

Sustainability Covenant: [Ecological Commission – adopted by the GA 19-07-2022]



is founded on three **Principles** [Trinitarian, Incarnational, and Marian]

1. Our Marist covenant is rooted within the “ecology” of an ever-generative love and compassion that is the Holy Trinity. This dynamic of relationship and communion is the source and inspiration for the life and love of the human community and all of Creation, which we are called to through our baptism. In this way we make our own the Trinitarian dynamism which God imprinted in us when we were created. [LSi 240]

2. Our Marist covenant is Incarnational. It celebrates God-with-us in the very matter of our earthly dwelling. Jesus Christ, the embodiment of life and love Divine, raises the web of creation into a new realm. Immersed into this new realm by our baptism we labor with all creation to "bring all things in heaven and on earth together in Christ." (Eph.1:10)

3. As Marists our sustainability covenant will be enfleshed and lived out through the Spirit of the Society of Mary. Marists are called to be Mary, to think, judge, feel and act as her. Mary nurtured the vulnerable Incarnate Son of God at Nazareth and embraced his dead body at the foot of the cross; she was at the heart of the Church when the Spirit was poured out at Pentecost. Empowered by this same Spirit we are called to care for the most vulnerable, and the poor of our common home who are always the first to be affected by our ecological crisis. (LS 241)

Will be lived out in the following **Procedures**:

- a. As Marists who daily participate in the Sacraments, we will cultivate the sacramental vision - of God truly present in the material elements used - as our way of viewing God's presence in all material creation. Spending time in, and caring for nature are integral to our Sacramental practice.*
- b. We will invite employees and colleagues in our various Marist projects to collaborate in implementing this sustainability covenant.*
- c. Each community will reflect on energy use, travel, food, waste and water use, and other practical issues, with the intention of living more sustainably in this time of ecological crisis.*
- d. As communities and as a Unit within the SM we will discuss and find practical ways of reducing our carbon footprint.*
- e. A “sustainability animator”, someone who leads by encouragement and example, can be nominated in a community, District, or Province. Laudato Si Animator training is recommended. See <https://laudatosianimators.org>*
- f. The commitment to our sustainability covenant will be reviewed annually, possibly with an appropriate prayer or ritual, at the special community meeting held to review and plan our religious and apostolic life. [C.176]*