



Marianist Moments

Feast of the Holy Name of Mary, September 12

Patronal Feast of the Society of Mary

~ Meeting aid ~



Introduction

On September 12, we celebrate the Holy Name of Mary. This day is the patronal feast of the Society of Mary. In the name of Mary, all members of the Society of Mary and the Marianist Family offer their ministry to the people of God. Mary, the woman of faith, is the model for Marianists in all that we do as members of the Church community.

Prayer

Adapted from the Mass of the Holy Name of Mary; Marianist Prayers for Special Occasions

✠ Eternal God, grant that we, who celebrate the glorious name of the Blessed Virgin Mary, may obtain your merciful favor. Bestow upon us who call upon Mary's holy name to be granted confidence in her protection and maternal love. May the holy names of Jesus and Mary bring us the strength and comfort we need. We make this prayer in the name of Jesus Christ, your Son. Amen.

Scripture Reading

Luke 1: 39-47, RSVCE

In those days Mary arose and went with haste into the hill country, to a city of Judah, and she entered the house of Zechari'ah and greeted Elizabeth. And when Elizabeth heard the greeting of Mary, the babe leaped in her womb; and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and she exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb! And why is this granted me, that the mother of my Lord should come to me? For behold, when the voice of your greeting came to my ears, the babe in my womb leaped for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfilment of what was spoken to her from the Lord." And Mary said, "My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior.

Silent Introspection

Marian Writings, Vol 2, 255-256, William Joseph Chaminade

Contemplate the following text from the letters of Father Chaminade on honoring Mary and her holy name.

Father Chaminade writes to Mother de Trenquelléon:

I need not tell you that the holy name of Mary should be found in a natural way everywhere, whether you are praying alone or with others, whether you are giving exhortations or instructions, whether in a gathering of sodalists, or, etc. Let nothing please you or your dear sisters if the holy Name of Mary is not found there. . .

May the Holy Names of Jesus and Mary be forever glorified.



Group Sharing

Meditating on the feast of the Holy Name of Mary, let us recall and share an experience through which we, or someone we know, received divine grace and help from the Blessed Virgin in response to specific intercessions invoking her holy name in our personal lives or ministries.



(Image: The Holy Name of Mary, Cristobal de Villalpando, 1690)

† May the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit be glorified in all places through the Immaculate Virgin Mary. Amen.