



To the Marianist Family and Friends

In response to the post-covid realities we have experienced, in relation to student interactions and accompaniment at the University of Dayton, and after discussion with varied groups and individuals, the Office of Mission and Rector, along with members from the Marianist Accompaniment Team have decided to inaugurate a Thursday evening spaghetti dinner to be held weekly during the first semester of the 2022-2023 school year.

We feel we need to cast our nets wider, in order to re-establish relationships with the UD student community. We think this weekly spaghetti dinner will enable us to meet students who might not normally pass through our usual Marianist programs and retreats, along with those who are presently in one or another Marianist program or community.

We envision the dinner to be a low-key gathering. There would be some prayer to begin, but then the rest of the time would be spent in conversation with those who attend. There would be some focused questions or themes, so that the students can come to know who we are as a Marianist Family and the gifts flowing from our Charism. Stemming from these interactions we hope to interest students in exploring further the Marianist Charism, and hopefully a deeper commitment to the Marianist Family.

And this is where you come in. We are inviting interested communities or individuals to help us with this endeavor. As you might glean, this effort will take many hands to pull off on a weekly basis. We have folks to start the cooking, but need some help in setup and cleanup. Mostly we are looking for individuals or communities to engage with the students who attend. We will need 6-8 people per week, and possibly more if this gathering takes off.

There are two ways individuals or communities can collaborate with these meals.

- a. Volunteer – see time frame below
- b. Sponsor the cost of one of the meals (we estimate costs to be around \$30.0 per evening)

Our timeline for the dinners is Thursday evenings 6pm-8pm, beginning the week of September 8th. We foresee two volunteer schedules per evening. For setup, we would ask volunteers to arrive at 5:30 p.m. and stay until 7:30 p.m. For cleanup, we would ask that volunteers arrive at 6:30 and stay until cleanup is finished (8:30).

If this sounds like something you would like to volunteer for, please [sign up using this form](#).

Mrs. LeeAnn Meyer, Office for Mission & Rector
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