



## Marianist Moments

Feast of Mary, Help of Christians, May 25

Anniversary of the Foundation of the Marianist Sisters in 1816

~ Meeting aid ~



### Introduction

On May 25, we celebrate the Feast of Mary, Help of Christians in the US. After being held captive by Napoleon, Pope Pius VII attributed his release to Mary's help. He established the Mary Help of Christians feast in 1814, the anniversary of his return to Rome. On May 25, 1816, Blessed Adèle de Batz, with the help of Father Chaminade, founded the *Filles de Marie Immaculée, FMI*, also known as the Daughters of Mary Immaculate, in Agen, France.

### Prayer

Adapted from the Mass of Mary, Help of Christians, "Mary, Help of Christians prayer," udayton.edu

† Eternal God, you chose the Mother of your beloved Son to be the Mother and help of Christians. Grant that we may live under her protection and that your Church may enjoy unbroken peace which may spread to the whole world in your name. Mary our Mother, throughout the Church's history you have helped Christians in times of trial, temptation, and danger, grant us the graces we now seek in our need. We make this prayer through Jesus your Son. Amen.

### Scripture Reading

John 2: 1-12, RSVCE

On the third day there was a marriage at Cana in Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there; Jesus also was invited to the marriage, with his disciples. When the wine failed, the mother of Jesus said to him, "They have no wine." And Jesus said to her, "O woman, what have you to do with me? My hour has not yet come." His mother said to the servants, "Do whatever he tells you." Now six stone jars were standing there, for the Jewish rites of purification, each holding twenty or thirty gallons. Jesus said to them, "Fill the jars with water." And they filled them up to the brim. He said to them, "Now draw some out, and take it to the steward of the feast." So they took it. When the steward of the feast tasted the water now become wine, and did not know where it came from

(though the servants who had drawn the water knew), the steward of the feast called the bridegroom and said to him, "Every man serves the good wine first; and when men have drunk freely, then the poor wine; but you have kept the good wine until now." This, the first of his signs, Jesus did at Cana in Galilee, and manifested his glory; and his disciples believed in him. After this he went down to Caper'na-um, with his mother and his brethren and his disciples; and there they stayed for a few days.

## Silent Introspection

*Marian Writings, Vol 2, 503, William Joseph Chaminade*

**Contemplate the following text from the writings of Father Chaminade on Mary, Help of Christians.**

*. . . throughout the centuries, Christians have ever regarded Mary as their queen, their helper in every need, their life and their hope. One circumstance, however, which is perhaps not sufficiently recognized, and to which it may be well to call attention, is that her mediation is necessary for salvation; not indeed to the same extent, nor with the same rightful claim as the mediation of Jesus Christ, yet in very truth in virtue of an admirable disposition of divine Providence. . .*



## Group Sharing

Meditating on the feast of Mary, Help of Christians, let us recall an instance wherein you, as a brother or sister of Christ, have called upon his Mother Mary during times of trial and received her maternal aid.



*(Image: Mary Help of Christians, Turin, 1800s)*

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