

## New LGBT Initiative Video Sheds Light on our Marianist LGBTQ+ Family

The Marianist LGBT Initiative Team responds to the Church's call to be welcoming and compassionate toward LGBTQ+ Catholics and their families. We look for new and creative ways to foster dialogue, education, spiritual growth, and understanding regarding LGBTQ+ people in institutions affiliated with the Marianist family and the larger Church. We believe our call as Catholics compels us to be inclusive toward people who identify as LGBTQ+ and to recognize their inherent dignity and infinite worth. Through our work, we hope our Marianist family becomes a prophetic witness to the Church and the world on how to embrace LGBTQ+ people and their gifts.

We are especially excited to present our new video, which will help spread our message of love and inclusion. ***Living Our Marianist Charism: Embracing the LGBTQ+ Community*** offers a collection of stories and perspectives from LGBTQ+ persons, family members, and allies affiliated with the Marianist family. The purpose of this video is to raise awareness of the presence and role of LGBTQ+ people in the Catholic Church and in the Marianist Family. Our goals, through this new resource, are:

- To discover our call of inclusivity towards LGBTQ+ persons
- To better understand how LGBTQ+ Catholics experience God's call to remain in the Church and in the Marianist family
- To raise awareness and appreciation of the presence and gifts of LGBTQ+ persons in the Church and in the Marianist family
- To challenge the Church and our Marianist Family to consider ways of being a prophetic voice on matters pertaining to the LGBTQ+ community

We hope that many people in the Marianist Family and the larger Church have an opportunity to watch the video and enter into dialogue with their community. We wish to engage in communal dialogue and discernment with the Church and our Marianist Family through the sharing of personal stories and experiences. We believe this dialogue must also take into consideration findings in biology, anthropology, and psychology.

Most importantly, we hope this dialogue helps everyone deepen their understanding of the profundity of God's love toward everyone and our call to be witnesses who embody God's love toward LGBTQ+ people. To that end, we have created a *Video Resource Guide* to help you facilitate this dialogue in your local community. Please take some time to watch the video and review our *Video Resource Guide* as you consider how we, as Marianist and Catholics, are called to embrace LGBTQ+ people into community. Enjoy!

Link to our video - [Living Our Marianist Charism: Embracing the LGBTQ+ Community](#)

Link to our [Video Resource Guide](#)