# **Marist Way - Prayer Six**

#### Ice breaker questions....

What is something that made you smile this week?

What do you like to do for fun or to relax?



What's your favourite food or meal?



#### **Breathe**

Close your eyes.

Breathe in through your nose and out through your mouth.

Breathe in through your nose and out through your mouth.

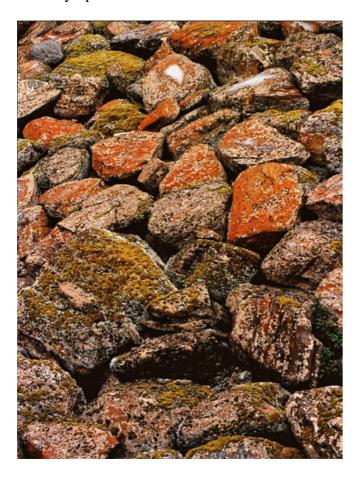
Repeat x 10

#### **Bell and Candle**

As we ring our bell and light our candles we pray that God is with us.

#### Sign of the Cross

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.



## **Opening Reading - From the Rock**

This is the story of a certain way of living the Gospel. There is only one Gospel of course, and that is the Person of Jesus; He is God's 'Good

News". But the life and words of Jesus recorded in the written Gospels, are different for all times and all generations; and each person each time, and each generation.

So there will be different ways of living the Gospel according to the personality of individuals, their place of origin, and the times in which they

When Francis of Assisi took up the Gospels as his source of life, he discovered the poor Jesus "who had nowhere to lay his head".

Dominic looked into the Gospels and discovered Jesus as the Word of life to be contemplated and proclaimed in "spirit and in truth". When Ignatius of Loyola opened the Gospels, he discovered Jesus as a Companion, who "went about doing good".

John of the Cross discovered Jesus as the Lover, beckoning him to ascent higher and higher to the peaks of the mountain of contemplation.

Each of these and so many others down the centuries, left us with a particular slant on the way the Gospel can be lived.

## Today's Gospel - John 8:12-10

'I am the light of the world'

Jesus said to the Pharisees: 'I am the light of the world;

anyone who follows me will not be walking in the dark:

he will have the light of life.'

At this the Pharisees said to him, 'You are testifying on your own behalf; your testimony is not valid.'

Jesus replied:

'It is true that I am testifying on my own behalf, but my testimony is still valid,

because I know

where I came from and where I am going;

but you do not know

where I come from or where I am going.

You judge by human standards;

I judge no one,

but if I judge, my judgement will be sound,

because I am not alone:

the one who sent me is with me;

and in your Law it is written

that the testimony of two witnesses is valid.

I may be testifying on my own behalf,

but the Father who sent me is my witness too.' They asked him, 'Where is your Father?' Jesus answered:

'You do not know me, nor do you know my Father; if you did know me, you would know my Father as well.' He spoke these words in the Treasury, while teaching in the Temple. No one arrested him, because his time had not yet come.

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Response** - Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

#### Journaling....

For 5 minutes while the songs plays, you are invited to journal 1 or more of the questions below.

- 1. "I am the light of the world" What does it mean for you personally to walk in the light of Christ in your daily life?
- 2. Each saint saw Jesus in a unique way—poor, contemplative, companion, lover. How do you see Jesus in your own life right now?
- 3. Jesus says, "You judge by human standards; I judge no one." What are some ways we might move away from judging others by appearances and begin to see with the heart of mercy?
- 4. Reflecting on the idea of being an instrument of Divine Mercy, What practical actions can you take this week to embody mercy in your relationships or community?
- 5. The saints mentioned lived the Gospel in different eras. How might God be calling our generation—with its challenges and gifts—to live the Gospel in a new way today?

#### **Discuss**

Discuss the questions above Thank each person after they share.

### Discussion for 15 minutes.

#### **Common Prayer**

The response to the prayer is "Lord hear us".....
"Lord hear our prayer"

- 1. As we discern the Marist way in our lives, we invite Mary's presence to guide us. Fill us with your Spirit so that we may become your hands, feet, and heart. Lord, hear us.
- 2. We pray for the parts of our world where there is conflict—conflict in our homes, conflict in our families, division among friends, and violence among nations, especially in Ukraine, Gaza, Congo, Sudan and Burma. Inspire leaders to use the words, "I forgive you." Lord, hear us.
- 3. Are there any other prayers?

## **Final Prayer**

Loving God, Light of the world, we thank You for revealing Yourself to us through the life of Jesus and through the many ways the Gospel has been lived by saints throughout the ages. Help us to recognise Your presence in our own time and to walk in Your light, even when the path is unclear. May we be instruments of Your Divine Mercy—bringing hope, compassion, and truth to a world in need. Teach us to live the Gospel in our own unique way, guided by the Spirit and rooted in love. Amen

