



# Marianist Moments



Mary's Faith at the Foot of the Cross

~ Meeting aid ~

## Introduction:

The Three O'clock Prayer is deeply rooted in our Marianist Tradition. It invites us to enter the central mystery of Jesus' death on the cross for our salvation and serves as a practice of solidarity with all in the Marianist Family – reflecting on Jesus' passion, the faith of Mary who accompanied him through it all, and our ongoing Marianist mission to bring this love shared by Jesus and Mary to the whole world.

May the faith of Mary console us whenever we find ourselves standing, with her, at the foot of the cross.

## Opening Prayer:

[www.marianist.com/three-oclock-prayer](http://www.marianist.com/three-oclock-prayer)

Lord Jesus,  
we gather in spirit at the foot of the Cross  
with your Mother and the disciple whom you  
loved.

We ask your pardon for our sins,  
which are the cause of your death.

We thank you for remembering us  
in that hour of salvation  
and for giving us Mary as our Mother.

Holy Virgin,  
take us under your protection  
and open us to the action of  
the Holy Spirit.

Saint John,  
obtain for us the grace of taking Mary  
into our lives as you did,  
and of assisting her in her mission.

May the Father and the Son  
and the Holy Spirit  
be glorified in all places  
through the Immaculate Virgin Mary.

Amen.

## Scripture Reading:

John 19: 23-27, NRSV-CE

When the soldiers had crucified Jesus, they took his clothes and divided them into four parts, one for each soldier. They also took his tunic; now the tunic was seamless, woven in one piece from the top. So they said to one another, "Let us not tear it, but cast lots for it to see who will get it." This was to fulfill what the scripture says, "They divided my clothes among themselves, and for my clothing they cast lots." And that is what the soldiers did.

Meanwhile, standing near the cross of Jesus were his mother, and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene.

When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing beside her,

he said to his mother, "Woman, here is your son."

Then he said to the disciple, "Here is your mother."

And from that hour the disciple took her into his own home.

## Silent Introspection:

Blessed William Joseph Chaminade, Letters, January 23, 1833.



Fr. Chaminade writes:

"Faith, especially faith of the heart, is a great gift of God; and it is for that kind of faith that we should always pray: 'Lord, increase my faith.'

God will give this grace readily, when we endeavor to perform acts of faith. 'The just person lives by faith.'

What happiness for us if we walk for the rest of our lives on the beautiful pathways of faith, action only by faith, and living only by faith!"

## Group Sharing:

Tell us about a time in the recent past wherein you found yourself, in spirit, with Mary at the foot of the cross. What were the circumstances you were dealing with and how did Mary's faith speak to your own?

