



An Introduction to  
Brother Paul Hoffman S.M.  
SFDS' Next Administrative Assistant



*“Parish life is very fulfilling. I love the presence and witness to all ages of people through what I call “cradle to the grave.” I enjoy being a part of a big faith community and being present and of assistance in whatever means I can. .”*

Bro. Paul graciously submitted the following background of his previous experiences as an introduction to our community.  
Please review and share with others!

## Brother Paul's Background

I am a native of Ft. Thomas, Kentucky where I was born and raised. I am the oldest of six children. I attended and was educated at St. Stephen Parish (Now Holy Spirit Parish) in Newport and I am a 1977 graduate of Newport Catholic High School (now Newport Central Catholic High School). Most of my family resides in the Greater Cincinnati area. I have close family in Indianapolis and Denver.

I have been a professed religious in the Society of Mary since 1983 and made my perpetual profession of vows in 1988. I have lived in Cincinnati, Dayton, Cleveland and Kalamazoo, Michigan over the course of my Marianist life.

Regarding my education, I received a Bachelor of Arts degree in Social Work and a Minor in Psychology from Cleveland State University in 1987. In 1994 I received a Master in Clinical Social Work degree from Western Michigan University in Kalamazoo. I have also taken religious studies courses at John Carroll University in University Heights, (Cleveland) Ohio.

My ministry/professional life has been that of social work and parish ministry. During my college years, I was interested in neighborhood center work in Cleveland. I have done child protective service work in Cleveland before beginning my graduate school program. This was from 1987 until 1991. Since then, most of my social work practice has been clinical during graduate school and after graduation when I came to Cincinnati and did child and family therapy at St. Joseph Orphanage in Montfort Heights. I was employed there from 1995 through 2005. In 2005 I was asked by the Province to be Parish Life Coordinator at St. Aloysius Parish in Cleveland. This ministry was from 2005 through 2015 when regrettably, the Marianists withdrew from serving in the Diocese of Cleveland. After a year of sabbatical, I became the director of the Marianist Health Care Center at Siena Woods in Dayton where I am currently serving. I have enjoyed all of my ministries over the years and found them life-giving.



*My last official photo in 2015  
(When I was much heavier)*



## Brother Paul's Background

About half of my religious life has been spent at St. Aloysius Parish in Cleveland. I had two assignments there. I first went as a second-year novice in 1982 and would remain until 1991. Other than my educational/professional work, I was as engaged with the parish as much as possible and was very visible there. I loved the life of the parish. Then as stated above, I returned from 2005-2015 as Parish Life Coordinator of the parish (lead person). Though challenging, I found it very rewarding and enjoyable. After all the parish had given me during my first stay, I greatly appreciated the opportunity to "give back" to the parish in this leadership role. If it was not for our withdrawing from the Diocese of Cleveland, I most likely would still be there today in the same capacity.

Parish life is very fulfilling. I love the presence and witness to all ages of people through what I call "cradle to the grave." I enjoy being a part of a big faith community and being present and of assistance in whatever means I can. I have always loved Sunday mornings, and these times are so special in the life of the parish because it is then when the faith community gathers together. I very much look forward to returning to this style. I have always found it fulfilling to do "those parish things" as: taking the Eucharist to the home-bound, working on planning funerals, visiting ill parishioners in the hospital, and always being ready for what I call "the phone call" at whatever hour and to respond and react as appropriate.

Regarding my contact/experience at St. Francis de Sales, when I was on sabbatical during the 2015-16 year, my home Marianist Community was at St. Francis de Sales. When I was in Cincinnati, I lived in the old Chapel Street house. I attended Sunday Eucharists in the parish, and I do know a small number of parishioners in the parish.

- Additional photos on next page -

## Brother Paul's Background



With Father Gene, Brother Bob and  
Sister Mary Jean Raymond (from Cleveland)  
August 2015.



August of 2015 with Brother Bob Dzubinski  
arriving at St. Francis de Sales  
Beginning my sabbatical year.