

Marist Way - Prayer Four

Breathe

Close your eyes.

Breathe in through your nose and out through your mouth.

Breathe in through your nose and out through your mouth.

Repeat x 10

Bell and Candle

As we ring our bell and light our candles we pray that God is with us.

Sign of the Cross

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.



Opening Reading - Mary's support of the church

I supported the church at her birth Mary was present at the birth of the Church as its support. She wishes to be present today through a family of believers who live her spirit and do her work of gathering the whole world to her Son, and, being touched by God's mercy, become united - one of heart and mind. As a family they support the Christian community in the same way as Mary supported it at the beginning.

Today there are many places where the church is being born or re-born, emerging or re-emerging, places in the centre or at the edge of the church where individuals and groups struggle to find community - places where they can hear the Good News spoken to them and experience God's love through others.

Today's Gospel - 4:24-30

No prophet is ever accepted in his own country Jesus came to Nazara and spoke to the people in the synagogue: 'I tell you solemnly, no prophet is ever accepted in his own country.

'There were many widows in Israel, I can assure you, in Elijah's day, when heaven remained shut for three years and six months and a great famine raged throughout the land, but Elijah was not sent to any one of these: he was sent to a widow at Zarephath, a Sidonian town. And in the prophet Elisha's time there were many lepers in Israel, but none of these was cured, except the Syrian, Naaman.'

When they heard this everyone in the synagogue was enraged. They sprang to their feet and hustled him out of the town; and they took him up to the brow of the hill their town was built on, intending to throw him down the cliff, but he slipped through the crowd and walked away.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Response - Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

Journaling....

For 5 minutes

while the songs plays, you are invited to journal about

What inspires you?

What challenges you?

What are you called to?

Discuss

Questions for discussion then journaling

What inspires you?

What challenges you?

What are you called to?

Discussion for 10 minutes.

Common Prayer

The response to the prayer is “Lord hear us”.....

“Lord hear our prayer”

1. **As we discern the Marist way in our lives, we invite Mary’s presence to guide us. Fill us with your Spirit so that we may become your hands, feet, and heart. *Lord, hear us.***
2. **We pray for the sick at this time, especially Pope Francis and others whom we now call to mind... *(Pause for 10 seconds)* Jesus, pour out your healing touch upon them.**
3. **We pray for the parts of our world where there is conflict—conflict in our homes, conflict in our families, division among friends, and violence among nations, especially in Ukraine, Gaza, Congo, Sudan and Burma. Inspire leaders to use the words, “I forgive you.” *Lord, hear us.***
4. **Are there any other prayers?**

Final Prayer

Loving God, just as Mary stood with the Church at its birth, may we too stand with courage and compassion where the Church is being born or reborn today. May we be a family of believers who carry her spirit—gathering the scattered, comforting the broken, and making space for your mercy. In places where your prophets are not accepted, where people struggle to find belonging or hear your voice, let us be your presence. May we speak the Good News with boldness, especially where there is an injustice, but more deeply live it out without words through love. Amen.

