

## XAVIER UNIVERSITY MA THEOLOGY ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT – JANUARY, 2020

### CHRISTINE MARALLEN

#### **Cincinnati Enquirer editorial board adds three community members**

Contrary to the old adage, great minds don't always think alike. And that's OK. In fact, at The Enquirer, we believe that sometimes the best ideas and solutions to our region's most stubborn challenges are born when people from diverse backgrounds, cultures and experiences come together to share, debate and learn from each other's unique perspectives.

It is in that spirit that we are announcing the addition of three new community members to the Enquirer editorial board. These community leaders represent diverse ideologies, political perspectives and geographies and will provide insights that will help shape the opinions we advance online and in the printed newspaper.

These community board members will serve one-year terms, and they will meet with us once a month to debate local and state issues and meet with newsmakers. They will occasionally write columns or provide dissenting opinions to The Enquirer's editorials.

These new members are straightforward, passionate and engaged in the issues impacting Greater Cincinnati. They know how to make their points clearly, thoughtfully and, most importantly, with civility.

We see this as an opportunity to strengthen the dialogue in our region by expanding the breadth and depth of our conversations. We also hope to provide a blueprint for what thoughtful, passionate and civil discourse among diverse minds can look like.



Christine Marallen currently spends much of her week inside prisons, jails and halfway houses with men and women who have decided to do something different about their poor choices and the resulting circumstances. Marallen has been working with the incarcerated since 2002 and is the former Director of Prison Ministries for the Archdiocese of Cincinnati. She facilitates the Damascus Reentry class inside numerous correctional facilities around Ohio and she and her husband, Todd, speak on the innovative Damascus Reentry Model both locally and nationally.

Marallen was born in Cincinnati and currently lives in Loveland. She lived throughout the U.S. while working with USA Today Newspaper (1988-2001) in various sales and marketing management roles. She was also columnist for *Our Town* magazine in Mason, produced by *The Enquirer*. Marallen taught criminal justice classes at Xavier University from 2006-2018 and has taken hundreds of undergraduate students into the prison to learn alongside incarcerated students in the [Inside-Out Prison Exchange Program](#). There is little she like better than to see perspectives widen.

Christine holds a B.A. in English from Miami University; an M.A. in Criminal Justice and an M.A. in Theology from Xavier University. She is a certified prison/jail chaplain and past president of the American Catholic Correctional Chaplains Association. Look soon for her book, "Good Lookin' Out: Chapel Girl in Prison."