



BROTHERS

"Being brothers today: a story of grace"



"We are brothers. A beautiful and prophetic vocation in a world full of violence and divisions.

We are Marists. A group of men who inspire us in a woman, Mary, the Mother of the Lord, to shape our life and mission.

We recognize with joy, in the bicentennial of the Institute, that our vocation continues to have a great currency and relevance. What a blessing to be called brother and live as such!"

(Br. Emili Turú, FMS – Epilogue book: Brothers)

+ Inauguration of the book: Brothers

(The oldest Brother in the community is asked to carry the book and place it upon the altar of the community or in some significant place within the chapel. The youngest brother of the community is asked to carry a lit candle that will accompany the book.)

Laudate omnes gentes. Laudate Dominum (2)

"Brother, set forth on your journey and listen to Jesus who invites you to "Come and see" (Jn 1:39). You will discover that your vocation is both a path and a vision. Let yourself be found by the mystery of your vocation as a Marist Brother as you take its journey. Receive your vocation as a gift. Go forward each day, with the attitude of a traveler, reaching perspectives that will transform your outlook and, with it, reality itself" (Rule of Life, 1)

Laudate omnes gentes. Laudate Dominum (2)

Come, live with Jesus, let yourself be accompanied by the Master. Like the first disciples, you will never forget the moment when Jesus touched your heart, making you recognize your most authentic and profound identity. "It was about four o'clock in the evening" (Jn 1:39). (Rule of Life, 1)

Laudate omnes gentes. Laudate Dominum (2)

"Champagnat desired that our sole existence in the Church would already be a prophetic contribution, in being little brothers of Mary" (Br. Emili Turú, FMS)

"First and foremost, life together with our brothers challenges you and me to form and nurture a loving heart"

"To love Jesus and to make Him known and loved, that is what a brother's life should be" (Br. Seán Sammon, FMS)

Laudate omnes gentes. Laudate Dominum (2)

+ Word of God: Mt 23, 8-10; Jn 15, 4-6; Mt 25, 44-45

"But be not you called Rabbi. For one is your master; and all you are brethren. And call none your father upon earth; for one is your father, who is in heaven. Neither be ye called masters; for one is your master, Christ."

"Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can

you, unless you abide in me. I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing. If anyone does not abide in me he is thrown away like a branch and withers; and the branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned”

"Then they also shall answer him, saying: Lord, when did we see thee hungry, or thirsty, or a stranger, or naked, or sick, or in prison, and did not minister to thee? Then he shall answer them, saying: Amen I say to you, as long as you did it not to one of these least, neither did you do it to me."



The Word of the Lord – Praise to you, Lord, Jesus Christ

+ Responsorial Psalm:

Ubi caritas et amor, Deus ibi est (2)

- For a new beginning as little brothers of Mary, we want to be mystics and prophets of a new world.
- Deepen our experience of God in the personal encounter and in daily life and become his passionate witnesses of happiness and fullness of life.
- To be creators of home, where we generate authentic relationships that allow us to build bridges among us and the people we are in touch with.

Ubi caritas et amor, Deus ibi est (2)

- To embrace a simple lifestyle and experience our vulnerability as a place of fertility and freedom.
- To be globally available within our world family and to join the poor, especially children and young people, in the transformation of the world.
- To be signs of humanity in its fullness, by healing the wounds of our life, promoting the dignity of each person and caring for our common home.

(cf. Documents G.C. XXII)

Ubi caritas et amor, Deus ibi est (2)

+ Meditation:

Instrumental Music

(The book: “Brothers” is handed on from one brother to another, with a sense of reverence, until each member of the community has held the book. While holding the book each Brother is invited to take some time to contemplate and pray with some of the images in the book.)

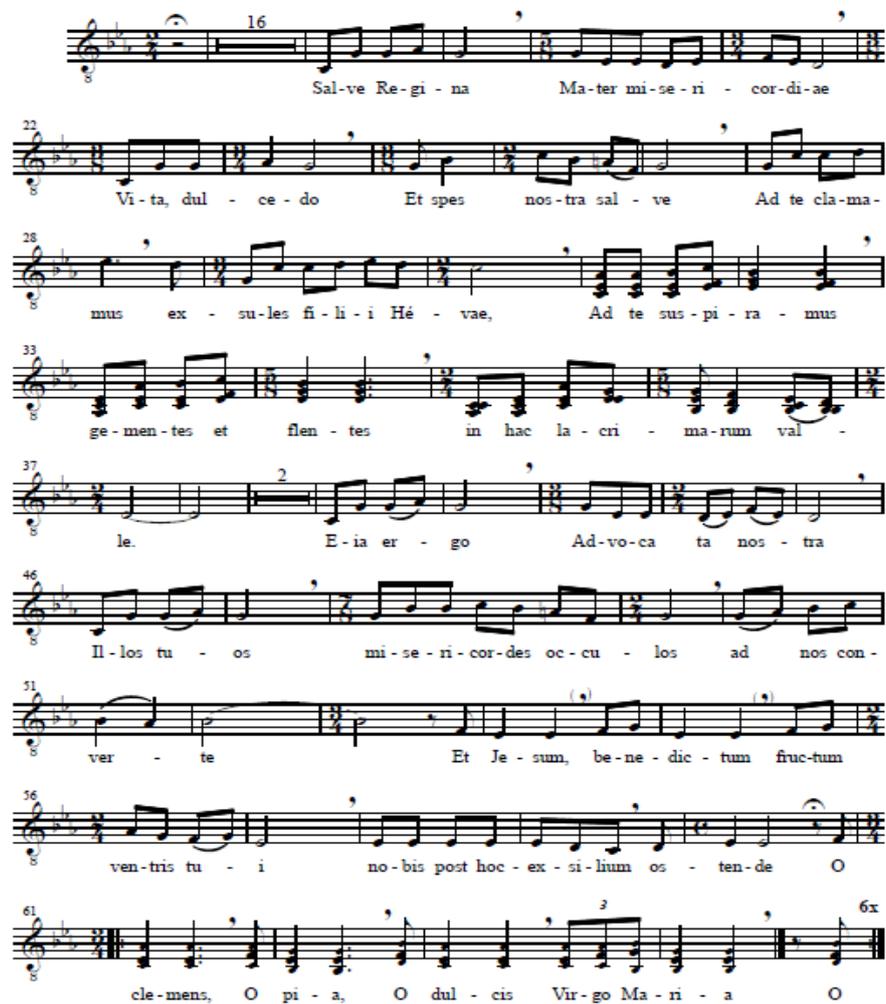
+ Shared Prayer

(Each Brother is invited to express, in a word or phrase or a sentiment, that has surfaced within his heart while contemplating and holding the book. After every two or three responses please intone the following chant: **Ubi Caritas et Amor...**)

+ Our Father

+ *Salve* (Bicentenary)

Salve Regina



Sal-ve Re-gi - na Ma-ter mi-se-ri - cor-di-ae

Vi - ta, dul - ce - do Et spes nos-tra sal - ve Ad te cla-ma-

mus ex - su-les fi - li - i Hé - vae, Ad te sus - pi - ra - mus

ge - men - tes et flen - tes in hac la - cri - ma - rum val -

le. E - ia er - go Ad - vo - ca ta nos - tra

Il - los tu - os mi - se - ri - cor - des oc - cu - los ad nos con -

ver - te Et Je - sum, be - ne - dic - tum fruc - tum

ven - tris tu - i no - bis post hoc - ex - si - lium os - ten - de O

cle - mens, O pi - a, O dul - cis Vir - go Ma - ri - a O



+ *Thanksgiving and Invitation...*

As a gesture of:

- **gratitude** for our vocation as brothers,
- **remembrance** for the many brother “saints” that have proceeded us in faith,
- **communion** with all brothers and lay people who are united in this third century of Marist life and mission for the Institute.

We invite each community to place the book in a significant location for a period of time.

