



WORKSHEET 1: “WE ARE A GLOBAL FAMILY”

1. MOTIVATION

To start this moment let's remember the song of the first Assembly “one heart one mission” or the zero card could be the motivation

2. OBJECTIVES OF THE FIRST SESSION

MAIN OBJECTIVE

Contextualization of Chapters and Assemblies as means to nurture and guide the Marist Mission over time.

OBJECTIVES OF THE SESSION

- To know the meaning of participation and the experience of the III International Marist Mission Assembly.
- To reflect on the spirituality that moves us in the Marist Mission as a global family.

3. WORKING DYNAMICS WITH THE BASIC TEXT

Once organized, we invite you, in this first moment, to a quiet reading of the first call of the XXII General Chapter and the final messages of the two previous international assemblies. **READING BY GROUPS.** One theme for each group. *You will find them as an attachment*

- What resonates within you after this reading?
- What calls come up strongly in you?

Share your reading with the group at your leisure. Once we have shared everything, we move on to the next moment.

4. TIME TO SHARE EXPERIENCES AND REALITIES

We listen to each other:

Using the dynamic of the Ship or shipwreck: to make groups as determined by the facilitator, we ask them to share with the people who touched them their reflection on the text according to the questions that were asked.

We invite them to place themselves in the general group and brainstorm feelings

5. IT'S TIME TO DREAM AND PROJECT

After a leisurely reading of the texts proposed throughout this sheet and, from your own experience and knowledge of the Marist mission:

In your Province

- What are the **challenges and calls** you perceive in your Marist Province regarding mission? Select two of all those that have emerged in your reflection and share them with the group.
- What **should be done** to respond to them?

At the Institute

- After more than 200 years, and at this time when we remember the construction of L'Hermitage: **What challenges or calls have fallen by the wayside during these years and which ones do you think have advanced and consolidated in our Marist mission?**
- Select **an area-element** in which the Institute **urgently needs to invest in** the Marist mission. Why? How could we respond to it?

6. PRAYER TIME

EXCERPT AND ADAPTATION OF THE SPIRITUAL TESTAMENT OF FATHER CHAMPAGNAT

Dear Marists:

I urge you, with all the love of my soul and the love you have for me, to behave in such a way that charity may always reign among you. Love one another as Christ has loved you. Let there be among you but one heart and one spirit. May Mary be able to affirm what was said of the first Christians: "See how they love one another"... This is the most ardent desire of my heart in these last moments of my life: "Love one another".

I hope that this charity, which should unite you all as members of the same body, will extend to the other Congregations. By the unbounded charity of Jesus Christ, I implore you never to envy anyone, least of all those whom God calls to the religious state to work, as you do, in the education of youth. Be the first to rejoice at their successes and grieve at their failures. Commend them often to God and to the divine Mother. Give them preference with pleasure. Never give ear to any sayings that could harm them. Let the glory of God and the honor of Mary be your sole aim and your sole ambition.

I also pray to the Lord and wish with all my soul that you may persevere faithfully in the holy exercise of the presence of God, the soul of prayer, meditation and all the virtues. May a tender and filial devotion to our good Mother animate you at all times and in all circumstances. Make her loved wherever you can. She is the first Superior of the whole Society. Be faithful to your vocation: love it and persevere in it with fortitude. Keep yourselves in a strong spirit of poverty and detachment.

May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you always. I confidently leave you all in the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary, until we have the joy of seeing each other together in eternal beatitude. This is my last and express will, for the glory of Jesus and Mary.

MARCELINO CHAMPAGNAT

WE LISTEN: WE ARE A FAMILY (KAIROI)

If he spoke to us of God's goodness, and his love for us, a fire was kindled in our hearts by his spirit of love. A fire that neither work nor misery, nor any hardship could extinguish.

AS A MOTHER LOVES, SO HE LOVED US. FATHER OF TENDERNESS IN GOD (4X)

Let us pray together. Let us take Mary and the family of Nazareth as a reference point.

No. 288 of the EG: "There is a Marian style in the Church's evangelizing activity. Because every time we look at Mary, we believe once again in the revolutionary nature of tenderness and affection. In her we see that humility and tenderness are not virtues of the weak but of the strong, who do not need to mistreat others in

order to feel important. Looking at her we discover that the same one who praised God because she is the one who puts the warmth of home in our search for justice: “cast down the mighty from their thrones” and “sent the rich away empty” (Lk 1:52,53). She is also the one who carefully preserves “all things, pondering them in her heart” (Lk 2:19). Mary knows how to recognize the traces of God’s Spirit in great events and also in those that seem imperceptible. She is a contemplative of the mystery of God in the world, in history and in the daily life of each and everyone. She is the praying and working woman of Nazareth, and she is also our Lady of readiness, who goes out of her village to help others “without delay” (Lk 1:39). This dynamic of justice and tenderness, of contemplating and walking towards others, is what makes her an ecclesial model for evangelization. We ask her maternal prayer to help us so that the Church may become a home for many, a mother for all peoples, and make possible the birth of a new world. It is the Risen One who tells us, with a power that fills us with immense confidence and firm hope: “I make all things new” (Rev 21:5). With Mary, we advance confidently towards this promise, and we say to her: “I make all things new” (Rev 21:5):

Virgin and Mother Mary,
you who, moved by the Spirit,
welcomed the Word of life
in the depths of your humble faith,
totally surrendered to the Eternal One,
help us to say our “yes”
before the urgency, more imperative than
ever,
to make the Good News of Jesus resound.

**You, filled with the presence of Christ,
brought joy to John the Baptist,
making him exult in his mother’s womb.**

You, filled with joy,
sang the wonders of the Lord.
You, who stood before the cross
with unshakable faith
and received the joyful consolation of the re-
surrection,
gathered the disciples in the expectation of
the Spirit
so that the evangelizing Church could be born.

Grant us now a new ardor of the risen One to

bring to all the Gospel of life
that conquers death.

Give us the holy audacity to seek new paths
so that the gift of beauty that does not fade
may reach everyone.

**You, Virgin of listening and contemplation,
mother of love, bride of the eternal
wedding feast, intercede for the Church, of which
you are the most pure icon,
so that she may never be closed in and never
stop
in her passion to establish the Kingdom.**

Star of the new evangelization,
help us to shine in the witness of communion, of
service, of ardent and generous faith, of justice and
love for the poor, so that the joy of the Gospel may
reach the ends of the earth and no periphery may
be deprived of its light.

**Mother of the living Gospel,
source of joy for the little ones,
pray for us.**

Amen

Closing prayer:

Transform us, Jesus, and send us as a global charismatic family, a beacon of hope in this troubled world, to be the face and hands of your tender mercy. Inspire our creativity to be bridge builders, to walk with children and youth on the margins of life, and to respond boldly to emerging needs. AMEN

IT'S TIME TO DREAM AND PROJECT:

IN YOUR PROVINCE



What are the **challenges and calls** that you perceive in your Marist Province regarding mission? Select two of all those that have emerged in your reflection and share them with the group.



What **should be done** to respond to them?

AT THE INSTITUTE



After more than 200 years, and at this time when we remember the construction of L'Hermitage: **What challenges or calls have fallen by the wayside during these years and which ones do you think have advanced and consolidated in our Marist mission?**



Select **an area-element** in which the Institute **urgently needs to invest in** the Marist mission. Why? How could we respond to it?