



CME Reflections

Educate for Formation in Faith

~ Meeting aid ~



Opening Prayer

Adapted from section headers in the CME handbook

Your Response will be: **Gracious and loving God, inspire us to educate for formation in faith.**

- ❖ Come Holy Spirit, help us to strive to imitate Mary's example of faith and discipleship. Your response . . .
- ❖ Come Holy Spirit, help us to be living witnesses through personal and committed faith of the heart.
- ❖ Come Holy Spirit, help us to foster dialogue between faith and culture.
- ❖ Come Holy Spirit, help us to form students in gospel values and Christian attitudes.
- ❖ Come Holy Spirit, help us to build communities of faith that bring the gospel to life.

We lift up our hearts to you, our gracious God, and thank you for choosing us to serve as stewards and nurturers of the Catholic and Marianist mission.

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

Reading

A Marian reflection introducing the first CME, "Educate for Formation in Faith."

Strive to imitate Mary's example of faith and discipleship.

Students in Marianist schools see Mary as a woman who is strong in faith, especially through the examples and teachings of their Marianist educators. They see her as a young woman who trusted God and said "yes" to a call into an unknown future that transformed her life. They see her faith expressed in the care and concern evident in her visit to her cousin Elizabeth, the steadfast devotion and courage in her presence at the foot of the cross, and the way her presence strengthened the faith of the disciples at Pentecost. They see that their Marianist educators strive personally to take on Mary's mission of bringing Christ to life in their students. So, as Mary formed her son, Jesus, the Marianist educator fosters in each student the virtues necessary for faithful discipleship.

Silent Introspection

Adapted from the Marianist Mission Integration Materials Binder for Governing Boards

Let us spend a few minutes in silence, introspecting personally on the following descriptors.

Education for Formation in Faith requires:

a) Board members who . . .

- ✓ live in a manner that reflects commitment to the institution's mission.
- ✓ search for truth in discussions and not the development of personal agendas.
- ✓ are committed to the role of faith in the institution.
- ✓ value a faith-and-culture dialogue which illuminates reality from the perspective of the gospel.
- ✓ understand the importance of forming students in the gospel's values and attitudes.
- ✓ comprehend that the institution educates in a free and responsible style which elicits a personal response of faith.

b) A Board that . . .

- ✓ understands and takes into account the culture and norms of the organization it governs.
- ✓ adapts to the distinctive characteristics and culture of the ministry's environment.
- ✓ relies on the institution's mission, values, and traditions as a guide for decisions.
- ✓ acts so as to exemplify and reinforce the organization's core values.

Group Sharing

- ❖ Meditating on the Holy Family, wherein Joseph and Mary educated Jesus in his faith, tell us about a time in your life wherein you experienced or observed, "educating for formation in faith" at its best.
- ❖ How might the Holy Spirit be inviting us to grow as a board that exemplifies and promotes formation in faith?

