

2 - Spiritual Development

Introduction

Close your eyes

Breath in your nose and out through your mouth.

Breath in your nose and out through your mouth.

Repeat 7 times...

Sign of the Cross

In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Story

As a teenager and young adult Jean-Claude Colin's lived at Saint-Irénée France Seminary in the early 1800s. He immersed himself in studies of theology, scripture, and the writings of saints like St. Francis de Sales, carrying a collection of his spiritual teachings for decades. Despite his reserved nature, Jean-Claude Colin found a quiet strength through prayer and contemplation. These years honed his dedication to a life of faith, discipline, and service, preparing him for the challenging journey ahead as a future leader of the Marist order.



As young adult, hearing the Message from Mary through Jean-Claude Courveille story of Mary speaking to him. During his time at Saint-Irénée Seminary, Colin met Jean-Claude Courveille, who claimed to have received a message from Mary herself directly. Courveille shared Mary's vision of a Society dedicated to Mary's humble and hidden life, inspiring Colin and a small group of seminarians. For Colin, Courveille's words resonated deeply, as he felt a similar call to follow Mary's example. Together, they began to imagine a Society devoted to living in her spirit, an ideal that would later shape the foundation of the Marist mission.

Silence

Sit still for 1 minute. What parts of this story stays with you?

Discuss

Any thoughts?

2-3 minutes

Common Prayer

What do you want to thank God for?

What do you wish to place in God's hands?

How would you like God's guidance or support in your life?

Hail Mary

We pray with Mary at this time:

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee;

Blessed art thou among women,

and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.

Holy Mary, Mother of God,

pray for us sinners,

now and at the hour of our death.

Amen.

Closing Prayer

Loving God, we give thanks for the life and dedication of Jean-Claude Colin, who, in his formative years at Saint-Irénée Seminary, embraced the inspiration shared by Jean-Claude Courveille and courageously answered Mary's call. He sought to form a society in her name, one that would embody her spirit—humble, hidden, and filled with grace. Not all followed through in this dream, but, may we, too, like Jean-Claude Colin, draw quiet strength from prayer, contemplate Mary's life with open hearts, and grow in faith and courage. Help us to follow Mary's example of gentle service and, with steadfast devotion, commit ourselves to following Jesus in the way of Mary. Amen.

Sign of the Cross

In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.