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Editor's Preface

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EDITOR'S PREFACE

Robert L. Fastiggi, PhD

The present issue of *Marian Studies* marks a turning point. Fr. Thomas A. Thompson, SM, has been the editor of *Marian Studies* from Volume 41 in 1990 through Volume 67 in 2016. He will remain as the editor emeritus as a tribute to his many years of selfless service as both the editor of *Marian Studies* and the secretary of the Mariological Society of America. Words cannot express the gratitude all of us in the MSA have towards Fr. Thompson. We know that God will reward him with graces beyond what we can offer.

We likewise wish to thank Cecilia Mushenheim for her longtime work as the managing editor and editorial assistant for *Marian Studies*, both under Fr. Thompson and earlier under Fr. Theodore Koehler, SM. Cecilia's humble and dedicated service to *Marian Studies* over all these years has been of inestimable value.

The present issue of *Marian Studies* also represents the first issue in which all the articles have been peer reviewed by various scholars in the field. Although these scholars will remain anonymous, I wish to thank all of them for their excellent work and generosity.

I offer heartfelt thanks to Dr. James Koelsch for his collaboration on this issue as both the associate editor and

copyeditor. His attention to matters of detail and style is deeply appreciated.

I am likewise grateful to Maureen Schlangen of Roesch Library for her great assistance publishing this issue.

We dedicate this issue to the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Mother of the Church, whose maternal presence in the sacraments is evident as “our Mother in the order of grace” (*Lumen Gentium*, 61).