



Basic Handbook of Marianist Studies

Fourth Edition

Updated and Corrected

Compiled and Created by
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Basic Handbook of Marianist Studies

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Table of Contents

Preface by Lawrence Cada, SM	ix
Marianist History Course (Syllabus and Outline)	x
Marianist Studies Topics	xii
Part 1: Marianist History	
Chapter 1: Statistics and Charts	
SM Statistics: Age by Unit	5
Priests in the SM Statistics (Comparison of Total Membership with Priest Members)	6
SM Membership Statistics (Comparison of Worldwide and US Membership)	8
Daughters of Mary Immaculate: Membership Statistics	10
SM World Membership (Graph)	11
Chapter 2: Eras and Life Cycles of Religious Life	
Table 1.1: Age of the Desert (200-500)	15
Table 1.2: Age of the Monasticism (500-1200)	16
Table 1.3: Age of Mendicant Orders (1200-1500)	17
Table 1.4: Age of the Apostolic Orders (1500-1800)	18
Table 1.5: Age of the Teaching Congregations (1800-present)	19
Overview of “The Life Cycle of Religious Community: A Sociological Model”	20
Chapter 3: French School of Spirituality	
French School of Spirituality and Other Spiritual Movements in 17 th Century France	23
French School of Spirituality (Lowell M. Glendon, SS)	24
Chronology of the French School	28
Thoughts on the French School of Spirituality (Hugh Bihl, SM)	29
Pierre Cardinal de Bérulle (1575-1629)	31
Charles de Condren (1588-1641)	32
Saint Jean Eudes (1601-1680)	33
Jean-Jacques Olier (1608-1651)	34
Saint Jean-Baptiste de la Salle (1651-1719)	35
Saint Louis-Marie Grignion de Montfort (1673-1716)	36
Chapter 4: France Before the Revolution	
Popes and Ecumenical Councils of the Modern Era	39
Rulers, Régimes, and Governments of France	40
Marianist Spirituality: Influences and Trends	42
Jansenism	43
The Enlightenment	45
French Society and the Church on the Eve of the Revolution	47

Chapter 5: The Founders

Founders Before 1800	53
Family Tree of William Joseph Chaminade	54
Chaminade's Early Life (1761-1800)	55
William Joseph Chaminade A Brief Chronology of His Life	62
Family Tree of Adèle de Batz de Trenquelléon	64
Adèle de Batz de Trenquelléon A Brief Chronology of Her Life	65
Adèle's Rule of Life	68
Trenquelléon Château	69
Family Tree of Marie Thérèse Charlotte de Lamourous	70
Marie Thérèse de Lamourous A Brief Chronology of Her Life	71
The Founders: 1800-1836	73

Chapter 6: The French Revolution

The French Revolution – A Chronology	79
The French Revolution and Human Rights	82
The Revolutionary Calendar	84
Effects of the Revolution on the Founders	85
Chaminade in Saragossa	87
Our Lady of the Pillar	89

Chapter 7: First Foundations

The Miséricorde (adapted from <i>Mlle de Lamourous</i> by Stefanelli)	93
Timeline for Miséricorde of Bordeaux	97
Bordeaux Sodality: Chronology and Fact Sheet	99
Names of Young Men Who Joined the Bordeaux Sodality in 1801	106
Members of the Bordeaux Sodality (Some Thumbnail Sketches)	108
The Association Fact Sheet	112

Chapter 8: The Institute

Lalanne's "Official Report" of the Foundation	117
Benedictine, Jesuit, and Franciscan Influence on the Marianists	120
Founding of the Society of Mary (The "Springtime Years" of the 1820s)	122
Histo-Structural Perspectives of the Marianist System	126

Chapter 9: Chaminade's Last Years

Chaminade's Last Years: Who's Who	129
Last Years of Chaminade: 1841-50	131
Reading List	138

Chapter 10: American Province

Expansion to North America	141
Early Figures in the American Province	142
US Marianist History: An Outline	143
US Marianist History: A Chronology	150
Provincials of the North American Provinces	154

Inspectors and Assistant Provincials of the North American Provinces	156
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Chapter 11: Internal Crisis

Expansion Period: 1845-1905	161
Expansion Period—Key Developments 1845-1905	162
SM Outline History 1845-1905	164
Louis Cousin, SM	167
Marc Sangnier (and the Sillon Movement)	169
The Sillon Movement: A Bibliography	171

Chapter 12: Father Simler 2nd Founder

Father Joseph Simler, SM	175
--------------------------	-----

Chapter 13: Period of Stabilization

Stabilization Period (1905-65)	181
Superiors, General Chapters, and Foundations SM and FMI (1905-65)	183
Emile Neubert, SM (1878-1967)	185

Chapter 14: Daughters of Mary

The Founding of the Daughters of Mary (Ade Windisch, SM)	189
The Beginnings of the Daughters of Mary (FMI) (Danielle Weidner)	190
Chronology Daughter of Mary (Alison Cawley)	195
FMI Superiors General	201
Daughters of Mary (FMI) Foundations in New Countries	202
Daughters of Mary Immaculate (Habits)	203

Chapter 15: Marianist Servants of God

History of Process for the Beautification of William Joseph Chaminade (Samaha)	207
Miracle Cure Could Lead to Blessed Chaminade's Canonization	209
Servant of God, Faustino Perez Manglano	213
Timeline for Jakob Gapp	218
A Snapshot of Blesseds Jesús Hita, Carol Eraña, Fidel Fuidio, Jakob Gapp	221
Marianist Martyrs of Madrid to be Beatified (<i>Via Latina 22</i>)	222
Marianist Martyrs of Madrid	223
Marianist Logo for the Beautification/History of the Cause	224
Candidates for Sainthood	226

Chapter 16: Father William J. Ferree

William J. Ferree, SM: Life Chronology	229
Key Matrix of Ferree's First Synthesis	231
A Conference on Father Chaminade's System of Virtues	232
William J. Ferree, SM Bibliography (partial list)	237

Chapter 17: Present and Future

SM Breakdown Period (1965-90)	241
-------------------------------	-----

SM Transition Period (1990-2015)	242
What is the Future of the Society of Mary in the United States?	243

Chapter 18: Marianist Lay Communities: Past and Present

The Rise of Marianist Lay Communities	247
Continental Assemblies of Marianist Lay Communities	250
International Organization of Marianist Lay Communities (IO/MLC) History	251
International Convocation of Marianist Communities (delegate structure)	252
Significant Documents/Texts to MLC Development	252
Characteristics of Marianist Lay Communities and Lay Marianists	253
Being Marianist, Being Family (Moyer)	256
Marianist Lay Communities: An International Community of Communities (Moyer)	259
Number of International Marianist Lay Communities (2012)	266

Part 2: Maps

Important Marianist Places	269
Dioceses of France Before 1789	270
<i>Départements</i> of France	271
Ecclesiastical France (1964)	272
The Bishoprics of France (1789)	273
The Revolutionary Departments of France	274
Europe	275
Southwestern France and Northeastern France	276
Map: American Province 1855-1908	277
Map: Western, St. Louis, Eastern, Cincinnati Provinces	278
Map: St. Louis, Pacific, New York, Cincinnati Provinces, Province of Canada	279
Map: 1994 Region of Canada, 2002 SM Province of the US, Meribah Province	280
Marianist Family Map	281

Part 3: Monographs: Additional Resources

Chronology Society of Mary	285
Henri Bremond and the French School of Spirituality	289
Answers to Objections that are Ordinarily Made Against Sodalties . . .	304
Introduction to Letter to the Retreat Masters of 1839 (Cada)	311
Chaminade's Letter to the Retreat Masters of 1839	312
Notes on Narcisse Roussel	318

Part 4: Marianist People Places, and Terms

List of Entries	325
Marianist People, Places, and Terms	327

Preface

This *Basic Handbook of Marianist Studies* grew out of notes I made as hand outs for the Marianist history course I began teaching to SM novices in Dayton starting in 1975. Through the years, the hand outs were augmented and their number grew. During the years from 1997 to 2005 when I was assigned to Prague, Carol Ramey took over teaching the novitiate course. She improved the notes and added to them. Since 2005, she and I have taught the course as a team. As we worked together, I shared with her my dream of some day compiling all the notes plus much other material in my files into a Marianist reference book, a kind of mini-encyclopedia and dictionary, that could be used for Marianist Studies by students and writers in the future. I doubted, though, that I would ever get around to it.

When Carol and I were planning the novitiate history course for the 2009-2010 school year, she suggested that we make a stab at putting together the notes into a compilation that could be given to the novices as a unified text right at the start of the course. She asked Patti Gehred, a member of the NACMS staff, to lend her computer design skills and Marianist talents to help. Much to my delight, we produced the first edition of the *Basic Handbook* in an attractive layout that included illustrations (both black-and-white and color). This was better than I expected.

The previous editions of the *Basic Handbook* were incomplete in various ways, due in part to the haste with which they were prepared. However, they turned out to be very good first approximations of what the complete *Basic Handbook* would eventually be. This fourth edition is another step toward that goal. It, too, is incomplete; but it is better than the previous editions. Still needed are things such as good reading lists and annotated bibliographies on key Marianist topics (such as Stability, Chaminade and the French School, the System of Virtues, etc.); more entries for the Marianist persons, places, and terms section; additional articles for the monographs section; and better indications of sources for the various sections and entries. I have every hope that there will be further editions that will reach the goal of an easy-to-use reference tool where Marianists can look things up quickly for multiple purposes in their life and work.

Lawrence Cada, SM
Dayton
January 2013

Marianist History Course

Marianist Novitiate – Dayton, Ohio

Syllabus and Course Outline

1. Introduction
 - a. The SM and FMI today; present situation and statistics
 - b. Quick Overview of the History of Religious Life (*Shaping*, Ch. 2)
 - c. Life Cycle of a Religious Community in General (*Shaping*, Ch. 3)
 - d. Life Cycle of the Marianist Family
2. Historical Background and Trends
 - a. The Modern Era (1500-2000)
 - b. 17th and 18th Century France
 - c. French School of Spirituality (Bérulle, Olier, et al.)
 - d. Jansenism
 - e. Enlightenment
3. Political and Religious Situation in France Before and During the Revolution
 - a. Condition of Religious Life and the Church
 - b. French Society and Culture in the Last Years of the *ancien régime*
 - c. Estates General and the Outbreak of the Revolution
 - d. Phases of the Revolution: First Republic, Reign of Terror, Directory
4. Chaminade's Early Life (1761-1800)
 - a. Boyhood in Périgueux (1761-71)
 - b. The Mussidan Years (1771-91)
 - c. Bordeaux during the Revolution and Reign of Terror (1791-97)
 - d. Exile in Saragossa: Chaminade's Vision (1797-1800)
5. Adèle's Early Life (1789-1803)
 - a. Girlhood at Trenquelléon (1789-97)
 - b. Exile in Portugal (1797-1801)
 - c. New Start at Trenquelléon (1801-3)
6. Foundation Period (1800-45)
 - a. French Political History and Church History of the 19th Century
 - b. The Bordeaux Society

- c. The State
 - d. Difficulties with Government during the First Empire
 - e. Role of de Lamourous in Foundation Period
 - f. Adèle's "Association." Contacts with Chaminade
 - g. Foundation of the FMI. Death of Adèle (1828)
 - h. Foundation of the SM
 - i. Revolution of 1830 and the July Monarchy; Difficulties, Death of de Lamourous (1836), Constitutions
 - j. Last Years of Chaminade (1841-50)
7. **Expansion Period (1845-1905)**
- a. External Expansion of the SM during the generalates of Caillet, Chevaux, and Simler
 - b. External Expansion of the FMI during the generalates of St. Vincent, Marie Joseph, Sophie, and Marie Stanislas. Breakdown of links between SM and FMI
 - c. Internal crises of the SM: 1865 Animadversions, Mixed Composition, Constitutions
 - d. Collège Stanislas, Sillon Movement, Modernism and the SM
 - e. Expulsions: especially from Alsace after Franco-Prussian War and from France in 1903, Stories of Mechtilde
 - f. Expansion of SM beyond France: Switzerland, Germany, Austria, Italy, Japan, Spain
 - g. Foundation of American Province of SM: Leo Meyer and the four pioneers
 - h. Expansion of the SM in America after the Meyer years
 - i. Reestablishment of links between SM and FMI
8. **Stabilization Period (1905-65)**
- a. Consolidation of SM as a successful Teaching Congregation
 - b. Growth of FMI in France; Mechtilde Mauriez, the Second Founder
 - c. Revival of Interest in Chaminade: Rehabilitation of Founder's Reputation. Causes of Chaminade, Adèle, and de Lamourous. Other Marianist Causes.
 - d. SM in North America: the American Catholic Experience, grade schools to high schools, division of Provinces, professionalism
 - e. Foundation of American Province of the FMI
 - f. Spread of SM and FMI throughout the world
 - g. Revival of Adult Marianist Lay Communities: France, Spain, US, South America
 - h. Condition of SM and FMI at the time of the Vatican II (1962-65)
9. **Breakdown Period (1965-90) and Transition (1990-2015)**
- a. Onset of breakdown: Drop in Membership
 - b. Conflict and Change; from Schools to Diversity of Ministries
 - c. Entering Transition: Merger of US Provinces, speculation about where we are headed

Marianist Studies Topics

compiled by Lawrence Cada, SM
(revised September 2001)

The topics suggested in this outline are proposed as a survey of the content or subject matter that is commonly understood to constitute Marianist Studies.

1) Marianist Spirituality

Christ

Christ in the Thought of Chaminade and de Trenquelléon

Elements of Marianist Christology

Jesus Christ, Son of God, Become Son of Mary for the Salvation of Humankind

The Incarnation in Marianist Spirituality

Mary

Mary in the Thought of Chaminade and de Trenquelléon

Mission of Mary

Marianist Stability: Source and Summit of Marianist Spirituality

Stability and Marian Consecration

The Vow of Stability and the Vow of Teaching Christian Faith and Practice

Chaminade's Reading of the Marian Texts of Scripture

Analysis of Contents of *Marian Writings of WJC*

Faith

Faith as a Foundational Theme of Marianist Spirituality and Ministry

"Faith of the Mind, Faith of the Heart, and the Faith of Action"

Analysis of Contents of WJC's *Writings on Faith*

Community and Church

Baptism and the Vocation Common to Everyone in the Church

WJC's Theological Rationale for Community: The Trinity and the Church as Local Assembly

Marianist Prayer

Prayer of Faith

Living the Mysteries of Jesus and Mary

The Three O'Clock Prayer

Analysis of Contents of WJC's *Writings on Mental Prayer*

System of Virtues

System of Virtues and Growth in the Spiritual Life

System of Virtues and Three Offices as the Embodiment of Christ's Attitudes and Ministries

Relationship between the System of Virtues and the Classic 3 Ways of the Spiritual Life

Analysis of Contents of *Marianist Direction*

Pauline Basis of the System of Virtues

Marianist Spirituality and the French School

Bérulle and the Principal Figures of the French School
Christocentric, Theocentric, and Incarnational Spirituality
Marian Spirituality
States and Mysteries of Jesus and Mary
Chaminade's Reading of Olier

Characteristic Marianist Virtues and Traits

Chapter 30 of the 1891 Constitutions of the SM
Syntheses of Simler, *Spirit of Our Foundation*, Neubert, Gadiou

Various Studies

Cole's Thesis
Stanley's Thesis
Hakenewerth's Writings

Special Topics

Immaculate Conception and the Marianist Charism
Feminist Thought and the Marianist Tradition
History of Marianist Spirituality and Piety

2) Marianist History and the Marianist Charism

Marianist History Topics

Secular and Political Events of Chaminade's Time
The Enlightenment and the French Revolution
Biography of Chaminade and de Trenquelléon
Chaminade and Normal Schools during the Restoration
Sillon Movement
Modernism and the Marianists
Coming of the SM to Various Countries
The Rise of Marianist Lay Communities

Marianist Charism

What is a Founding Charism? Theological Questions
What is the Marianist Charism? Chaminade's Charism?
Sociological and Historical Models of a Charism and its Dynamics
Can there be authentic developments of the Founder's charism which he did not foresee and which he would have disowned in his day?

Classic Studies of the Marianist Charism

Simler, Klobb, and Lebon: *The Spirit of Our Foundation*
The Two Syntheses of Ferree
Windisch's Thesis

3) Marianist Mission and Ministries

Marianist Apostolic Method Multiplication,

“To Multiply Christians”

Universality

Mary’s Apostolic Mission, “Missionaries of Mary”

Mary and the End Times in the Thought of WJC

The Marianist Mission and the Problematic of the Modern Era

Marianist Family of Mary

Evolution of the Concept of “Family of Mary”

Branches of the Family of Mary and their Interdependence

Chaminade’s Implicit Ecclesiology

Meaning of “Sodality Director who never dies”

Marianist Education

Marianist Pedagogy and Teaching Method

Marianist Schools

The Marianist Philosophy of Education, Characteristics of Marianist Education

Other Marianist Ministries

Parishes

Social, Human Services

Art, Music

Implantation of Marianist Charism in Diverse Cultures

Effects of French Culture on Chaminade and his Thought

Marianist Charism and Various Cultures

Is the Marianist Vision Euro-centric?

Social Justice and the Marianist Tradition

Marianist Ministries of Justice

Is there an intrinsic connection between Social Justice and the Marianist charism?

Distinctive Features of Marianist Life, Spirit, and Method

Three Offices

Mixed Composition of the SM

Three Categories of Persons

The Third Object

The Fifth Vow (of Teaching Christian Faith and Practice)

4) Overview and General Topics

The World of Marianist Studies

Overview of Topics, Themes, Subject Areas

Principal Authors and Writers. Who are the “experts” of Marianist Studies’?

The Classics of Marianist Studies

Constructing a “Beginner’s Guide” to Marianist Studies

Critique of Chaminade’s Interpreters

Who have been the main interpreters of Chaminade’s thought?

How faithfully have they transmitted his charism?

How do their interpretations differ?

Has any of them distorted Chaminade’s vision?

Evolution of Marianist Ideas, Language, and Terminology

“Filial Piety”

“Family of Mary” or “Marianist Family”

“Community”

“Marianist”

Scholarly Study of Marianist Primary Sources

Critical Editions

Definitive Translations

Commentary on Texts

The Emergence of Marianist Studies

Rehabilitation of the Founder’s Reputation in the Late 19th Century

Evolution of Marianist Studies in the 20th Century

Rise of Expertise in Marianist Studies among Lay Marianists

Analysis of Official Documents

SM Constitutions and Rules

FMI Constitutions and Rules

Documents of General Chapters and Other SM or FMI Official Bodies

Official Formation Guides of the SM and FMI

Official Documents of the State, Marianist Lay Communities, and Other Lay Groups of the Family of Mary

Documents of the World Council of the Marianist Family of Mary and Other Joint Bodies of the Family of Mary