

Lent 2024



During this season of Lent, the Marists invite you to explore Marist spirituality. It is a spirituality in a certain way of living the Gospel. The first Marists were inspired by a question: “What if we discovered the Gospel together, and lived it as Mary lived it?” What they found made a difference to their lives; and yet it was a simple way of life that anyone could live, no matter what their age or state. The daily thoughts on the calendar, shared by Marists and Marist friends, are quotes that inspire them and are influenced by Marist spirituality.

WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>February 14 (Ash Wednesday)</p> <p>“The Marian Church stands at the foot of the Cross. She does not take refuge in a fortress or in a chapel or imprudent silence when people are being crushed. She is vulnerable in her deeds as in her words. With a humble courage she stands alongside the most insignificant.”</p> <p>To be Marist is an invitation to live life through the heart of Mary: a heart filled with loving kindness, understanding, courage and grace.</p> <p><i>Stabat Mater</i> <i>At the cross her station keeping,</i> <i>Stood the mournful Mother weeping,</i> <i>Near her Son until the end.</i></p> <p>Contributor: Denise D’Amico</p> <p>Marist Ministry: Society of Mary Development Office, Boston, Massachusetts</p> <p>Quote Source: Original quote inspired by Francois Marc, SM, <i>A Marian Church</i></p>	<p>February 15</p> <p>How do we live the mercy of God? The simple acts of life allow us to live that love. Especially now in Lent, each of us as Marists can be instruments of divine mercy, showing everyone that Christ is here, that He already saved us, and therefore, that a small act of love allows our being to be transformed for Him. That is the way to live as truly resurrected people.</p> <p><i>Stabat Mater</i> <i>Through her heart, his sorrow sharing,</i> <i>All his bitter anguish bearing,</i> <i>Now at length the sword has passed.</i></p> <p>Contributor: Fr. David Raymundo Sánchez Garduño, SM</p> <p>Marist Ministry: International Novice Director, Davao, Philippines</p> <p>Quote Source: Original quote</p>	<p>February 16</p> <p>“I am being driven forward into an unknown land. The pass grows steeper, the air colder and sharper. A wind from my unknown goal stirs the strings of expectation. Still the question: Shall I ever get there? There where life resounds, a clear pure note in the silence.”</p> <p><i>Stabat Mater</i> <i>O how sad and sore distressed</i> <i>Was that Mother, highly blest</i> <i>Of the sole-begotten One.</i></p> <p>Contributor: Fr. Ted G. Keating, SM</p> <p>Marist Ministry: Marist Director for Vocation and Formation, USA Province, Washington, DC</p> <p>Quote Source: Dag Hammarskjöld, Secretary General of United Nations 1953-1961, <i>Mystic, Markings</i></p>	<p>February 17</p> <p>“Holiness is not the process of adding, but of subtracting: less of me, to leave space for God.”</p> <p><i>Stabat Mater</i> <i>Christ above in torment hangs,</i> <i>She beneath beholds the pangs,</i> <i>Of her dying glorious Son.</i></p> <p>Contributor: Joël Sebastien Ebonto Eyango</p> <p>Marist Ministry: Seminarian, 3rd year, Casa di Maria, Marist International Theologate, Rome, Italy</p> <p>Quote Source: Quote by Blessed Carlo Acutis</p>



*Let Mary be our
Guide and example
of Courage in Lent.*

WHAT WONDEROUS LOVE IS THIS,
O MY SOUL, O MY SOUL!

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
February 18	February 19	February 20	February 21	February 22	February 23	February 24
<p>Lent can look to be a season of deprivation, a season of giving up certain creature goods. Rather, Lent should be a time of deepening our inner life like zeroing in on the quality of our prayer life. It is also a time to fast from selfish pursuits and focus on our relationship with the Lord and our Blessed Mother. Finally, we seek to be generous in reaching out to the needy and disenfranchised.</p> <p><i>Stabat Mater</i> <i>Is there one who would not weep,</i> <i>Whelmed in miseries so deep,</i> <i>Christ's dear Mother to behold?</i></p> <p>Contributor: Fr. Walter Gaudreau, SM</p> <p>Marist Ministry: Director, Marist Mission Office, Boston, Massachusetts</p> <p>Quote Source: Original quote</p>	<p>Sin breaks always our relationship with God and one another rather than sustain it. Where there is an offending act, there is no mutual love. However, in the gospel of St. Matthew, Jesus tells us to be merciful to others (Mt.5,7). Humanely, we find it hard to forgive. However, we Marists should always remember our identity which is being instruments of Divine Mercy. Indeed, we have Jesus as the greatest model in being merciful. He declared even on the cross: "Father, forgive them, they know not what they do." (Lk 23,34). Therefore, in this time of Lent, let us model ourselves on Him by reconciling with one another.</p> <p><i>Stabat Mater</i> <i>Can the human heart refrain?</i> <i>From partaking in her pain,</i> <i>In that Mother's pain untold?</i></p> <p>Contributor: Pascal Ndikumana</p> <p>Marist Ministry: Novice Class of 2023, Society of Mary, District of Africa (1st Profession February 2, 2024)</p> <p>Quote Source: Original quote</p>	<p>"At our best, we are instruments of God's mercy working to help others taste the boundless love of the Lord, especially those who find themselves on the margins. As Marists, we seek to go where the Church is not. We should enable all with whom we come in contact to experience the gift of reconciliation as well as peace of heart and mind."</p> <p><i>Stabat Mater</i> <i>O our Mother, fount of love,</i> <i>touch my spirit from above;</i> <i>Help us love as you have done.</i></p> <p>Contributor: Gina Parnaby</p> <p>Marist Ministry: English Teacher, Marist School, Atlanta, Georgia</p> <p>Quote Source: Statement of Identity, U.S. Province of the Marists</p>	<p>"Personally, I pardon two, three times, and I am not afraid of doing this, because I say to the good Lord, 'My God, this is the way you act.'"</p> <p><i>Stabat Mater</i> <i>Make me feel as you have felt;</i> <i>Make my soul to glow and melt</i> <i>With the love of Christ my Lord.</i></p> <p>Contributor: Fr. Tony Kennedy, SM</p> <p>Marist Ministry: Rector, Casa di Maria, Marist International Theologate, Rome, Italy</p> <p>Quote Source: Gabriel-Claude Mayet, <i>A Founder Acts: Reminiscences of Jean Claude Colin</i>, #206.10, 1983</p>	<p>Fr. Colin said: "My God... if you want me to do this, give me back my strength, and in that way show me whether it is your will." Relying on God's strength in doing his work is rooted in our relationship with him, and Fr Colin would say, without that, we shall achieve nothing.</p> <p><i>Stabat Mater</i> <i>Holy Mother! Pierce me through,</i> <i>In my heart each wound renew</i> <i>Of my Savior crucified.</i></p> <p>Contributor: Zulu Serop, SM</p> <p>Marist Ministry: Seminararian, 1st year, Casa di Maria, Marist International Theologate, Rome, Italy</p> <p>Quote Source: Original quote inspired by quote from Fr. Jean-Claude Colin</p>	<p>In light of this seemingly injured world, I feel the dire need for us as Marists to live out more strongly the call to be 'instruments of mercy' just as it was part of the mission of our founding fathers. Certainly in a well thought-out manner that is tender like that of our dear mother Mary, because it is with water that one can put out a fire.</p> <p><i>Stabat Mater</i> <i>Let me share with you his pain,</i> <i>Who for all my sins was slain,</i> <i>Who for me in torments died.</i></p> <p>Contributor: Peter Carde Matarakawa, SM</p> <p>Marist Ministry: Seminararian, 2nd year, Casa di Maria, Marist International Theologate, Rome, Italy</p> <p>Quote Source: Original quote</p>	<p>"Colin, whose holiness consisted in understanding his era and not in turning away from it, who sought the means to touch it, to heal it, to convert it. He did not turn his back on his era, but he tried to imagine a kind of presence, 'unknown and hidden', which enables us to be there, as close as possible, at the very core of what is in the hearts of people."</p> <p><i>Stabat Mater</i> <i>By the Cross with you to stay</i> <i>There with you to weep and pray,</i> <i>Is all I ask of you to give.</i></p> <p>Contributor: Fr. Patrick Devlin, SM</p> <p>Marist Ministry: International Novitiate Formation Team, Davao, Philippines</p> <p>Quote Source: Jean Coste SM, <i>Jean-Claude Colin - A Marian Vision of the Church: Jean-Claude Colin (Maristica, 8)</i>, edited by Gaston Lessard SM, Rome, 1998, p. 336-338</p>

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
February 25	February 26	February 27	February 28	February 29	March 1	March 2
<p>“Didn’t God choose to be hidden? Isn’t this the meaning of the incarnation?... When confronted with this God now unknown and hidden in our civilization are we going to condemn the pride of a world which does not recognize the God who created it? Trained by Colin, shall we not try instead to understand the phenomenon of secularization from within? Will not our attitude be one of solidarity with those for whom God is hidden?”</p> <p><i>Stabat Mater</i> <i>Virgin of all virgins blest!</i> <i>Listen to my found request:</i> <i>Let me share your grief divine.</i></p> <p>Contributor: Fr. David Kennerly, SM</p> <p>Marist Ministry: Spirituality Ministry; Leader-Superior of “Maryknoll” community in Hawkes Bay, New Zealand</p> <p>Quote Source: Fr Jean Coste, SM, <i>A Marian Vision of the Church</i>, p. 462</p>	<p>“As a child there is nothing worse than making your mum suffer. And yet when you are suffering, there is no other person you would rather have at your side. And for a mum, there is nothing worse than seeing your child suffer. And yet when they are suffering, there is no other place you would rather be, but there. How many tears there must have been in her journey... But also, how much trust...”</p> <p><i>Stabat Mater</i> <i>Help me, with my last breath,</i> <i>In my body bear the death</i> <i>Of that dying Son of yours.</i></p> <p>Contributor: Lachie Bartlett</p> <p>Marist Ministry: Novice Class of 2023, Society of Mary, Province of New Zealand (1st Profession February 2, 2024)</p> <p>Quote Source: François Drouilly SM, <i>From the logbook of a Spiritual Adventurer</i>, p. 43</p>	<p>“I need to be very much on my guard not to give way to anxiety when I think of the debts of the house. But I do the best I can to get out of this state by thinking of Divine Providence which has never failed me; this thought gives me the confidence which I lacked previously. You see, God treats me just like a child.”</p> <p><i>Stabat Mater</i> <i>Christ, when you shall call me hence,</i> <i>be your Mother my defense,</i> <i>be your Cross my victory.</i></p> <p>Contributor: Fr. Larry Duffy, SM</p> <p>Marist Ministry: Vice-Rector of Casa di Maria, Marist International Theologate, Rome, Italy</p> <p>Quote Source: Words of Jeann-Marie Chavoin, s.m., Foundress of the Marist Sisters, from Myra Nyland, s.m., <i>Hidden Fruitfulness</i>, Columba Press, 2001, p. 111</p>	<p>“Look oh Holy Mother upon these your sons, and lift them to Christ the Giver of Life. Do not turn your face, do not leave us to the night, but guide and protect us oh Fount of Joy. Oh Morning Star, of Light in the Darkness, Hail Holy Queen our great Protector.”</p> <p><i>Stabat Mater</i> <i>While my body here decays,</i> <i>May my soul your goodness praise,</i> <i>Safe in paradise with you.</i></p> <p>Contributor: Hemi Ropata, SM</p> <p>Marist Ministry: Seminarian, 3rd year, Casa di Maria, Marist International Theologate, Rome, Italy</p> <p>Quote Source: English translation of “Tiro Mai” a Marian anthem in Maori</p>	<p>Lent is the perfect time for the Sacrament of Confession. Saint John Vianney was a close companion to the early Marists and can help us prepare for it. “We need three things: faith, which reveals to us the presence of God in the priest; hope, which enables us to believe that God will give us His pardon; charity, which makes us love God and fills our heart with regret for having displeased Him.”</p> <p><i>Stabat Mater</i> <i>At the cross her station keeping,</i> <i>Stood the mournful Mother weeping,</i> <i>Near her Son until the end.</i></p> <p>Contributor: Joseph Mijares, SM</p> <p>Marist Ministry: Seminarian, 1st year, Casa di Maria, Marist International Theologate, Rome, Italy</p> <p>Quote Source: Original quote inspired by St John Vianney, <i>Thoughts of the Cure of Ars</i></p>	<p>Here is a quote that I’m not sure has been phrased in this exact way before: “Let us learn from Mary how to be patient with Jesus.” (Lk 2:19) I am inspired by the desire for immediate answers when we pray. Sometimes, we have to be patient. Mary too was patient with Jesus, which may be why she kept all those things in her heart.</p> <p><i>Stabat Mater</i> <i>Through her heart, his sorrow sharing,</i> <i>All his bitter anguish bearing,</i> <i>Now at length the sword has passed.</i></p> <p>Contributor: Deacon Clinton Kube, SM</p> <p>Marist Ministry: Seminarian, 4th year, Casa di Maria, Marist International Theologate, Rome, Italy</p> <p>Quote Source: Original quote</p>	<p>“Whatever your situation in life, as a Marist you can be a prayerful person. What this means is not necessarily saying long prayers or many prayers, or spending hours at prayer, but it means living in God’s presence, having a deep faith in God’s love, and also interceding, in your prayer, for the whole world. A Marist is concerned particularly with those who are lost, excluded, or neglected, those who seem far from God, and those who are searching.”</p> <p><i>Stabat Mater</i> <i>O how sad and sore distressed</i> <i>Was that Mother, highly blest</i> <i>Of the sole-begotten One.</i></p> <p>Contributor: Mary Ghisolfi</p> <p>Marist Ministry: Notre Dame des Victoires, San Francisco, California</p> <p>Quote Source: <i>The Work of Mary – Marist Laity</i>, The Society of Mary, p. 9</p>

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
March 3	March 4	March 5	March 6	March 7	March 8	March 9
<p>Prayer, Fasting and Almsgiving must be towards God, not men.</p> <p>“Be careful not to parade your good deeds before men to attract their notice...” (Mt 6:1-6).</p> <p>Father Colin echoes aloud Jesus’ warning, saying to every Marist, “Let us be unknown and indeed even hidden. Let us do nothing to attract the honor of men to ourselves.”</p>	<p>Lent is time of listening to the voice of God and deepening our relationship with Jesus in the wilderness of our hearts for 40 days. Like Mary, we Marists are called to empty ourselves from our own wants and to be one in mind and heart with Jesus. So that looking to the world with the eyes of Jesus, we can continue to respond with promptness to the most urgent needs of God’s people.</p>	<p>“Penance, according to the Marist spirit, consists in full and loving submission to the Divine Will, sought in the smallest events of everyday life. That spirit is an extension, an application to all circumstances of the “Fiat” of Mary.”</p>	<p>Sometimes I take noble resolutions at the beginning of crucial moments in my life. Hardly do I end up achieving them as planned. I generally turn to God then (just like Jean-Claude Colin) and say: “Well, Lord, I would make you a promise, but as you see my promises do not come to much. Lord, make me do it yourself.” After that short talk to God, I feel more confident and I keep on trying.</p>	<p>The seminarians who pledged to found the Society of Mary were convinced that, “Mary wanted to transform the Church into a kingdom of mercy ... to renew the Church into a servant and pilgrim people ... to bring about a new sensitivity and compassion among all of God’s people.” We pray that during this season of Lent we may extend the mercy of God to everyone, including ourselves.</p>	<p>Sometimes God takes away the very people that we rely on in our lives in order for us to grow and find the potential within ourselves.</p>	<p>“Let us divest ourselves of our own minds, of our natural ways of seeing, of our own thoughts. Our work is not a human work. We will only succeed as long as we unite with God to do His will.”</p>
<p><i>Stabat Mater</i> Christ above in torment hangs, She beneath beholds the pangs, Of her dying glorious Son.</p>	<p><i>Stabat Mater</i> Is there one who would not weep, Whelmed in miseries so deep, Christ’s dear Mother to behold?</p>	<p><i>Stabat Mater</i> Can the human heart refrain? From partaking in her pain, In that Mother’s pain untold?</p>	<p><i>Stabat Mater</i> O our Mother, fount of love, touch my spirit from above; Help us love as you have done.</p>	<p><i>Stabat Mater</i> Make me feel as you have felt; Make my soul to glow and melt With the love of Christ my Lord.</p>	<p><i>Stabat Mater</i> In my heart each wound renew Of my Savior crucified. Of my Savior crucified.</p>	<p><i>Stabat Mater</i> Let me share with you His pain, Who for all my sins was slain, Who for me in torments died.</p>
<p>Contributor: Fr. Sione Hamala, SM</p> <p>Marist Ministry: International Novitiate Formation Team, Davao, Philippines</p> <p>Quote Source: Original quote inspired by <i>A book of texts for the study of Marist Spirituality</i>, Doc. 50, p. 29</p>	<p>Contributor: Alban Hinnoumabou</p> <p>Marist Ministry: Novice Class of 2023, Society of Mary, District of Africa (1st Profession February 2, 2024)</p> <p>Quote Source: Original quote</p>	<p>Contributor: David Emmanuel Romero Vences, SM</p> <p>Marist Ministry: Seminarian, 1st year, Casa di Maria, Marist International Theologate, Rome, Italy</p> <p>Quote Source: Jean-Claude Colin, SM, <i>Principles of the Spiritual Life According to the Venerable John Claude Colin</i></p>	<p>Contributor: Joseph Arnaud Ondoua, SM</p> <p>Marist Ministry: Seminarian, 2nd year, Casa di Maria, Marist International Theologate, Rome, Italy</p> <p>Quote Source: Original quote inspired by <i>A Founder Speaks: Spiritual talks of Jean Claude Colin</i>, #67.2, 1975, p. 203</p>	<p>Contributor: Fr. Joe Hindelang, SM</p> <p>Marist Ministry: Provincial, Society of Mary, USA Province, Washington, DC</p> <p>Quote Source: Original quote inspired by Fr. John Jago, SM, “Mary, Mother of our Hope”</p>	<p>Contributor: Hansford Mane, SM</p> <p>Marist Ministry: Seminarian, 1st year, Casa di Maria, Marist International Theologate, Rome, Italy</p> <p>Quote Source: Original quote</p>	<p>Contributor: Jean Paul Dieme, SM</p> <p>Marist Ministry: Seminarian, 2nd year, Casa di Maria, Marist International Theologate, Rome, Italy</p> <p>Quote Source: Gabriel-Claude Mayet, <i>A Founder Acts: Reminiscences of Jean Claude Colin</i>, #275.1, 1983</p>

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
March 10	March 11	March 12	March 13	March 14	March 15	March 16
<p>For us Marists, our concern for the most vulnerable of God's creatures, imitate and enflesh the motherly concern of Mary for Christ when he was at his most vulnerable: as a baby at Nazareth (Mary at Nazareth); as he lay dead in Mary's arms at Calvary (Mary at Calvary); and when the body of Christ-the first Christian community was at its most vulnerable in the early years of the Church (Mary at Pentecost).</p>	<p>"I will leave this place and go to my Father." (Lk. 15,18.) Lent is a time of conversion when we decide to go back to God and to allow ourselves to be transformed by Him. Because first we have realized, as the prodigal son, that we have sinned. We have gone far away from Him and coming back home is the only way for us to enter into a new relationship with Him and be fully transformed.</p>	<p>"It is confidence and nothing but confidence that must lead us to Love."</p> <p>So, confidence in one another in community life is the way to perfection.</p>	<p>"Remember the poverty and simplicity of the apostles: they too were bishops and yet often work with hands to provide the basic necessities of life. Simplicity, Poverty and Zeal must always be the companions of the missionary of Mary...the spirit of the society is the spirit of poverty, humility and simplicity."</p>	<p>"They bore the name of Mary, they were to be caring. They persuade sinners to repentance rather than try to force them with great threats. They were to accept what degree of contrition their penitents could genuinely muster and leave the rest to God. They found, in practice that people would afterwards go much further in conversion than has seemed likely at first."</p>	<p>"We contribute with God to forming a man, in a real way. When a man leaves the hands of his nurse, he is only sketched in rough. We must make him into a man, form his heart, his character, virtue etc... That is what education does. Nothing is more lofty. You give him as it were a second creation"</p>	<p>Marist life is like a pepper tree. It's the same stem, the same trunk, the same roots. But the fruits that come out of this tree are of different colours: red and yellow and green. However, it is the same plant that carries them and all this diversity becomes at the same time a wealth. This is the Society of Mary.</p>
<p><i>Stabat Mater</i> By the Cross with you to stay There with you to weep and pray, Is all I ask of you to give.</p>	<p><i>Stabat Mater</i> Virgin of all virgins blest! Listen to my found request: Let me share your grief divine.</p>	<p><i>Stabat Mater</i> Help me, with my last breath, In my body bear the death Of that dying Son of yours.</p>	<p><i>Stabat Mater</i> Christ, when you shall call me hence, be your Mother my defense, be your Cross my victory.</p>	<p><i>Stabat Mater</i> While my body here decays, May my soul your goodness praise, Safe in paradise with you.</p>	<p><i>Stabat Mater</i> At the cross her station keeping, Stood the mournful Mother weeping, Near her Son until the end.</p>	<p><i>Stabat Mater</i> Through her heart, His sorrow sharing, All his bitter anguish bearing, Now at length the sword has passed.</p>
<p>Contributor: Fr. Samu Tukidia, SM</p> <p>Marist Ministry: Formator, Marist College, Suva, Fiji and Lecturer in Philosophy, Pacific Regional Seminary, Suva, Fiji</p> <p>Quote Source: Original quote</p>	<p>Contributor: Marc-Fidele Tay</p> <p>Marist Ministry: Novice Class of 2023, Society of Mary, District of Africa (1st Profession February 2, 2024)</p> <p>Quote Source: Original quote</p>	<p>Contributor: Clovis Gwencho Nformenteng, SM</p> <p>Marist Ministry: Seminarian, 3rd year, Casa di Maria, Marist International Theologate, Rome, Italy</p> <p>Quote Source: Original quote inspired by Saint Therese of the Child Jesus, <i>Story of the Soul</i>, 1996</p>	<p>Contributor: Leonard W. Amora, SM</p> <p>Marist Ministry: Seminarian, 2nd year, Casa di Maria, Marist International Theologate, Rome, Italy</p> <p>Quote Source: Craig Larkin, SM, "Bearings", p. 141</p>	<p>Contributor: Lesley Kinani, SM</p> <p>Marist Ministry: Seminarian, 1st year, Casa di Maria, Marist International Theologate, Rome, Italy</p> <p>Quote Source: Quote by Denis Green, SM in <i>A Certain Way</i>, by Craig Larkin, SM, p. 134</p>	<p>Contributor: Joseph Adjokpa, SM</p> <p>Marist Ministry: Seminarian, 3rd year, Casa di Maria, Marist International Theologate, Rome, Italy</p> <p>Quote Source: <i>A Founder Speaks: Spiritual talks of Jean Claude Colin</i>, #13.11, 1975</p>	<p>Contributor: Badjeck Robert, SM</p> <p>Marist Ministry: Seminarian, 2nd year, Casa di Maria, Marist International Theologate, Rome, Italy</p> <p>Quote Source: Original quote</p>

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
March 17	March 18	March 19	March 20	March 21	March 22	March 23
<p>Avoiding obstacles In the Marist spirit there is much of Saint John the Baptist: “He must increase, and I must decrease,” he said (John, 3,30). Because he wanted to witness to the greatness of the Messiah, John witnessed his smallness. Just like John the Baptist and Mary, the Marist also makes himself small. He knows that arrogance and self-sufficiency lead to “self-idolatry.” Colin said: “My little Marists, make yourselves small, little.”</p> <p><i>Stabat Mater</i> <i>O how sad and sore distressed</i> <i>Was that Mother, highly blest</i> <i>Of the sole-begotten One.</i></p> <p>Contributor: Fr. Lauro da Silva, SM</p> <p>Marist Ministry: Trainee/ Assistant Formator, Casa di Maria, Marist International Theologate, Rome, Italy</p> <p>Quote Source: Original quote inspired by <i>A Founder Speaks: Spiritual talks of Jean Claude Colin</i>, #57.1, 1975</p>	<p>“You are going to leave your homeland, your family, your relatives, your friends, everything, to save the souls and to suffer martyrdom. Yes, if it is not a martyrdom of blood, it will be a martyrdom of hunger, a martyrdom of thirst, a martyrdom of heat, of pain and anguish, of tears. We shall pray for you here.”</p> <p><i>Stabat Mater</i> <i>Christ above in torment hangs,</i> <i>She beneath beholds the pangs,</i> <i>Of her dying glorious Son.</i></p> <p>Contributor: Manuele Botabua, SM</p> <p>Marist Ministry: Seminarian, 1st year, Casa di Maria, Marist International Theologate, Rome, Italy</p> <p>Quote Source: <i>A Founder Speaks: Spiritual talks of Jean Claude Colin</i>, #143.4, 1975</p>	<p>“We must love all that Jesus Christ loved, abhor all that he abhorred[...] Let us ask for this grace. Life is very short, let us hasten to follow Jesus Christ. We shall have enough rest in eternity. If we wish to rest, let us take rest in the bosom of the Lord. Let there be no divided hearts, however: a heart that is divided will suffer and will be unhappy.”</p> <p><i>Stabat Mater</i> <i>Is there one who would not weep,</i> <i>Whelmed in miseries so deep,</i> <i>Christ’s dear Mother to behold?</i></p> <p>Contributor: Godlove Ngwese, SM</p> <p>Marist Ministry: Seminarian, 3rd year, Casa di Maria, Marist International Theologate, Rome, Italy</p> <p>Quote Source: <i>A Founder Speaks: Spiritual talks of Jean Claude Colin</i>, #55, 1975</p>	<p>“When Marists hear the invitation to become instruments of divine mercy, they accept the call and the challenge to portray this merciful face of God and to build a Church which is perceived not in terms of power, control, or competition, but rather in terms of community, compassion, simplicity, and, above all, mercy. For this reason, Marists are to welcome and embrace all, to the exclusion of no one, and to have an open heart for all.”</p> <p><i>Stabat Mater</i> <i>Can the human heart refrain?</i> <i>From partaking in her pain,</i> <i>In that Mother’s pain untold?</i></p> <p>Contributor: Cristina Herrera</p> <p>Marist Ministry: Director of Communications, Marist School, Atlanta, Georgia</p> <p>Quote Source: “Sharing the Marist Way”, Marist School, Atlanta, Georgia</p>	<p>1. Maria is a living person, a real presence, a close mother.</p> <p>2. Something small, interior, and completely consecrated to Mary to serve better God.</p> <p><i>Stabat Mater</i> <i>O our Mother, fount of love,</i> <i>touch my spirit from above;</i> <i>Help us love as you have done.</i></p> <p>Contributor: Eduardo Limon Gutierrez, SM</p> <p>Marist Ministry: Seminarian, 1st year, Casa di Maria, Marist International Theologate, Rome, Italy</p> <p>Quote Source: Quotes by Fr. Jean-Claude Colin</p>	<p>“As Marists, we must dedicate ourselves to the more important and radical task of transforming the church into a communion and a people.”</p> <p><i>Stabat Mater</i> <i>Make me feel as you have felt;</i> <i>Make my soul to glow and melt</i> <i>With the love of Christ my Lord.</i></p> <p>Contributor: Charles Sangul, SM</p> <p>Marist Ministry: Seminarian, 3rd year, Casa di Maria, Marist International Theologate, Rome, Italy</p> <p>Quote Source: Quote by John Jago, SM, in <i>A Certain Way</i>, by Craig Larkin, SM, p. 45</p>	<p>“What is more wonderful than to save souls after the example of Jesus Christ, who left the bosom of his Father to come and redeem mankind? Let us fix our gaze on his divine model, (...). For he did not become rich, nor did he choose fame and glory , Let us take this divine Saviour of ours for our model.”</p> <p><i>Stabat Mater</i> <i>In my heart each wound renew</i> <i>Of my Savior crucified.</i> <i>Of my Savior crucified.</i></p> <p>Contributor: Lewis Kum Mvo, SM</p> <p>Marist Ministry: Seminarian, 2nd year, Casa di Maria, Marist International Theologate, Rome, Italy</p> <p>Quote Source: <i>A Founder Speaks: Spiritual talks of Jean Claude Colin</i>, #141.17, 1975</p>

SUNDAY

March 24

I feel happy every time I embrace the divine; I feel stronger when I have him in my heart. Life is an adventure and full of obstacles, but God is like a lighthouse who guides me and with angels who guard me through life's difficulties, which warms my heart on the darkest and coldest nights.

Stabat Mater
Let me share with you His pain,
Who for all my sins was slain,
Who for me in torments died.

Contributor: Scott Kuang

Marist Ministry: House Administrator, Marist Center of the West, San Francisco, California

Quote Source: Original quote



Prayer to Mary, Woman of Listening

“Mary, woman of listening, open our ears; grant us to know how to listen to the word of your Son Jesus among the thousands of words of this world; grant that we may listen to the reality in which we live, to every person we encounter, especially those who are poor, in need, in hardship.

Mary, woman of decision, illuminate our mind and our heart, so that we may obey, unhesitating, the word of your Son Jesus; give us the courage to decide, not to let ourselves be dragged along, letting others direct our life.

Mary, woman of action, obtain that our hands and feet move “with haste” toward others, to bring them the charity and love of your Son Jesus, to bring the light of the Gospel to the world, as you did.
Amen.”

~ Pope Francis in St. Peter's Square, May 31, 2013