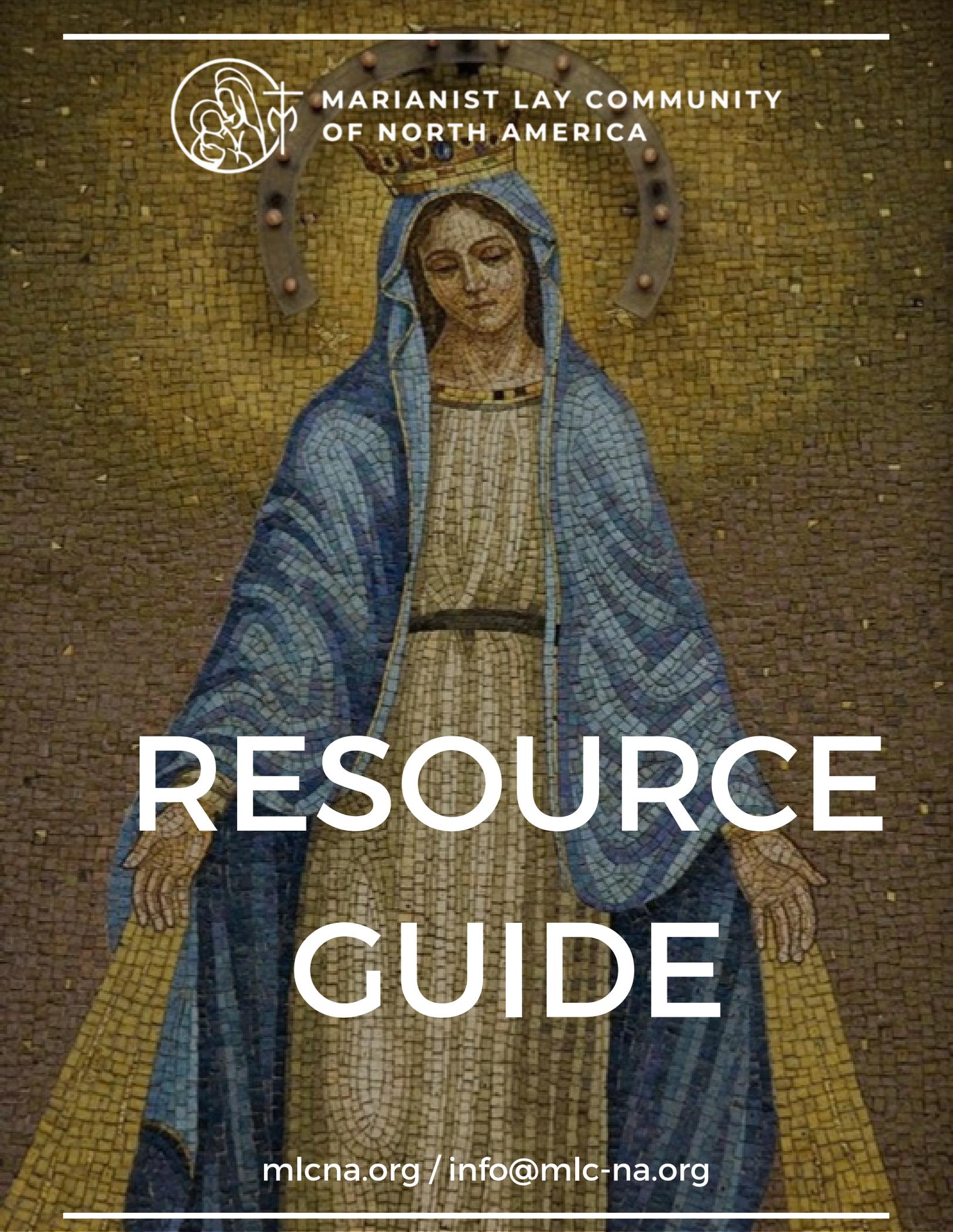




MARIANIST LAY COMMUNITY
OF NORTH AMERICA



RESOURCE GUIDE

mlcna.org / info@mlc-na.org

WEBSITES

About Lay Marianists:

- In North America: mlcna.org
- Internationally: clm-mlc.org

About the Marianist Religious:

- Marianist Brothers and Priests (Society of Mary): marianist.com
- Marianist Sisters (Daughters of Mary Immaculate): marianistsisters.com

Marianist Studies:

- North American Center for Marianist Studies

Some Marianist Family Ministries:

- Marianist Social Justice Collaborative
- Mission of Mary Cooperative
- Marianist Environmental Education Center
- Bergamo Retreat Center (Dayton, OH)
- Marianist Family Retreat Center (Cape May, NJ)
- Marianist Retreat and Conference Center (St. Louis, MO)



DOCUMENTS

The following 5 documents were drafted by Lay Marianist delegates from every country in which MLCs are found. These documents help articulate the core elements of the Marianist charism from the perspective of the lay branch.

All documents can be found at: <https://www.clm-mlc.org/resources/documents>



The Identity of Marianist Lay Communities

A 1993 statement from Santiago de Chile that defines the character, mission, and ecclesial identity of Marianist Lay Communities.



The Mission of Marianist Lay Communities

A 1997 Lliria document focused on the apostolic mission and evangelizing role of Lay Marianist Communities in contemporary society.



Being in Community

A 2001 guide from Philadelphia discussing the dynamics, practices, and values necessary for building and sustaining healthy Marianist lay communities.



In Alliance with Mary

A 2005 text from Bordeaux detailing the Marian orientation and spiritual bond between Lay Communities and Mary as their model and guide.



Marianist Lay Communities in the Church and in the World

A 2009 international document based in Nairobi, outlining the role and mission of Marianist Lay Communities within the broader Church and global society.

BOOKS

The following books are available for sale from the North American Center for Marianist Studies (NACMS) at: <https://www.nacms.org/bookstore>

OVERVIEW OF THE MARIANIST CHARISM

Our Marianist Heritage

Author: Joseph Stefanelli, SM

Surveys the spiritual foundations of the Marianist charism, including scriptural roots, Marian devotion, and communal life.

HISTORY & FOUNDERS

The three biographies by Stefanelli are short introductions to the life of the three Marianist founders. As you search for these titles, note that Stefanelli has authored significantly longer texts on each founder, so be sure to select the text that corresponds to the amount of history you are looking for. Benlloch's text covers the Marianist foundations more collectively in a single volume.

Chaminade, Pragmatist with a Vision

Author: Joseph Stefanelli, SM

Explores Chaminade's practical leadership and forward-thinking approach to reviving faith in post-Revolutionary France.

Adèle, Aristocrat for the Poor

Author: Joseph Stefanelli, SM

Highlights Adèle de Batz de Trenquelléon's voluntary embrace of poverty in founding a women's religious community.

Marie Thérèse de Lamourous, Firm of Hand, Loving of Heart

Author: Joseph Stefanelli, SM

Portrays Marie Thérèse's role as Marianist co-founder and compassionate minister to marginalized women.

Origins of the Marianist Family: Notes on Marianist History

Author: Eduardo Benlloch, SM

Chronicles the early development of the Marianist Family and the efforts of Chaminade, Adèle, and Marie Thérèse.

BOOKS

The following books are available for sale from the North American Center for Marianist Studies (NACMS) at: <https://www.nacms.org/bookstore>

MARIANIST SPIRITUALITY & SYSTEM OF VIRTUES

Manual of Marianist Spirituality

Author: Quentin Hakenewerth, SM

Serves as a go-to introduction to Marianist spirituality, offering key principles and guidance.

The Mother of Jesus Was There

Author: Quentin Hakenewerth, SM

A short, prayerful devotional intended to help readers live out their devotion to Mary more fully.

Walking with Adèle

Author: Marie-Joëlle Bec, FMI

A short, contemplative work on the spirituality of Adèle that invites the reader to walk with her in her spiritual journey to God.

Enfleshing the Word

Author: Enrique Aguilera, SM, and José María Arnaiz, SM

A longer work in spirituality that focuses on how the written Word of God becomes incarnate within Marianist life and practice.

Virtues for Mission

Author: Joseph H. Lackner, SM

An easy introduction to Chaminade's System of Virtues as a path for spiritual growth and preparation for mission.

Growing in the Virtues of Jesus

Author: Quentin Hakenewerth, SM

Another text on the Marianist System of Virtues that is somewhat more in-depth than Lackner's.

BOOKS

The following books are available for sale from the North American Center for Marianist Studies (NACMS) at: <https://www.nacms.org/bookstore>

MARIANIST LAY COMMUNITIES

Promise and the Path: Starting and Sustaining Marianist Communities

Author: Thomas F. Giardino, SM

Offers a structured resource for initiating and nurturing Marianist communities, including personal stories, formation insights, and discussion questions

Habits for the Journey: A Mystical and Political Spirituality for Small Christian Communities

Author: Bernard J. Lee, SM

Often using “non-Marianist language” to describe Marianist communities and concepts, Lee presents a portrait of small Christian communities (ie. Marianist Lay Communities) in a way that is informed by certain “habits” (ie. the System of Virtues).



OTHER RESOURCES

PODCAST

Sharing Our Marianist Stories

Offers interviews with members of the Marianist Family (Lay Marianists, brothers, sisters, and collaborators) highlighting what the Marianist charism looks like in their life

Episodes available at: <https://www.nacms.org/sharing-our-marianist-stories> and your favorite podcast app.



NEWSLETTER

Stay in Touch!

MLC-NA's monthly newsletter keeps you up to date on new programs, exciting announcements, and ways to get engaged! Sign up [on our website](#).