



Brother Raymond Meagher, FSC  
Distinguished Lasallian-Educator  
2015-2016

## Celebrating Brother Raymond Meagher

“The difference between ordinary and extraordinary is that little extra.” Every day, as I walk down the hall on the way to my office, I read the poster on Brother Raymond’s door, and I think about what an extraordinary teacher and inspiration he is to his colleagues, to his students, and to the Manhattan College community. When we think about the characteristics of an inspiring Lasallian educator, the following characteristics come to mind: Someone who has the best interest of their students at heart, someone who is an extraordinarily effective teacher, and someone who is committed to social justice. We immediately think of Brother Raymond Meagher, an influential Brother who has impacted the lives of students, faculty, and pretty much everyone whose life he has touched. Brother Raymond is living out the Lasallian mission by being both passionate and compassionate. He is passionate about the Lasallian mission, his students, and his teaching. He is passionate about forging bonds with his students that last a lifetime. He is passionate about preparing his students to live out the Lasallian mission of touching the hearts and teaching the minds of not only his students, but students for years to come.

Brother Raymond is compassionate towards his own students and children all around the world. He has led our students for the past eight years as the moderator of the Mu Sigma chapter of Kappa Delta Pi, the International Honors society for Education students, by being a selfless and innovative leader who brings out the gifts in every person that he meets. Under his leadership, Kappa Delta Pi has earned five consecutive Achieving Chapter Excellence Awards for their service around the world. This year, at the Huether Lasallian conference, DENA presented Brother Raymond with the Distinguished Lasallian Educator Award for his outstanding work and dedication to the charism of St. LaSalle. There is no one more deserving of the celebrated honor. Brother Ray’s influence extends beyond the Manhattan College community across the globe, from New York to Italy to Palestine and his upcoming journey to Ireland. With faith, hope, and love he serves his students as a positive role model and mentor. He shows his compassion towards children in our community as well as abroad, his reach and influence has no boundaries.

Before Brother Ray brought his Beauty Prayer to Manhattan College, he worked in Lincoln Hall, a Residential Treatment Center for underserved boys. He was also a principal at St. Raymond’s High Schools in the Bronx, and a high school biology and math teacher. His focus has always been on working with students who are underserved, and with gentleness, patience and zeal, he transformed their lives.

Rachel Tomashosky, one of Brother Raymond’s students shared, “Brother Ray goes above and beyond for his students. He’s always committed to making sure education students leave Manhattan College with a sense of compassion, love and commitment to educating young lives, just like he has done for us.”

Dr. Peter McCarthy remembers the words Brother Raymond’s father passed on to him, “God, others, self,” and his father would be proud to know that this credo guided Brother Ray’s personal and professional life and has impacted the lives of so many people.

Personally, I attended the IALU conference in Rome, Italy with Brother Raymond, and returned to Italy with him last summer to chaperone a service trip to Scampia, Naples. During this time we became more than friends, more than colleagues, we became family.

Brother Raymond Meagher is a dear friend, an extraordinary teacher, an amazing colleague, and an essential part of the Manhattan College community. He encourages each of his students to be the people that God intended them to be. The love and care that he shows for his students can only be superseded by the respect and admiration felt by his colleagues and students. Today we celebrate you!

Presented by Dr. Lisa Anne Rizopoulos