

UNITED IN PRAYER



And the world came together as the people stayed apart. ¹

We acknowledge the Traditional Owners of this land and pay our respects to their Elders past, present and emerging.



INTENTIONS

We pray for single parents who tirelessly look after their children.

We pray for all those whose significance is currently undermined.

We pray for all those deprived of their human rights.

We pray for those struggling to make ends meet.

For what else shall we pray...

Let us remember we are in the holy presence of God.

OPENING PRAYER

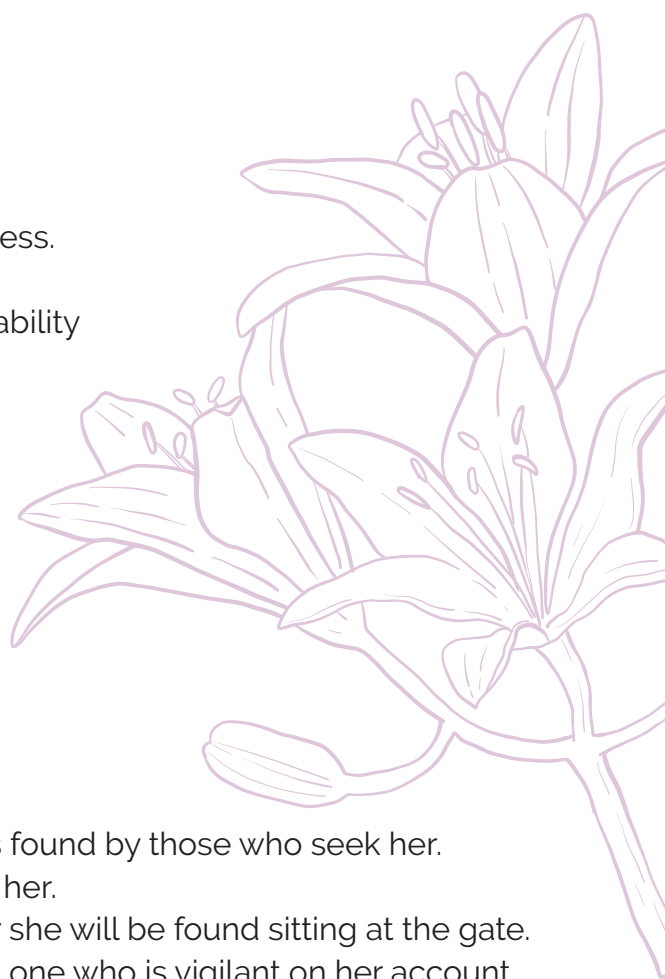
Together we pray,
may we cultivate Mary's courage to express our tenderness.
May we seek Mary's gentleness in our relationships.
May we foster Mary's fierceness in protecting the vulnerability that is always within and all around us.
We ask this prayer through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
Amen.

WE LISTEN

Speak Lord, your servant is listening...

A Reading from the Book of Wisdom (6:12-16)

Wisdom is radiant and unfading,
and she is easily discerned by those who love her, and is found by those who seek her.
She hastens to make herself known to those who desire her.
One who rises early to seek her will have no difficulty, for she will be found sitting at the gate.
To fix one's thought on her is perfect understanding, and one who is vigilant on her account will soon be free from care, because she goes about seeking those worthy of her, and she graciously appears to them in their paths, and meets them in every thought.



WE REFLECT

August 22 is the Feast of the Queenship of Mary. For us today, 'Queenship' provides a curious image of womanhood. However, in the Christian tradition, which can lean so heavily on images of male sanctity and masculine divinity, Mary offers us another perspective. She is the embodiment of the sacred feminine, a window into another understanding of the divine presence.

Mary is 'wisdom radiant and unfading' and is a loving and compassionate force within us. As Marists, both men and women, it is about naturally expressing the characteristics of feminine energy as we navigate the world around us and guide the young people in our care. When we align ourselves to this feminine intuitive, and maintain harmony with the Divine Masculine, we maximize our fullest potential.

Mary's Queenship is a cause for joy. It is a belief in human destiny, the destiny that God wants for each of us; full participation in life. It is, at the same time, a challenge to act on that trust and begin our transformation in the present – now.²

Pause for a moment of reflection.

When have you experienced tenderness and compassion in your life?

WE RESPOND

Since the time of Marcellin, his disciples have made Mary known and loved. Today we continue to be convinced that to follow Jesus in the way of Mary is a privileged way of bringing our Christian journey to fullness. (WFR 28)

CLOSING PRAYER

Memorare

Remember, O most loving Virgin Mary,
that never was it known in any age, that anyone who fled to your protection,
implored your help, or sought your intercession,
was abandoned.

Inspired with confidence, therefore
I fly to you, O Virgin of virgins, my Mother.
To you do I come, before you I stand, sinful and sorrowful.
Do not, O Mother of Jesus,
despise my prayers,
but graciously hear and grant them.
Amen.

Saint Marcellin Champagnat
Saint Mary of the Cross MacKillop
Mary Our Good Mother
And let us always remember

Pray for Us
Pray for Us
Pray for Us
To Pray for One Another



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