



Praying Our Way to the 23rd General Chapter

July 2025 — The Promise of Fourvière

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.

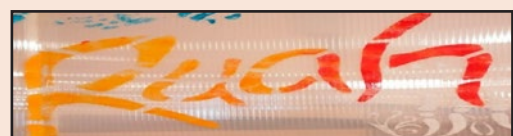
Tu es bien présent lorsque j’agis,
tu me pusses, toi, le souffle, aujourd’hui.

Tu dances dans ma vie, je le sais bien.

Ton sourire est créateur,
Ruah, tu es l’Esprit de Dieu.



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A Reading from Our Marist Sources

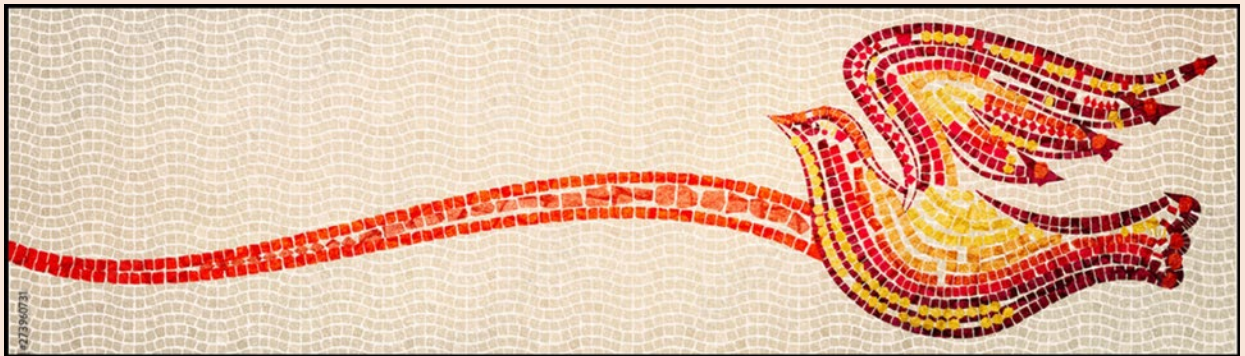
Water from the Rock (11-14)

The Marists understood their Project to be a sharing in Mary's work of bringing Christ-life to birth and being with the Church as it came to be born. It was a work which they hoped would touch every diocese of the world, and would be structured like a multi-branched tree by including lay people, priests, sisters and brothers.

The Marist spirituality that originated with Marcellin and the founding community has been enriched by the successive generations of Champagnat's followers. It has now become a stream of living water. Future generations will further enhance this spirituality. With Marcellin, we know that Mary continues to guide its development.

We believe the charism of Marcellin is a gift given to the Church and to the world, a gift which we are being invited to further develop and live by progressively deepening our participation in this charism. Our spirituality describes and expresses this charism as it is incarnated at any particular place and time in history. As with all authentic charisms, it is a grace of the Holy Spirit entrusted to us for the purpose of building and unifying the Church as the Body of Christ. We Brothers and Lay people have received the gift of the charism from Marcellin. Therefore, we are partners in the Marist mission, and jointly responsible before God for carrying it out.

Listening in Silence



A Reading from Sacred Scripture

Acts 1: 12-14

The disciples returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a sabbath day's journey away.

When they entered the city, they went to the upper room where they were staying, Peter and John and James and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. All these devoted themselves with one accord to prayer, together with some women, and Mary the mother of Jesus, and his brothers.

Listening in Silence

Prayerful Sharing

What opportunities are there for us to rekindle the Fourvière Promise?

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 with discerning hearts formed by genuine openness to the Spirit, we may meaningfully engage the preparatory process of the 23rd General Chapter, 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!