



**We are a community of Faith.
We are a community of LIFE.
We are a community that builds Communities.
We are a community ‘In Permanent Mission.’
We are a Worldwide Community.**

From “What Do You Mean, Community is a Gift and Task” Things Marianist by Isabella Moyer

Supplies:

- 5 posters with the above 5 prominently printed
 - Worldwide Community poster should be posted up somewhere in the room
 - Countries with a Marianist presence should be tacked on to map but are able to be pulled off somehow
 - For countries, see <http://www.marianist.org/site.php?menuaccess=29>
 - for non-Marianist schools and parishes, please feel free to post countries in which your religious order is present, or you may choose other places in the world for which you would like to pray for particularly
- markers
- glue/tape
- construction/color paper
- scissors
- 2012 theme song “Send Me Out”

Opening Prayer – Our Lady of the Pillar

*Almighty and eternal God,
You gave the Blessed Virgin Mary,
Glorious mother of your son,
As a pillar of strength
To all who call upon her aid;
Grant through her intercession
That we may be strong in faith,
Unwavering in hope,
And steadfast in love.
We ask this through our Lord Jesus Chris, your Son,
Who lives and reigns with you and Holy Spirit, one God for ever and ever. Amen.*

1. Describe what each type of community means:
 - a. Faith – “Like Mary, we emphasize role of nurturing life, forming, affirming and creating unity, much more than judging and condemning.”
 - b. Life – being a *spectacle of saints*. How do we live out our faith in our daily lives without verbally proclaiming it? How do people experience our faith through our daily actions?
 - c. Builds Communities – How do we share what we’ve experienced in community (whether our families, church, youth group, LIFE) with others? How do we invite others and not be exclusive?
 - d. “in Permanent Mission” – How do we be like Mary in being Jesus to others? How do we see Jesus in others?
 - e. Worldwide Community – The Society of Mary, Daughters of Mary Immaculate and Lay Marianists are all over the world. Like our Church, our school/parish LIFE Community is a part of our larger Catholic community.

2. Small Groups

- a. Reading

Luke 14:7-16

When he noticed how the guests chose the places of honor, he told them a parable.

“When you are invited by someone to a wedding banquet, do not sit down at the place of honor, in case someone more distinguished than you has been invited by your host; and the host who invited both of you may come and say to you, ‘Give this person your place,’ and then in disgrace you would start to take the lowest place. But when you are invited, go and sit down at the lowest place, so that when your host comes, he may say to you, ‘Friend, move up higher’; then you will be honored in the presence of all who sit at the table with you. For all who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted.

He said also to the one who had invited him, “When you give a luncheon or a dinner, do not invite your friends or your brothers or your relatives or rich neighbors, in case they may invite you in return, and you would be repaid. But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind. And you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you, for you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous.”

- b. Discussion Questions (15 minutes)

- i. What does it mean to be a part of a community?
 - ii. How does/can my humility make others feel more welcome?
 - iii. “For all who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted.” Looking at pop culture (movies, tv, ads ...) today, why might teens in particular find it difficult to humble themselves?

- c. Activity (15-20 minutes)
 - i. Each group member gets four sheets of paper (color doesn't matter).
 - ii. Draw a symbol or write down a way you can be a part of a community of faith, life, build communities and be in permanent mission.
 - iii. Share symbols/writings
- d. When back in large group room, stick each symbol to the correct poster
 - i. Large group sharing is possible
- e. Closing

During closing prayer, as part of a ritual, each participant will go up to the Worldwide Community poster to pick off a country's name. If there are more participants than countries, feel free to add in other countries or make multiple labels for the same country. Closing prayer will indicate when people will go up.

Lord Jesus, You came into the world to bring sight to the blind, hope to the hopeless and love to those who have been cast out. With a simple touch you made others feel wanted and loved. May we follow in your footsteps and bring the Spirit to all those we meet.

Holy Mary, you brought Christ to the world, and your example encourages us to do the same. You inspired our founders, Blessed Chaminade, Adele & Marie Therese to be present to those in need. May we follow their example in continuing your mission in bringing Christ to our world.

We pray as one community for our sisters and brothers throughout the world, for peace, healing, strength and courage.

[invite participants up one by one to pull a county's name off the Worldwide Community poster and read the country's name aloud as part of the prayer.]

*Please respond: **may they find peace, courage and hope.***

*For those experiencing war, **may they find peace, courage and hope.***

*For those experiencing hardships because of natural disasters, especially those in the American Gulf Coast as they rebuild from Hurricane Isaac, **may they find peace, courage and hope.***

*For those who are homeless, **may they find peace, courage and hope.***

*For those who struggle to find work, **may they find peace, courage and hope.***

We lift up to you all the prayers in our hearts, especially those who have asked for our prayers. We thank you for the graces you have given us, O Lord. Thank you for allowing us to see Christ in each other this day and for allowing us to be Christ to one another in this community of Faith. We lift up to you all these prayers as we say the prayer Jesus taught us. Our Father ...

May the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit be glorified in all places through the Immaculate Virgin Mary. (spoken or sung)

Play "Send Me Out" by Fee