



Marianist Moments



Mary's Faith at Cana

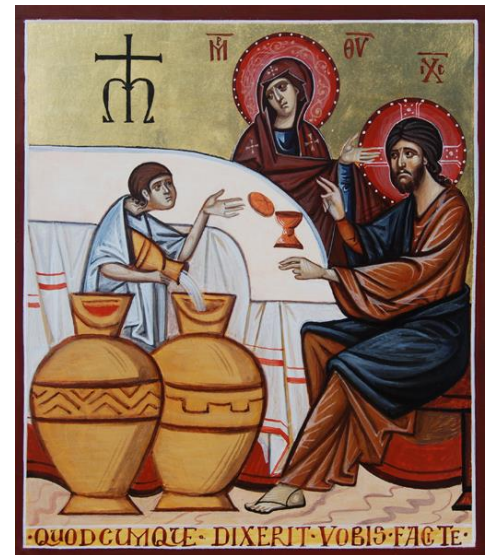
~ Meeting aid ~

Introduction:

This handout contains excerpts from the Prayer Service with the Marianist Bicentennial Icon Triptych

As a special celebration of our charism during the bicentennial, a uniquely Marianist icon, created by Italian Marianist Bro. Salvatore Santacroce, traveled the Marianist world,

The icon's pilgrimage began on May 15, 2016, in Agen, France, the birthplace of the Marianist Sisters and completed its journey in Singhpur, India, on Chaminade Day – January 22, 2018. Along the way, it traveled through locations as diverse as Austria, Togo, Korea, Mexico, and the United States.



Opening Prayer:

O God of abundant mercy and love,
you always provide us with more than we
ever imagined.

Responding to the need brought to his
attention by Mary,
your Son Jesus turned water into wine
at the wedding feast at Cana.

Those overflowing jars are a symbol of your
prodigal love for us.

As we reflect on our Founders
and two centuries of Marianist life and
activity,
open our hearts ever more to the life you
offer.

Imperfect jars though we may be,
make us unafraid to come before your Son
with our fears and limitations.

Open our eyes to the needs of the world
around us, and prompt our hearts to
cooperate with you.

Take the good will and generosity that we
display and multiply it a hundred fold for
others.

We ask this in the name of your Son,
who turned water into wine,
Jesus Christ, the worker of miracles.
He is Lord forever and ever. Amen.

Scripture Reading:

John 2: 1-11, NRSV-CE

On the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding.

When the wine gave out, the mother of Jesus said to him, “They have no wine.” And Jesus said to her, “Woman, what concern is that to you and to me? My hour has not yet come.” His mother said to the servants, “Do whatever he tells you.”

Now standing there were six stone water jars for the Jewish rites of purification, each holding twenty or thirty gallons. Jesus said to them, “Fill the jars with water.” And they filled them up to the brim. He said to them, “Now draw some out, and take it to the chief steward.” So they took it. When the steward tasted the water that had become wine, and did not know where it came from (though the servants who had drawn the water knew), the steward called the bridegroom and said to him, “Everyone serves the good wine first, and then the inferior wine after the guests have become drunk. But you have kept the good wine until now.” Jesus did this, the first of his signs, in Cana of Galilee, and revealed his glory; and his disciples believed in him.

Silent Introspection:

Armbruster (1980), William Joseph Chaminade: Marian Writings, Vol 1, 833-834



Fr. Chaminade writes:

“Do whatever he tells you” (Jn 2:5). These words were addressed by the Blessed Virgin to the servants at the wedding in Cana of Galilee, to which she and her Son had been invited. The Blessed Virgin noticed that the wine was all finished; she alerted her Son and then said to the servants; “Do whatever he tells you,” that is, whatever he asks you to do, don’t reason it out, do it, even if it appears unreasonable.

It is as if she had said: put your faith in him. . . . Listen with faith, call on faith for help and put its teaching into practice. We will then be doing what Jesus tells us. . . . “This is the victory over the world – our faith” (Jn 5:4).”

Group Sharing:

It’s no wonder that this gospel reading has been one of our core points of reference as Marianists, an inexhaustible wellspring of reflection and inspiration. Tell us about how these words speak to you today – in your board ministry.

