

Fourvière Novena: Day 5 – 18 July 2016

1. A reading from a **homily by Pope Francis**, 17 March 2013

I think we too are people who, on the one hand, want to listen to Jesus, but on the other hand, at times, like to find a stick to beat others with, to condemn others. And Jesus has this message for us: mercy. I think – and say it with humility – that this is the Lord's most powerful message: mercy.

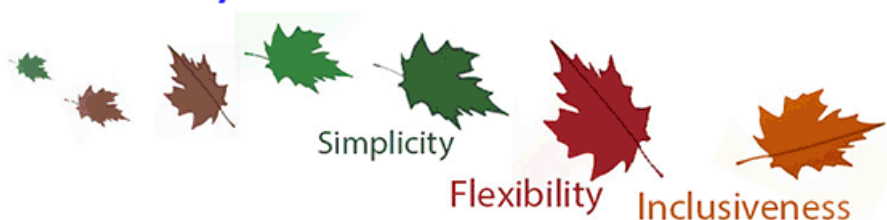
2. A reading from **the Summarium** presented by Fr Colin in Rome in 1833.

Although some of the wording and sense of the document appears strange to us, because of its nineteenth century context, its intention (and that of its author) is all-embracing. Colin had what we would call today an 'open-door policy,' which welcomes all people to the nourishment of a life lived in the way of Mary. Given the mentality of the nineteenth century Church in France, Colin's overarching vision of 'one heart and one mind', its openness and inclusiveness, is astounding.

The general aim of the Society is to contribute in the best possible way, both by its prayers and its efforts, to the conversion of sinners and the perseverance of the faithful, and to gather, so to speak, all the members of Christ, whatever their age, sex, or standing, under the protection of the Blessed Mary, the Immaculate Mother of God; and to revive their faith and piety and nourish them with the doctrine of the Roman Church, so that at the end of time as at the beginning, all the faithful may with God's help be of one heart and one mind in the bosom of the Roman Church, and that all, walking worthily before God and under Mary's guidance, may attain eternal life. For this reason entry to the Society is also open to lay people living in the world in this Confraternity or Third Order of Blessed Mary.

Marist Laity Australia

LM Doc. 9, par.109. (See E.Keel, p.57)



3. Prayer

Mary, of Fourvière, show us what love is
and from where it draws its origin and its constantly renewed power.
Holy Mary, good Mother of Fourvière,
you have given the world its true light, Jesus, your Son - the Son of God.
You abandoned yourself completely to God's call
and this became a wellspring of the goodness which flows forth from him.
You inspired the first Marists
to create a Society dedicated to showing the Marian face of the Church.
Show us Jesus. Lead us to him.
Teach us to know and love him,
so that we too can become capable of true love
and be fountains of living water in the midst of a thirsting world.
Amen.