

Prayer for the Year of Marist Vocations

*Heavenly Father,
You answered the prayer
of Marcellin Champagnat
two hundred years ago
and delivered the Institute
from seeming sterility by blessing it
with a prodigious surge of growth.*

*Throughout our history,
you have done wonderful things
through the men who dedicated themselves
as Little Brothers of Mary
and the lay men and women
who have widened the tent
to share the Marist charism and mission.*

*We praise and thank you
for this close collaboration
to make Jesus and Mary known and loved
by children and young people
in places where we are present.*

*Lord of the harvest,
we find ourselves today in a turbulent world*

*where the founder's dream
continues to be relevant more than ever.*

*Help us to care for and generate Marist life.
Keep us rooted
in the original passion that inspired us
so that we can boldly respond
to the emerging needs of our times.*

*Like Marcellin, we pray today
that you increase our number
by guiding to our Institute those whom you call.
Show us the men and women you have chosen
and enable us to accompany them
in nurturing their Marist vocation.*

*Inspire them to take up this journey of love for and service to
the least favored as Marists of Champagnat.*

*Mary, our Good Mother,
we believe this is your work.
We are confident that you will not allow the lamp
to be extinguished for lack of oil.
Accompany our prayers to your Son,
our Lord Jesus Christ.*

Amen.