



## 2016 MARIST SOLIDARITY LITURGY

By Jennifer Callanan, APRIM Sacred Heart College Middle School, Adelaide.

### Introduction to Reflective Ritual:

### **'Transform Our World, One Step at a Time'**

**Note:** This ritual is best celebrated after students have experienced the various Marist Solidarity 2016 teaching and learning resources within their classroom.

The following ritual is an opportunity to celebrate in prayer and reflection the Marist Solidarity theme for 2016, 'Transforming our World, One Step at a Time.'

The ritual can be adapted to meet your local needs. It can be celebrated in the classroom, school chapel, outside or other suitable place.

Students gather in a circle around a candle.

'Be the change you want to see in the world.' Mahatma Gandhi

'The urgent challenge to protect our common home includes a concern to bring the whole human family together to seek a sustainable and integral development, for we know that things can change.' Pope Francis 'Our Common Ground' (para 13)

### **You will need:**

- candle
- cloth
- enough pledge cards for each participant (see sample attached – 3 to a page)
- participants to bring a pen or pencil
- optional: have the quotes above, or others, on card and during the ritual these can be placed around the sacred space
- a copy of the ritual for each participant
- distribute each reader's parts
- the letters, TRANSFORM, to be placed around the sacred space. Print the phrases attached to each letter, on to separate cards as follows.



## TRANSFORMATION in Action!

- T** Together we can make a difference
- R** Remember, our daily actions count!
- A** As Marist Solidarity we want environmental, economic and cultural sustainability
- N** Notice those around us as being connected to our one global community
- S** Start with one small action
- F** For the good of humanity and our environment
- O** One step at a time leads to transformation
- R** Remember God wants all people to be free, whole and happy
- M** Marist Solidarity commits to transforming communities around the world – One Step at a Time



## 2016 MARIST SOLIDARITY LITURGY

'Transform Our World, One Step at a Time'

### INVITATION TO PRAYER

Leader: As we begin, let us relax and become still.

Focus on your breathing and let your mind relax.

Today, we gather to remember that each of us here is part of our Marist Solidarity effect. Today, we celebrate our call to transform our world, one step at a time.

We gather in the name of our God, who wants all people to be free, whole and happy. Together, let us make the sign of the cross.

**All: In the name of the Father and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen**

*The central candle is lit.*

Leader: We gather on holy ground here in this place remembering that we are all part of one wonderful human family.

*Pause*

We gather in Jesus's name, the one who inspired Marcellin Champagnat.

*Pause*

We gather following in the footsteps of Saint Marcellin, knowing that we are in solidarity with the God's great dream for the world.

Let us pause and listen.

### SCRIPTURE READING

Reader 1: A reading from the first letter of John. (1John 3:18)

'... let us love, not in words or speech, but in truth and action.'

*Pause*



Reader 2: Yes '... let us love, not in words or speech, ...'

*Pause*

Reader 3: We are committed to love, not in words or speech, but in truth and action.'

*Pause*

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

*As the prayers are read the phrases are brought forward and placed next to the corresponding letter*

Reader 4 **(T)**: God of Love, together we make a difference.

**All:** Yes, together we make a difference.

Reader 5 **(R)**: God of Love, we remember our daily actions count!

**All:** Yes, our daily actions count.

Reader 6 **(A)**: God of Love, as Marist Solidarity we want environmental, economic and cultural sustainability.

**All:** Yes, we want sustainability.

Reader 7 **(N)**: God of Love, we notice those around us as being connected to our one global community.

**All:** Yes, we notice.

Reader 8 **(S)**: God of Love, we start with one small action.

**All:** Yes, we start.

Reader 9 **(F)**: God of Love, all our actions are for the good of humanity and our environment.

**All:** Yes, for the good of humanity and the environment.

Reader 10 **(O)**: God of Love, we believe one step at a time leads to transformation

**All:** Yes, we believe.

Reader 11 **(R)**: God of Love, we remember you want all people to be free, whole and happy.

**All:** Yes, you want all people to be free, whole and happy.

Reader 12 **(M)**: God of Love, Marist Solidarity commits to transforming communities around the world – One Step at a Time

**All:** Yes, Marist Solidarity commits to transformation.



Leader: Joining Marist Solidarity, let's take some time to think about our next step in creating a world that is economically, culturally and environmentally sustainable.

*Give each one gathered a copy of the commitment sheet and give some time for completion.*

*Reflective music is played.*

*These completed cards are then reverently placed around the central candle.*

*Students have the option to read out their commitment or place their card in silence.*

*(At the conclusion of the ritual, the cards are collected and placed in a bundle and tied with string. A sign attached: 'Our (insert class name) next steps towards transforming the world.' The cards are kept on the prayer table or other suitable place.)*

Leader: Let us now go in peace, remember our commitment to Marist Solidarity and the world community, and put our next step into action.

We make our prayer in Jesus's name.

All: Amen

Leader: Saint Marcellin Champagnat

All: Prayer for Us

Leader: Mary our Good Mother

All: Pray for Us

Leader: And let us always remember

All: To pray for one another.

# 'Transform Our World, One Step at a Time'

1 John 3: '... let us love, not in words or speech, but in truth and action.'

My next step is:

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Signed:

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