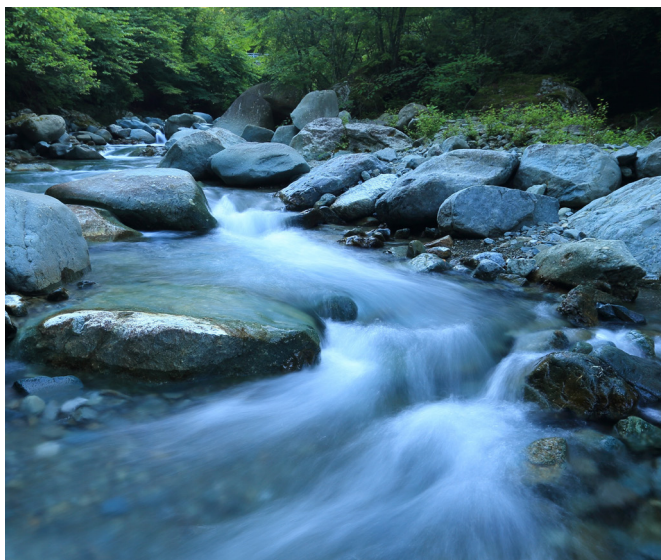


UNITED IN PRAYER

And the world came together as the people stayed apart. ¹

We acknowledge the Traditional Owners of this land and pay our respects to their Elders past, present and emerging.

Marist
ASSOCIATION OF
ST MARCELLIN CHAMPAGNAT



INTENTIONS

We pray for the poor, the unemployed and all who are struggling to make ends meet.

We pray for those who dedicate their lives to the welfare of other people.

We pray for those who lead the world's nations, particularly where there is unrest.

For what else shall we pray...

Let us remember we are in the holy presence of God.

CENTERING PRAYER

Softly whispering Spirit, blow gently into our lives.
Blow softly into our minds and bring peace
Blow softly into our thoughts and bring understanding
Blow softly into our concerns and bring calm
Blow softly into our fears and bring courage
Blow softly into our hearts and bring love
Life-giving Spirit breathe your life into our lives each day.

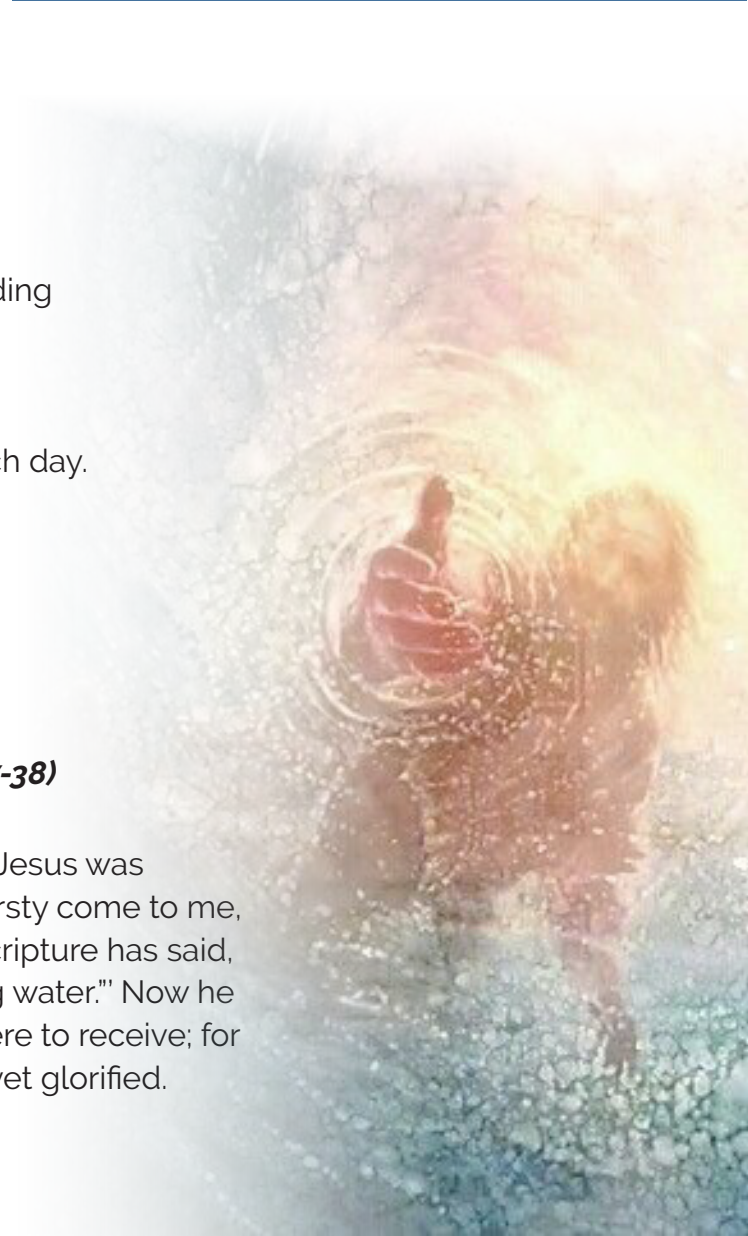
Amen.

WE LISTEN

Speak Lord, your servant is listening...

A Reading from the Gospel According to John (7:37-38)

On the last day of the festival, the great day, while Jesus was standing there, he cried out, 'Let anyone who is thirsty come to me, and let the one who believes in me drink. As the scripture has said, "Out of the believer's heart shall flow rivers of living water.'" Now he said this about the Spirit, which believers in him were to receive; for as yet there was no Spirit, because Jesus was not yet glorified.



WE REFLECT

At the climax of the festival when thousands of people were milling around in the highest expectation and in the most animated spirits, Jesus *shouted* this open and generous invitation. "Listen all of you!" He called out to the throng of religious celebrants. "If you are thirsty, come to me! *This* is what you are looking for. *This* will satisfy you forever. It will be like a spring of water bubbling up from within you. *Living* waters, always flowing, fresh and new every day. Never stagnant, never brackish, always sweet and refreshing."

His raised voice and the extraordinary content of what He offered immediately called the attention of the crowd. While the crowd, and even the religious leaders, were divided over the question of who Jesus was (and what He was talking about), the writer and we who peer over his shoulder know that Jesus was no carnival huckster selling a magic potion or advocating self-help regimes or disciplines. He was speaking of the Spirit of God that is given freely, a Spirit who thereafter keeps bubbling up from within, an endless source of delight and refreshment.

This is what Jesus offers. He gives us not just love, forgiveness, and teaching, but also joy - like a living, bubbly fountain.²

Pause for a moment of reflection.

In what ways can you be a living, bubbling fountain of joy in your world today?

WE RESPOND

Our present age is characterised by a thirst for spirituality. We disciples of Marcellin believe that our way to God is a gift to be shared with the Church and the world. We are invited to join with Mary in a journey of faith. If we are able to give witness in our daily lives to the vitality of this spirituality, people - particularly youth and children - will feel themselves attracted and invited to take it up as their own way to become "living water." (WFR 42)

CLOSING PRAYER

The Lord bless you
and keep you;
the Lord make his face shine on you
and be gracious to you;
the Lord turn his face toward you
and give you peace.

Num 6:24-26

Saint Marcellin Champagnat
Saint Mary of the Cross MacKillop
Mary Our Good Mother
And let us always remember

***Pray for Us
Pray for Us
Pray for Us
To Pray for One Another***

¹ Jennifer Wagner, 2020

² Adapted from *The Traveler's Devotional Bible*