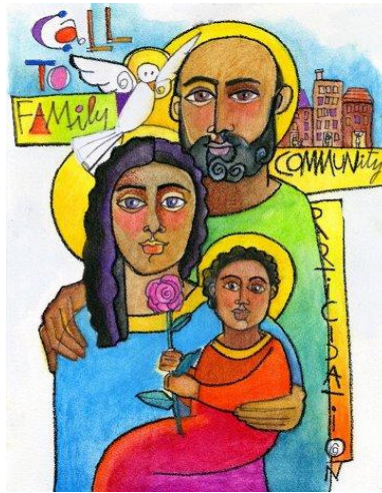


Call to Family, Community, and Participation

October

How does this theme inform how we show up for one another?



The person is not only sacred but also social. How we organize our society—in economics and politics, in law and policy—directly affects human dignity and the capacity of individuals to grow in community. Marriage and the family are the central social institutions that must be supported and strengthened, not undermined. We believe people have a right and a duty to participate in society, seeking together the common good and well-being of all, especially the poor and vulnerable.

Guiding Questions for Group Discussion

- Where do we already see this at Marist?
- What does this look like across the different roles we have at Marist?
- How do we model this for students? How do students model this for staff/teachers?
- Where would we like to see more of it?

Possible examples: office, facilities, advancement, athletics, student services, administration, parent relationships, student life, teaching, events, hiring, communications, etc.

Big Group Share

- Story or example that stood out, **or**
- Especially meaningful connection your group made, **or**
- Question or possibility you would like the larger group to hear.

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For those who like the small print.

Scripture

Genesis 2:18

It is not good for man to be alone

Genesis 4:8-15

I am my brother's and sister's keeper.

Leviticus 25:23-43

What you own belongs to the Lord and is given for the good of all.

Jeremiah 7:5-7

If you act justly with one another, God will dwell in the land.

Micah 6:6-8

Act justly, love kindness, walk humbly with God.

John 15:12-17

This is my commandment: love one another as I have loved you.

Acts 2:43-47

Life among the believers.

Romans 12:4-8

We are one body, individually members one of another.

Hebrews 10:24-25

Rouse one another to love and good works.

James 2:14-17

Our faith is dead if we ignore others in need.

1 Peter 4:8-11

Serve one another with the gifts you have received.

1 John 3:16-18

We ought to lay down our lives for one another.

1 John 4:19-21

Those who love God must love their brothers and sisters.

Tradition:

"The family is thus an agent of pastoral activity through its explicit proclamation of the Gospel and its legacy of varied forms of witness, namely solidarity with the poor, openness to a diversity of people, the protection of creation, moral and material solidarity with other families, including those most in need, commitment to the promotion of the common good and the transformation of unjust social structures, beginning in the territory in which the family lives, through the practice of the corporal and spiritual works of mercy." (Pope Francis, *The Joy of love* [Amoris Laetitia], no. 290, quoting the Final Report of the Synod of Bishops, 10/24/15)

"The first and fundamental structure for a 'human ecology' is the family . . . *founded on marriage*, in which the mutual gift of self as husband and wife creates an environment in which children can be born and develop their potentialities, become aware of their dignity and prepare to face their unique and individual destiny." (St. John Paul II, *On the Hundredth Year* [Centesimus Annus], no. 39)

"In order that the right to development may be fulfilled by action: (a) people should not be hindered from attaining development in accordance with their own culture; (b) through mutual cooperation, all peoples should be able to become the principal architects of their own economic and social development." (World Synod of Catholic Bishops, *Justice in the World* [Justicia in Mundo], no. 71)

"But God did not create man as a solitary, for from the beginning 'male and female he created them' (Gen. 1:27). Their companionship produces the primary form of interpersonal communion. For by his innermost nature man is a social being, and unless he relates himself to others he can neither live nor develop his potential." (Second Vatican Council, *The Church in the Modern World* [Gaudium et Spes], no. 12)

"Local individuals and groups can make a real difference. They are able to instill a greater sense of responsibility, a strong sense of community, a readiness to protect others, a spirit of creativity and a deep love for the land. . . . Social problems must be addressed by community networks and not simply by the sum of individual good deeds." (Pope Francis, *On Care for Our Common Home* [Laudato Si'], nos. 179, 219)