

Pope Francis in his leadership of service and his call for the Church to become the poor, serving, lowly Church whose one concern is proclaim Christ to the world. Lord....

Through the intercession of St Peter Chanel, renew in us zeal for our own vocations; and give us the courage to call others to priestly, religious and/or Marist life. Lord....

We pray for those who seek to follow you more deeply in their Christian lives. Help us to support them in their journeys to discern your call for them. Lord....

We thank you for the witness of family and others who have ministered to us and inspired us in faith and discipleship. We thank you for your gift of faith by which we believe those who have gone before us are now in your eternal embrace. Lord....

We pray for the peoples of Oceania and for the life of the Church throughout the Pacific Islands and Australasia. Lord....

We pray especially on this day for the various Marist congregations—Sisters, Brothers, Fathers—lay Marists and for all priests and people who seek to live the Gospel as faithful disciples of Jesus in the way of Mary. Lord....

Prayer

St Peter Chanel you left your homeland to proclaim Jesus, Saviour of the world, to the peoples of Oceania. Guided by the Spirit of God, who is the strength of the gentle, you bore witness to love, even laying down your life. Grant that like you we may live our daily life in peace, joy, and in love. May your prayer and example call forth from our midst many workers for the Gospel so that God's kingdom may reach to the ends of the earth. Amen.

"They must think as Mary, judge as Mary, feel and act as Mary in all things"
(J-C Colin)

"Hidden and Unknown in the world: there's no other way of doing good"
(J-C Colin)

"To love Mary and make her loved."
(St Peter Chanel motto)

St Peter Chanel SM

(1803-1841)

*Protomartyr &
Patron Saint of Oceania*



Paraliturgy

Feast Day, Apr 28

Marist Constitutions (#117)

The Society, like the Church, finds its model in Mary the woman of faith. Its spirituality is simple and modest in expression, close to the lives of ordinary people, apostolic in character, and marked by spontaneity and joy. It tries to make its own the Christian experience lived by Mary from Nazareth to Pentecost.

Jean-Claude Colin:

Father Chanel gained three crowns in a very short time. The first was the sacrifice he made in generously leaving his homeland and his friends. That was an heroic sacrifice...



'The man with the good heart'

The second crown of Father Chanel is that after three to four years of an almost barren ministry, not a single complaint escaped from his lips, not a single word, nothing... He consoled himself with Jesus and Mary and he prayed. Well God gave him a magnificent reward for his desires: he received the grace of martyrdom. That was his third crown.

Gospel [John 12:24 -26]

“Unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honour.”

Magnificat

My soul glorifies the Lord, my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour; he looks upon his servant in her lowliness; henceforth, all generations shall call me blessed; the Almighty works marvels for me, holy his name! His mercy is from age to age, on those who fear him; he puts forth his arm in strength and scatters the proud-hearted; he casts the mighty from their thrones and raises the lowly! He fills the starving with good things, sends the rich away empty; he protects Israel his servant, remembering his mercy, the mercy promised to our ancestors, to Abraham and his children forever!



This statue of St Peter Chanel stands in the grounds of the former Marist College in Belley, France, where he was appointed Spiritual Director & Superior prior to going to Oceania with the first group of Marist missionaries in 1836.

Intercessions

Prayer: Father from the poor of Israel you chose Mary as Mother of the Saviour; and through her you show us how to live our lives in fidelity to the Gospel. We now turn to you with complete confidence, as Mary did in all the circumstances of her life.

Lord, we ask that as St Peter Chanel imitated Christ in his passion, so may he guide us in all our struggles; like him, may we remain faithful to your call. Lord....

Lord, bless, guide and strengthen your Church in her mission to make you known to the world as Mary did. Guide