The nationwide pool of Semifinalists, representing less than one percent of U.S. high school seniors, includes the highest scoring entrants in each state. Four more seniors—**Brianna Brown, Adam Hermann, Kyle Kohn, and Kenneth Polit**—were recognized as National Merit Commended Students.



◀ Marist High School inducted 103 members into one or more of the four honor societies at the school

during a combined ceremony on October 7. The **National Honor Society, Spanish National Honor Society, French National Honor Society, and National Art Honor Society** each have slightly different membership requirements regarding grade point average and course enrollment, but all demand leadership, scholarship, character, and service.

▶ The band had an incredibly busy fall season. They made several television appearances, performed during the football season that went to the state semifinal, and marched in



the Chicago Thanksgiving Day Parade. They welcomed the Christmas season with two stellar performances of holiday classics, too. In the spring, the group will travel to New Orleans for a concert tour.



◀ Senior hockey players **Brendan Sise, Mike Fischer, and Jack Reedy** have been taking flight lessons from Jack's dad, Captain Marty Reedy, a certified

flight instructor, at Lewis University Airport in Romeoville since last summer in an effort to earn their pilot licenses. According to Reedy, who founded a not-for-profit flying club called the RedHawk Flyers, training involves a great deal of discipline and dedication. In order to earn a private pilot license, each student must pass a comprehensive written exam, oral exam, and practical test with a Federal Aviation Administration pilot examiner. The boys will have flown approximately 70 hours by the time they complete their training, hopefully, by the middle of the summer. Read more at [www.marist.net/activities/redhawks-take-flight/](http://www.marist.net/activities/redhawks-take-flight/). 📌





## Football bounces back

In its first season in the merged ESCC/CCL, Marist faced what local sports reporters called a “meat grinder” of a season. It was tough. The RedHawks finished the regular season with a 5-4 record. They punched their ticket to the playoffs with a 14-6 win over Loyola Academy in week nine.

They started their playoff run with a win over Glenbard East, 49-7, followed by a victory over Huntley, 14-7. They faced a big test in the state quarterfinals against Loyola and pulled off a 41-27 win. They faced unbeaten Lincoln-Way East in the state semifinal, falling to the eventual state champs, 24-7. 📌



### BOYS' SOCCER HEADS ACROSS THE POND

Members of the boys' soccer program will travel to Ireland from June 4-15, 2020. The group will arrive in Dublin for a two-day stay. Then, the group will head to Carrick where they will train with Carrick United Soccer Club coaches and play in a tournament against teams from that club at the end of the week. Coach Sean Maxwell also hopes to set up a friendly match against a team from Dublin. 📌

## Tennis has banner season

The motto for the girls' tennis team is “be the legacy.” They took it to heart this season, placing second in the East Suburban Catholic Conference championship—the best program finish in history. Throughout the season, the team racked up tournament and match victories, including a 13-straight match winning streak. They finished with a 20-3 record for the season. The team took second in the competitive sectional and five players advanced to state—the most in program history. Competing for the RedHawks at state in singles was senior Nicole Micklin, who was a sectional champion for the second straight year. The doubles teams of Kat Balchunas '20 and Bella Rabianski '20—two-time state qualifiers—and Molly Malloy '22 and Sonya Dremak '21 also competed. 📌





## ATHLETIC HIGHLIGHTS FALL SEASON

**BOYS' CROSS COUNTRY** had another solid season with top finishes at elite races, including placing second at the Loyola Lakefront Invitational and the Reavis Running Rams Classic. The boys continued to cut time and post personal bests. The team finished second in conference at all three levels. Varsity finished second in the IHSA regional.

**GIRLS' CROSS COUNTRY** celebrated a successful season. Among their accomplishments were placing second at the Rich Central Invite and third at Reavis, Lyons, and Rich Central. The team worked hard to improve week-to-week and it paid off, with a second place finish in conference and winning the IHSA regional title. The team finished eighth at the sectional.

**BOYS' GOLF** had a good season on the greens. They picked up several conference and non-conference wins and held their own in elite invites, including both levels taking first at Marian Catholic. Their dedication paid off with a second place finish in the regional, which advanced them to the state sectional. The team finished fifth in conference.

**GIRLS' GOLF** continued to grow the program with great finishes at competitive invites. The team placed second at the Caroline Griffin Tournament at Ridge Country Club. They finished third in conference and took second at regionals, advancing as a team to the state sectional.

**SWIMMING** made a splash this season cutting time meet-to-meet and shredding personal records. Their commitment to early morning practices paid off with solid performances at meets and members of the team advancing to sectionals. 📌

**COLLEGE ATHLETES** In the spring issue of The Point some of our graduating seniors were omitted from the list of college-bound athletes. Our apologies for the error.

**ABIGAIL CALLAHAN**, Winona State University—Basketball

**MARY LAURA CAREY**, Lake Forest College—Cross Country

**JULIA CROWLEY**, St. Mary's College—Cross Country

**GEORGE FANELLI**, University of Dayton—Football

**JACK KILROE**, Spring Hill College—Rugby

**MEGAN KIRKWOOD**, University of Wisconsin at Whitewater—Soccer

**ALYSSA LANG**, University of Wisconsin at Whitewater—Bowling

**MIKE REILLY**, Spring Hill College—Rugby

**LILLY SMITH**, Oklahoma State University—Cheer

**NATALIE SULLIVAN**, Spring Hill College—Volleyball

## CONFERENCE HONORS

### Boys' Cross Country

Kevin Bugos '21

Tommy Kavanaugh '21

Andrew Kerlin '22

Thomas Leonard '20, Runner of the Year

Jake Phillips '22

### Girls' Cross Country

Nora McClorey '22

Nora McNicholas '22

Lilly Roche '21

Amanda Tracy '20

### Football (Chicago Catholic League/ESCC)

Brendan Barry '20

Colin Bohanek '20, Defensive Co-Player of the Year

Pat Coogan '21

Kivonte Houston '20

AJ Markett '20

Triston Schultz '21

Amari Watkins '20

### Boys' Golf

Nick Coccaro '21

George Paetow '20

### Girls' Golf

Mallorie Clifton '22

Hunter Guest '20

Tyler Murray '20

### Boys' Soccer

Liam Bennet '22, Defensive Player of the Year

Marc Carreon '22

Ethan Fit '20

John Kennedy '20, Co-Goalie of the Year

Joey Shannon '20

Sean Maxwell, Co-Coach of the Year

### Girls' Tennis

Kat Balchunas '20

Rocky Davis '20

Sonya Dremak '21

Molly Malloy '22

Nicole Micklin '20

Jessica Micklin '23

Bella Rabianski '20

Elena Ruzevich '23

### Girls' Volleyball

Maddie Arundel '20

Mairead Boyle '20

Camryn Hannah '20, Player of the Year

Avery Jedry '20

Jordan Vidovic, Coach of the Year





## Filling up the trophy case

Marist girls' volleyball garnered the IHSA Class 4A third place trophy on Saturday, November 16 after defeating Fremd High School. The RedHawks battled Benet Academy in the state semifinal but fell to the Redwings who Marist beat in the regular season. The two teams are among the top ten in the nation.

The team won its third straight super-sectional against Sandburg and captured the sectional title with a win over McAuley. They defeated Argo in the sectional semifinal. The team captured the regional title with wins over Proviso East and Stagg.

The team finished the season 39-3. They won the elite Circus City Invitational in Florida and the ASICS Challenge in Chicago. They finished second in the Wheaton Classic. They were ranked number one in the state and number seven in the nation. 📌



Senior **Thomas Leonard** represented Marist at the state cross country final for the third straight season. Leonard finished fifth at the sectional to qualify for the state race where he placed in the top 50 in the state.



**Kaylin Strahan '20** finished in third place in the nation at the 2019 Hershey National Junior Olympic Track and Field Championships in Sacramento, Calif. in the 4 x 100 relay with her teammates from the Zephyrs track club in Flossmoor, Ill. She also advanced to the semifinal in the 100 meter.



**Carter Auer '21** qualified for the 2019 Hershey National Junior Olympic Track and Field Championships in Sacramento, Calif. in July where he finished 17<sup>th</sup> in the nation in the high jump.



Marist baseball coach **Kevin Sefcik** was inducted into the Andrew High School Hall of Fame in September. After a standout career there, he played for St. Xavier University and then went on to play in the MLB for the Phillies and the Rockies. He has been the RedHawks' coach since the 2015 season.

## HOCKEY STEPS UP AGAINST CANCER

Marist's hockey program was recognized by Vs. Cancer Pediatric Brain Tumor Foundation as the number one team in the nation—including colleges—for fundraising. The team raised more than \$12,000 for the organization and "adopted" 8-year-old Timmy O'Connell, who has bravely battled cancer. The team was recognized at a game early this season and was also featured on The Jam on WCIU. O'Connell, laying down in front of the team, was on hand for the early morning television segment. 📌





## The Faith in the Future Campaign began in January 2018.

As of late November 2019, the Marist community raised \$14 million towards the \$15 million project total. Recently, a generous Marist alum offered a matching donation of \$500,000.

If Marist meets this challenge that means the school will have raised \$1 million and fully completed funding for this transformative project. We invite you to have your gift to this campaign doubled while we have this rare opportunity. To make an online donation or learn more about gift options, visit [www.marist.net](http://www.marist.net).

▼ Retired State Senator **Patrick O'Malley '67** (left) and John Potocsnak talk at the dedication. Both supported the Faith in the Future Campaign in thanks for the work and mission of the Marist Brothers.

# Monastery Hall dedication held

**A** dedication ceremony for Monastery Hall, which houses the school's new science center and planetarium, was held on November 17, 2019. Cardinal Blase Cupich, Archbishop of Chicago, offered the official blessing.

Marist President Brother Hank Hammer, FMS, and Principal Larry Tucker '79 acknowledged many of the key people involved in the project, including Jay Fox of Fox & Fox Architects, who led the design of the facility. His father, John, was the architect for the original school building in 1963. The owners of Henry Brothers Construction, George Ferrell '67 and Bill Callaghan '70, were also recognized for their decades-long relationship with Marist and help in expanding the South Side campus. Bob Klinger '80 was thanked for his work as the owner's representative during the project. Marist administrators and other employees were also acknowledged for their contributions towards the completion of the transformative initiative.


The Faith in the Future Campaign chairs Gerald '90 and Jen Beeson and John and Laura Potocsnak were recognized for their leadership, vision, and generosity. Their support of Marist during this project was a testament to their lived faith. They helped make this Marist dream a reality. "We built our new science center around the concepts of faith and science because, as a Catholic school, we seek to help our students find God in all things," Hammer told the crowd of more than 200 gathered guests. "In so doing, we can then help our students to make God's son, Jesus Christ, known and loved in the spirit of Marcellin Champagnat and the Marist Brothers."

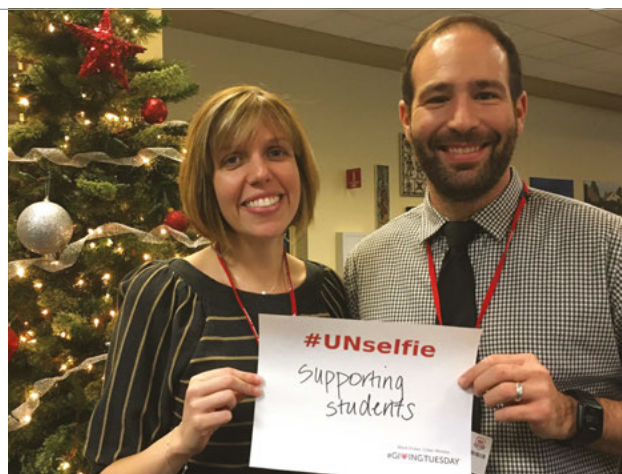
Remarks were also made by Principal Larry Tucker '79 and Marist Brothers U.S. Provincial and former Marist Chicago President Br. Patrick McNamara, FMS. 📌





## Giving Tuesday shines light on Marist

The Marist community rallied around the school on Giving Tuesday by donating more than \$10,000 during the one-day global generosity movement that encourages people to give back to a charity that they hold close to their hearts. It was an opportunity to invest in faith, family, and the future. All gifts from the day go to the Marist Fund, which supports faith life, academics, athletics, co-curricular offerings, and the campus as needed. Activities during the day included posts on social media, a student-led phone-a-thon to friends of Marist, and “unselfie” photos that featured how members of the Marist community give back in their own ways. **Miss Giving Tuesday but still want to make a gift? Visit [www.marist.net/support-marist/marist-fund](http://www.marist.net/support-marist/marist-fund).** 



▲ Faculty members Sarah Kolkmeier and Nick Billone were in the Giving Tuesday spirit, sharing that they give back by supporting students.




▲ Cardinal Blase Cupich (left), assisted by Marist Director of Campus Ministry Deacon **Andy Neu '78**, offers the final blessing. Following the ceremony, guests enjoyed self-guided tours of the 28,000-square-foot space and watched students actively working in labs.

◀ **Jack '21** (from left), **Abigail '23**, and **Francis '20 Beeson** presented their parents **Gerald '90** and **Jen** (partially blocked by her daughter) with an original painting by local artist Tim McCarthy. The painting for each campaign chair family included vignettes of the science center and images of their own children. Younger brother Henry was hand for the ceremony, too.

## Endowment Golf Classic boosts financial assistance

Temperatures were high but so were spirits as nearly 100 alumni and friends of Marist gathered at Midlothian Country Club for the 14<sup>th</sup> annual Endowment Golf Classic on September 20, 2019. Since its inception, the event has raised more than \$650,000 for financial assistance.

The long-term growth of the Marist Endowment ensures Catholic education remains affordable for many families. Donor support directly influences a student's life and strengthens the Christian fabric of the Marist community for years to come. **Learn more at [www.marist.net/support-marist/marist-endowment](http://www.marist.net/support-marist/marist-endowment).** 



▲ Rich Lyons (from left), Tom Ward, **Chris Lawler '81**, and **Tom Hardiman '70**, enjoyed a great day on the links while raising money for Marist's financial assistance program, which benefits nearly one-third of the school's families.





# 2020

## Hall of Fame Inductees



Jimmy Blackmore '95

### MARIST HIGH SCHOOL INVITES

**ALUMNI**, family, and friends to the Alumni Reunion & Awards Dinner on Friday, March 6, 2020, at Marist High School. The evening will begin at 6 p.m. with the awards presentation for the Hall of Fame inductees and Time & Eternity Award recipients. Following the ceremony, the night will celebrate the Classes of 1970, 1975, 1980, 1985, 1990, 1995, and 2000. Details and registration are available at [www.marist.net/alumni](http://www.marist.net/alumni). Early bird pricing is only available until February 3.

### MARIST HIGH SCHOOL'S HALL OF FAME

recognizes graduates who made a profound impact on Marist athletics. He or she must be at least seven years removed from high school graduation and during his or her time as a Marist athlete would have displayed exceptional talent and ability, incredible work ethic, dedication to the team, and exemplary leadership and sportsmanship.



2012 Softball Team

When **Jimmy Blackmore '95** thinks about Marist, he thinks about the people. “The people of Marist (teammates, fellow students, coaches, teachers, administrators) are a very special group,” he said. “The bonds I made with the guys on the football and basketball teams have truly lasted a lifetime. So many people in the Marist community have touched my life in so many positive ways by encouraging the development of faith, academics, and sports.”

Blackmore had an impact on others' lives, too. He was a natural leader on and off the field. He played football for 15 years but remembers the 1993 Marist season as his favorite because of the humble, quality young men on the team who he still calls his friends. During his time at Marist, he was voted football team captain three times. He amassed 16 career touchdowns, 2,203 all-purpose yards, and 14 career tackles. He was all-conference and all-area in 1993 and 1994. He credits a long list of Marist coaches with “building my foundation of hard work, toughness, and how to thoughtfully deal with the perils of success and failure.” He was a presence on the basketball court for Marist, too.

He went on to play football at Northeast Missouri State University (now Truman State) and earned his bachelor degree. He continued to succeed on the field, starting 37 of 43 career games at free safety. He amassed 235 career tackles, three tackles for loss, one sack, five fumble recoveries, ten pass deflections, and nine interceptions. He earned honors and accolades from coaches and teammates alike.

In college, Blackmore also met his wife, Gina, and today they live in Downers Grove with their kids Sofie and Bowen. He runs his family construction business and still loves to hear about a big Marist football win. 📌

“So many people in the Marist community have touched my life in so many positive ways by encouraging the development of faith, academics, and sports.”

Women making history ... that's what the members of the **2012 Marist Softball Team** were a part of that season. They brought home the first IHSA state title for a girls' team at Marist.

Having gone coed in 2002, Marist sponsored its first softball season in the spring of 2003. In less than a decade, Coach Denise Fasano Bromberek, a Marist Hall of Fame member herself, built an incredible program garnering more and more success each season.

The 2012 season was not a straight shot to the finals though. The team had faced 15 losses, and after a tough one against Lockport on May 10, the girls gathered in the school chapel and set goals for the rest of the season. They did not lose another game. They went on a 12-game winning streak led by the seniors.

Marist was the No. 6 seed in the sectional, and despite late-season success, no one expected them to go all the way. But one game at a time they made their way. They defeated T.F. South and Lincoln-Way East to win the regional. They picked up wins against Sandburg and McAuley

in the sectional and beat Trinity in the super-sectional. At state, they won over Elk Grove in the semifinal and finished with a big 5-0 win over Bartlett High School in the championship game.

Members of the team credit their chemistry on and off the field and their willingness to work through the obstacles together. They finished with a 27-15 record. Six players earned combinations of all-conference, all-area, and all-state honors. Seven of the team members went on to play for college programs and five players are in the Marist record books for season and career stats.

“That team was an exceptionally bright and hardworking group, who pushed each other to be the best versions of themselves,” Bromberek said. “These girls genuinely loved each other and the game of softball. They were so humble and kind, and they did not know how talented they truly were.”

The team members' work ethic on the field has translated into the real world, as they now serve the community as teachers, police officers, nurses, and other worthy professions. 📌

Read full biographies on the Hall of Fame and Time & Eternity honorees at [www.marist.net](http://www.marist.net).



# 2020

## Time & Eternity Award Honorees

### THE TIME & ETERNITY AWARD

*is given to an alum who exemplifies the Marist tradition of excellence either professionally or in service. Professionally, the recipient should be viewed as a role model by his or her peers and have achieved the highest status within his or her professional community. In service, the recipient should emulate the charism and spirit of St. Marcellin Champagnat. The President of Marist High School, on the contributory advice of the Marist School Board, names these individuals.*




**Jim Bailey '85** credits the teachers and coaches of Marist High School with making him an effective field training officer with the Chicago Police Department. Specifically, he points to Mr. Santoni, Mr. Pavliga, Mrs. Kennedy, and Coach O'Connor for inspiring and encouraging him to excel in high school and beyond.

"Coach [Brian] O'Connor continues to exhibit that positive inspiration today as one of my supervisors on the police force," Jim explained. "There's something about the friendships you build at Marist and even the connections you make when meeting an alum for the first time ... it's remarkable."

Jim's Marist experience instilled in him a belief that you can succeed in life while being humble and kind. "Catholic education is important to me because it teaches forgiveness and to not judge a person," Jim explained. "These beliefs continue to be a part of my personal and professional life."

A hockey player all four years at Marist, Jim still competes in charitable games with the Chicago Police Hockey Team – raising money for Honor Flight Chicago, an organization that recognizes veterans with a trip to Washington, D.C. He also participates in the Chicago Blackhawks Get Out and Learn Program, which introduces the sport at the grassroots level to kids who may not otherwise have the opportunity to try hockey.

When he's not competing in triathlons or other races, Jim enjoys spending time with his wife Jamie and their son Kevin.

"It is humbling to be in the company of those who received this prestigious award before me," Jim said. "I accept it on behalf of all Marist faculty, students, and alumni who dedicate their time and effort to their school and their communities each and every day." 





**Jim Carey '70** never once regretted his decision to attend Marist High School – even as his friends questioned his interest in this relatively new school. According to Jim, the education at Marist offered more than academics.

“We were encouraged to not only hit the books but also to get involved in extracurricular activities; don’t just go home at 2:30 p.m.” This advice led Jim to participate in basketball, track, cross country, and intramurals. He also was a homeroom representative and a member of the National Honor Society.

Jim remembers praying the rosary before lunch, collecting money for the poor, and volunteering at local parishes – actions that reinforced the Catholic principles taught in the Carey home.

The solid foundation of a Marist education led to an easy transition through college, graduate school, and the workforce. Jim taught human anatomy and physiology at the college level for 30 years before entering the business world as chief financial officer for a construction chemical supply company.

Jim and his wife Laura have lived in St. John Fisher Parish for 40 years – raising two sons, Sean and Kevin. Besides golfing and jogging, Jim is involved in a number of charitable organizations, such as Misericordia, and participates in alumni initiatives at St. Margaret of Scotland Grammar School, Marist High School, and Loyola University.

“I was quite surprised when I received the news about being named a Time and Eternity Award recipient for 2020,” Jim said. “There are so many outstanding individuals from the class of 1970 who are deserving of this award. I am honored and humbled to have been chosen. Marist was a major contributor to the person I am today and continues to influence the values that I live by.” 📌



It’s not uncommon for **Francis J. Podbielski, MD '80** to spout verses from Shakespeare or a poem by Poe in the operating room. Mr. Malito’s love of the English language and its literature is still palpable to Francis 40 years after graduation. While the annual eighth grade math contest is what drew Francis to Marist, his most enjoyable time was spent in honors English.

“Mr. Malito’s organizational skills and attention to detail vastly enriched my vocabulary and enabled me to tackle the challenges of writing throughout life,” Francis said. “I also enjoyed Mr. Santoni’s calculus classes in which we spent more time discussing world politics than actually doing calculus or so it seemed.”

But Mr. Santoni must have known what he was doing because Francis did extremely well on his AP test and placed into advanced calculus in college – setting the stage for an academic career that would lead Francis to become a celebrated thoracic surgeon.

“My Marist education imbued in me a strong sense of self-discipline and a focus on the duty of social responsibility to my fellow human beings,” Francis said. “Although rigorous, surgical residency and cardiothoracic surgery fellowship really were not difficult given my Marist training.”

Throughout his career, Francis has been involved in academic surgery as well as professional organizations yet still finds time to participate in surgical missions to Bolivia, World Scout Jamborees, the Knights of Columbus, and, with his wife Anna Montes, the Knights of the Holy Sepulchre.

“While a pinnacle of achievement, the Time and Eternity Award serves as an omnipresent reminder of the unfinished work that remains and my personal role in making it happen, thus giving us all an unshakable faith in the future,” Francis said. 📌

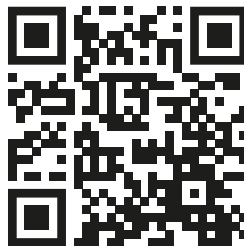
## Review the 2018-2019 Donor Recognition Report



**THE 2018-2019** Donor Recognition Report is now available online. The report gratefully recognizes the generous support from our alumni, parents, parents of alumni, faculty, staff, and friends. The Marist family appreciates the steadfast commitment to our school demonstrated by all those who made contributions and donated their time during the 2018-2019 year.

Gifts listed in the various giving levels this year reflect contributions for all purposes by a donor to the school between July 1, 2018 and June 30, 2019.

Hover your phone camera over this code, or use a QR scanner app, to be directed to the report on our website. You also may view the report at [www.marist.net/alumni/the-point](http://www.marist.net/alumni/the-point). ⓘ



**If you would like a printed copy of the report, please contact the Advancement Office at 773.881.5374 or email us at [alumni@marist.net](mailto:alumni@marist.net).**

## » Get connected ... networking tool coming to Marist alumni community

**THE ADVANCEMENT OFFICE** will launch Alumnifire, an exceptional networking tool, to Marist graduates in 2020. The platform will connect members based on profession and interest and allow alums to post jobs, seek career advice, and more. Marist knows the alumni base is strong, and we want to bring graduates together with the latest tools. Look for communication from the school in early spring. ⓘ



**LANTERN THEATER PRODUCES ANOTHER SMASH HIT!** Members of the Lantern Theater group, which features alumni and current students, performed *The Addams Family* for sold-out crowds last July. Visit [www.marist.net](http://www.marist.net) in May for information about auditions and ticket sales for the summer 2020 show. ⓘ

## 1960s

**Fred Case '68** retired a few years ago after teaching English courses for over 35 years at local colleges, including 30 years at the City Colleges of Chicago.

## 1970s

**Gregory Rolla '70** has retired after 38 years of teaching in public education. He is currently the music director for the Hickory Hills Presbyterian Church.

**Dan Capron '74**, who was a referee for the College Football Playoff National Championship in 2018, will be retiring at the end of the 2019 season after 20 years as a Big Ten Conference Football official.

**Mark Haines '76** was named head men's golf coach at NCAA Division I Chicago State University. The Cougars are a member of the Western Athletic Conference.

**John Featherson '78** recently retired after 30 years as an environmental project manager. John was among a group of people who witnessed one of the most credible UFO sightings in history at O'Hare Airport.

## 1980s

**John Winkle '80** recently retired after 33 years in law enforcement; however, he keeps busy by working security for UPS and volunteering with the Illinois Police Memorial Committee and Illinois Special Olympics.

**Steven Broniarczyk '81** was hired in June as a protective security advisor with the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's, Cybersecurity Infrastructure Security Agency in Indiana.

The Outcast Jazz Band, which includes **Ed Klinger '83**, **Vince Clark '83**, **John Ruf '82**, **Joe Rossi '87**, and **Chuck Clarke '84** performed at Chicago Summer Dance in Grant Park in July.



▲ **Dr. Francis Podbielski '80**, a thoracic surgeon, served a 12-day stint in the mobile hospital at the 24<sup>th</sup> World Scout Jamboree at the Summit Betchel Reserve in Mt. Hope, West Virginia.

## 1990s

**Michael Guzan '94** is the director of operations for Batavia Enterprise, Inc.

**Pat McGann '94** taped his first one-hour comedy special, which was produced by fellow comedian Sebastian Maniscalco, at Chicago's Vic Theater.

**Brad Schwarting '94**, his wife Mandy, and their son Stuart have lived in Alabama for 15 years. Their son is a 3<sup>rd</sup> grader who enjoys baseball, golf, and college football.

*Comcast Newsmakers* recently interviewed Chicago Engineers' Foundation President **Erik Cempel '96** to discuss how the foundation works to inspire and empower Chicago's future engineers.

**Mike Ribich '98**, first vice president at Merrill Lynch, has been named to *Forbes'* Next-Generation Best-In-State Wealth Advisors list.

Congratulations to **Ed O'Connell '99** who was promoted to the rank of lieutenant colonel by the United States Marine Corps.

## 2000s



▲ **Patrick Keelan '04** is the new assistant band director at Marist High School.



▲ **Michael Distasio '04** (right) spoke to students about his career in finance at the first Hawk Talk of the year through the Explore Program. Michael enjoyed some moral support from his cousin **Robbie Distasio '11**, who teaches at Marist.





## In Memoriam

### ALUMNI

Joseph Fitzgerald '68  
Michael LaMarche '69  
Arthur Surges '70  
Raymond Calabrese '77  
Andrew Hodorowicz '77  
Michael Moran '77  
Michael Nicholson '77  
Stuart Abbott '78  
Christopher Hogan '85  
Steven Sircher '85  
Craig Walega '95  
Scott Karus '95  
Steven Follenweider '05  
Caitlin Cain '12

### FORMER FACULTY

Brother Norbert  
Rodriguez, FMS



▲ **Tim Haneberg '05** and his daughter Hadley stopped by Marist recently to visit his former wrestling coach **Mark Gervais** and Marist's current wrestling coach **Brendan Heffernan '99**. Tim now shares his love of wrestling as a coach at a school in Minnesota.

**Alison Thompson Chesniak '06** is a registered nurse in the transplant/trauma/pediatric surgery units at Lurie's Children's Hospital in Chicago. She will graduate in April with her Doctor of Nursing Practice, Acute Care Pediatric Nurse Practitioner.

**Bridget Folliard Terrones '08** was named one of Association Forum's Forty Under 40® Award recipients. This prestigious award demonstrates the potential for continued success in leadership roles and a commitment to the association profession.

**Nicole Bock Kinnerk '09** is pursuing a degree in teaching. She plans to teach accounting and business classes at the high school level upon graduation.

**Matthew Zeiger '09** is a Chicago police officer.



▲ **Nina Laski '11**, a writer and producer at CBS Chicago, won an Emmy Award for her work on a morning newscast called *November Blizzard*.

## 2010s

**Drew Salzman '10** is the CASE instructional aide at Oak Lawn Hometown Middle School.



▲ **Daniel Loizzo '13** started medical school at the University of Illinois College of Medicine in Chicago after completing a master's in medical sciences at Loyola University Chicago and stem cell research at the Feinberg School of Medicine.



▲ The **Class of 2014** celebrated its five-year reunion in October at Marist High School.



▲ **Katie (Aguirre) '09** and Alex Certa's daughter Claire joins big sister Allison.



▲ **Alysia (Lehner) '06** and **Kevin Hartmann '06** welcomed Benjamin.



▲ **Nicole (Kinnerk) '09** and Alex Bock welcomed Aubrey.

# BIRTHS

**1994**

Mandy and **Pat Dunne '94** welcomed Patrick

**2001**

Leslie and **Dave Waterman '01** welcomed Theodore

**2003**

Fran and **Jim Kushner '03** welcomed James

**2006**

**Alysia (Lehner) '06** and **Kevin Hartmann '06** welcomed Benjamin

**Monica (Lang) '06** and Sean Estand welcomed Shannon

**2009**

**Katie (Aguirre) '09** and Alex Certa welcomed Claire

**Nicole (Kinnerk) '09** and Alex Bock welcomed Aubrey

Look for **Monyett Crump '14**, founder of Reveal, a dance experience company, in a recent Nike commercial showcasing Chicago as a mecca of dance.

**Megan Majka '15** graduated from Moraine Valley Community College and is now a teachers' assistant at Most Holy Redeemer School.

**Kelly Barker '15** was named an All-American Scholar by the Women's Golf Coaches Association. She was honored all four years of her collegiate career at Benedictine University and finished fifth at the NACC Championship, a third career top-five finish at the championship.



▲ **Alumni football players from the class of 2014** came out to support the RedHawks as they faced Loyola Academy in the IHSA State 8A quarterfinals. The RedHawks beat the Ramblers 41-27. Pictured are **Tim Finucane** (from left), **Nic Weishar**, **Ryan Tucker**, **Jack Donegan**, and **Jack Hynes**.



**Jason Park '18** is in his second year with the Purdue All-American Marching Band.

**Jake Rahn '18** is studying actuarial science at Purdue University. Although he does not play in Purdue's band, he still enjoys playing his saxophone for fun.



▲ **Jacob Dado '19** (center), who is in his first year at The Citadel in Charleston, SC, recently met up with **Ray Blake '01**, wrestling coach at Stanford University, and Mark Gervais, former Marist wrestling coach, at the inaugural Battle at the Citadel Wrestling Tournament.

**Jimmy Lynch '19** is a contributor for FanSided's Chicago Blackhawks blog.

**Mike Markett '19** is started his freshman year at Drake University in Des Moines, Iowa as quarterback.

**Jalon Jones '19** was elected chair of the social committee for the Mercile J. Lee Scholarship Program at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

**Gina Musso '19**, who attends the University of Wisconsin-Madison writes for the campus newspaper and is a member of Kappa Alpha Theta.

**Anna Simmons '19** is studying music therapy at the University of Dayton's School of Music. Also, she is in an a cappella group, women's choir, and participates in music enrichment service.

**Abigail Svilar '19** is a research fellow focusing on human genome sequencing.

**Andreina Treto '19** has been selected as a Hoosier Scholarship Ambassador and is a recent recipient of the Hispanic Scholarship Fund.

**Angela Zedak '19** and **Lexi Voss '19** competed in the Premier Girls Fast Pitch High School All-American game in Irvine, CA in July. Angela and Lexi were among 40 athletes chosen to represent their region as the top athletes of their graduating class.



▲ Explore Program Coordinator Kathleen McArdle (left) brought a taste of home – Marist cafeteria cookies – to **Julia Crowley '19** (pictured) at St. Mary's College and **Jacob Mozden '18** and **Jill Borza '19** at Notre Dame University during a recent college visit with Marist seniors.



▲ **From RedHawks to Golden Eagles:** Thank you to our alumni at Marquette University for welcoming Marist seniors during their tour of campus.



▲ **Alumni soccer players** enjoyed a friendly match on the varsity field during the school's homecoming festivities on October 4. 📍





▲ **Alison Chesniak '06** and Michael Thompson were wed on January 5, 2019.



▲ **Laura Nealis '11** and Dale Van Witzenberg were wed on September 6, 2019.



▲ **Frank Granat '11** and **Maria Ancheles '11** were wed on August 31, 2019.



▲ **Melissa Blisk '10** and Rich Lane were wed on September 14, 2019.

## WEDDINGS

**JANUARY 5, 2019**

**Alison Chesniak '06** and Michael Thompson

**JUNE 29, 2019**

**Brian Keane '91** and Ana Oyunbaatar

**JULY 5, 2019**

**Nicole Kinnerk '09** and Alex Bock

**JULY 13, 2019**

**Morgan McMeel '94** and Olivia Seagraves

**JULY 27, 2019**

**LJ McIntosh '13** and Rachel Zabawa

**Ashley Brenski '09** and Ben Joerger

**AUGUST 31, 2019**

**Frank Granat '11** and **Maria Ancheles '11**

**Michael Flosi '10** and Andrea Markovich

**SEPTEMBER 6, 2019**

**Laura Nealis '11** and Dale Van Witzenberg

**SEPTEMBER 7, 2019**

**Mary Radavic '12** and Joe Maiellaro

**SEPTEMBER 14, 2019**

**Melissa Blisk '10** and Rich Lane

**SEPTEMBER 21, 2019**

**Caroline Chaps '09** and Henry Schmidt

**OCTOBER 5, 2019**

**Sean O'Loughlin '11** and **Meghan Downs '12**

**OCTOBER 18, 2019**

**Matt Yerkes '07** and **Kelly Lobes '06**

**OCTOBER 26, 2019**

**Brian Goodman '11** and Emily Davis

**NOVEMBER 2, 2019**

**Patrick Watson '12** and **Morgan Sohl '12**

**Melissa Downs '06** and Matthew Doherty

**NOVEMBER 23, 2019**

**Sean Murphy '05** and Katie Popowski

**NOVEMBER 30, 2019**

**Joe Shanahan '11** and Brenna Koerner



▲ From left: Patrick Enright '94, Jim Lundy '88, Mike Debre '99, and Ryan Meyer '12 prepare to cheer on the RedHawks during the Law Association's football social on October 11 at Marist High School.

## Get Involved!

### TO RECEIVE UPDATES

...

and reminders about upcoming events, complete the Alumni Update form at [www.marist.net/alumni/alumni-update](http://www.marist.net/alumni/alumni-update).

**THE MARIST LAW ASSOCIATION** is a social and professional support network for all members of the Marist community engaged in the legal profession. The group hosts quarterly social events, facilitates the school's Mock Trial Club, and offers career advice for students through the Explore Program.

"There are so many ways to get involved," said Jerry Napleton '99, the group's president. "Whether you want to get in touch with former classmates, participate at the board level, or inspire high

school students to pursue a career in law, there's a place for you." In particular, the Law Association is hoping to engage more law students and recent law school graduates through complementary events, such as the fall football gathering, Christmas social, or spring networking event.

"All alumni who are lawyers or studying to be one are considered members of the Law Association," Napleton added. "We want them to take advantage of what we have to offer as well as reconnect with our alma mater." +

If you are interested in learning more about the Marist Law Association, visit [www.marist.net/alumni/law-association](http://www.marist.net/alumni/law-association).



**THE MARIST LAW ASSOCIATION** hosted its inaugural golf outing at Olympia Fields Country Club in July thanks to the generous support of **Bob Clifford '69** and the Clifford Law Offices. Plans are underway for the group's next outing. Stay tuned for details. +

◀ Golfers enjoyed a beautiful summer day on the nationally ranked North Course at Olympia Fields Country Club. The course is one of *Golf Digest's* Top 100 Greatest Courses.






# Champagnat Day is April 22

**MARIST HIGH SCHOOL WILL HOST** its third annual Champagnat Day on Wednesday, April 22. The 24-hour event commemorates the canonization of Marcellin Champagnat, the founder of the Marist Brothers, and celebrates the spirit and tradition of Marist High School.

Appropriately, our goal is to inspire 2,200 donors to give \$22 or more to the Marist Fund so that we may continue to give students the advantage of an exceptional, faith-based education.

Although the day is designed to encourage giving, its more powerful message lies in the origins and vision of St. Marcellin – to make Jesus Christ known and loved. On Champagnat Day, we'll be asking you to tell the world what **#MaristMakes**.

Let's come together on Champagnat Day to show our love and support for Marist High School. Let's prepare our students for higher education and life. And let's inspire each other and the world to support St. Marcellin's vision to make Jesus Christ known and loved. 

## You can celebrate Champagnat Day by:

- Wearing your red and white.
- Sharing a picture or selfie along with the many reasons why you love Marist on social media using **#MaristMakes**.
- Emailing and texting fellow RedHawks to wish them a Happy Champagnat Day and getting together to reminisce about your time at Marist.
- Seeking out opportunities to help others — even small acts of kindness have a big impact.
- Remembering to be one of the 2,200 donors to help us reach our donor goal. Every gift, no matter the size, will count toward the 2,200 donor goal.





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## Upcoming Events

February 8, 2020

**Parents Club Father-Daughter  
Mass and Dance**

5:30 p.m.

Silver Lake Country Club

March 6, 2020

**Alumni Reunion & Awards**

6 p.m.

March 16-20, 2020

**Spring Break**

March 17, 2020

**Marist White Sox vs.  
Milwaukee Brewers Outing**

1:05 p.m.

Camelback Ranch - Glendale, AZ

March 26-28, 2020

**Spring Musical Brigadoon**

7:30 p.m.

(1:30 p.m. Saturday matinee)

Baer Theatre at

Morgan Park Academy

March 29, 2020

**Parents Club  
Grandparent Bingo**

2:30 p.m.

April 12, 2020

**Happy Easter, Marist family!**

*He is risen!*

April 18, 2020 - 7 p.m.

April 19, 2020 - 3 p.m.

**Spring Band Concerts**

April 22, 2020

**Champagnat Day**

*Serve. Share. Support.*

April 23, 2020

**Arts In April**

Senior Art Show: 6-8 p.m.

Strings Concert: 6 p.m.

Chorus Concert: 7 p.m.

April 24, 2020

**Career Fair**

7:30 a.m.

May 16, 2020

**Classes of 2005, 2010,  
and 2015 Reunion**

7 p.m.

May 21, 2020

**Class of 2020 Graduation**

7 p.m.

## » Update Us!

**HAVE YOU MOVED? DO YOU HAVE  
A NEW JOB? DID YOU GET MARRIED?  
IS THERE A NEW ADDITION TO  
YOUR FAMILY?**

In our efforts to stay connected, we need you to let us know what you're up to. In each edition of *The Point*, we look forward to printing Class Notes - please tell us about your latest accomplishments and life events.

Send your stories, pictures, and updated information to [alumni@marist.net](mailto:alumni@marist.net)



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