

Praying Our Way to the 23rd General Chapter

November 2024 — Prayer of Election

Opening Prayer: *“Come, all you who are thirsty, come to the water; and you who have no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without cost. “Why spend money on what is not bread, and your labor on what does not satisfy? Listen to me, and eat what is good, and your soul will delight in the richest of fare.” (Isaiah 55: 1-2)*

Help us, Loving Jesus, to ensure that, like Notre Dame de l’Hermitage, each of our Marist ministries, Marist communities, and individual Marist hearts may always be *‘A Home for All’* and a *‘River of Life.’* Amen.



SUNG INVOCATION — RUAH

Ruah, Ruah, Ruah, uuuhhh

Ruah, Ruah, Ruah, uuuhhh

Llenas la historia con tu luz
y el calor de tu presencia fiel.
Ante la duda, claridad,
en los logros, tu canción,
Ruah, Espíritu vital.

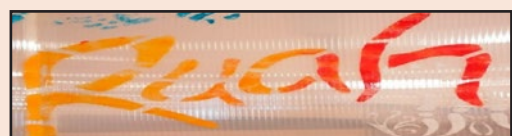
Te reconhecio quando estas
animando o amor em todos nos.
Sinto que caminhas ao meu lado.
Me convidas a avançar,
Ruah, Espírito de paz.

In every moment you are there;
my heart ponders your great kindness.
Always inspiring all I do,
making me proclaim my “Yes”,
Ruah, o Spirit of faith.

Tu es bien présent lorsque j’agis,
tu me pusses, toi, le souffle, aujourd’hui.
Tu dances dans ma vie, je le sais bien.
Ton sourire est créateur,
Ruah, tu es l’Esprit de Dieu.



Scan for the Song Recording



A Reading from Our Marist Sources

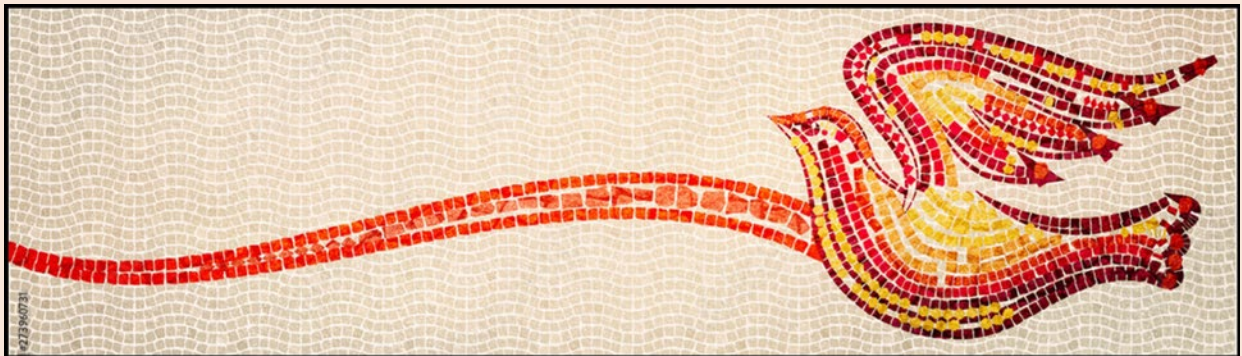
Constitutions and Statues of the Marist Brothers (87)

Christ, who received all authority from the Father, became a servant, washing the feet of his disciples, thus leaving them a new model of authority as service.

Like Mary in the early Church, Marcellin accompanied the first brothers with attentiveness, sensitivity, and equanimity.

Brothers among their brothers, those called to exercise the service of authority seek, like the Lord Himself, “*to serve rather than be served,*” in accord with the purposes of the Institute. It is in this spirit that they take the responsibility to command, when necessary. Above all, however, their role is to promote listening and fraternal dialogue, foster discernment, and build up genuine brotherhood, a seed of the Good News.

Listening in Silence



A Reading from Sacred Scripture

Luke 6: 12-16

In those days he departed to the mountain to pray, and he spent the night in prayer to God. When day came, he called his disciples to himself, and from them he chose Twelve, whom he also named apostles: Simon, whom he named Peter, and his brother Andrew, James, John, Philip, Bartholomew, Matthew, Thomas, James the son of Alphaeus, Simon who was called a Zealot, and Judas the son of James, and Judas Iscariot, who became a traitor.

Listening in Silence

Prayerful Sharing

What are the characteristics of a leader that you value?

Prayers of the Faithful

Response: *Lord, hear our prayer.*

- That the inspiration of the Hermitage may help us to create ‘**homes for all**’ so that we may invite others to experience a ‘**river of life**,’ we pray...
- That we may faithfully journey together as a global family united in a joyful communion that includes diverse states of life, we pray...
- That in making our own the spirit of the Hermitage, we may find renewed zeal to bring God’s word to the poor children and young people of today, we pray...
- That by careful and prayerful elections held throughout the Marist Institute, we may be blessed with those Chapter delegates best able to lead us into the future, we pray...
- That in all of this, we may be guided by Mary, our Good Mother, and our Founder St. Marcellin Champagnat, we pray...

For who or what else do we pray?



Remember, o most gracious Virgin Mary,
That never was it known,
That anyone who fled to your protection,
Implored your help,
Or sought your intercession was left unaided.
Inspired by this confidence, I fly unto you
O Virgins of virgins, my mother.
Do you do I come, before you I stand.
O Mother of the Word Incarnate,
Despise not my petitions,
But in your mercy, hear and answer me.
Amen.

Closing Prayer: Transform us Jesus, and send us as a global charismatic family, a beacon of hope in this turbulent world, to be the face and hands of your tender mercy. Inspire our creativity to be bridge builders, to journey with children and young people on the margins of life, and to respond boldly to emerging needs. Amen.

(from the Message of the XXII General Chapter, Rio Negro, Colombia, October 2017)

Salve Regina

St. Marcellin Champagnat... Pray for us!
Mary, Our Good Mother... Pray for us!
And let us remember... To pray for each other!