

STAFF DISCUSSION JOURNAL

Going Deeper

PART 1

Scripture Reflection

As a staff, take a few moments to sit in total silence. Silence is a rare commodity and central to how God speaks with us.

Slowly read aloud this passage from The Gospel of John Chapter 19 26 - 27

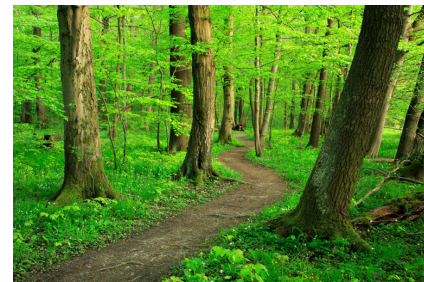
"When Jesus saw his mother, and the disciple whom he loved standing near, he said to his mother, "Woman, behold, your son!" Then he said to the disciple, "Behold, your mother!" And from that hour the disciple took her to his own home."

Questions For Group Discussion:

Now, take a few moments in silence and then read it one more time.

How present is the Marian charism in your school community at the moment? In what ways, if any, does the presence of Mary appear?

What might be the potential benefits of a greater Marian presence be for your school community? What practical things could you attempt to make her more visible and known? How might her presence deepen a communal sense of family and of home?



"It is a lesson we all need — to let alone the things that do not concern us. He has other ways for others to follow Him; all do not go by the same path. It is for each of us to learn the path by which He requires us to follow Him, and to follow Him in that path."

St. Katherine Drexel

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PART 2

Take a moment to read aloud the following quote from The Religious Dimension of Education in a Catholic School n.29

"An awareness of Mary's presence can be a great help toward making the school into a "home". Mary, Mother and Teacher of the Church, accompanied her Son as he grew in wisdom and grace; from its earliest days, she has accompanied the Church in its mission of salvation."

Does your school feel like a home? What is one simple aspect of Mary's life and witness that you could consider making a reflection point in the coming weeks? How could you make this reflection grow into something practical?

STAFF PRAYER

Dear Jesus,

Thank you for giving the Church and our school community the gift of Mary your mother.

We pray that as a school we may encounter her presence more deeply in the time ahead.

Help us to reflect upon her life and to seek to model her grace and missionary spirit. Just as she carried you into the world may we also seek to carry you into the world.

Just as she sought to serve her cousin Elizabeth may we also seek first to serve rather than to be served.

Help us, like Mary, to build a deeper sense of home and of family amid all the many tasks of our busy school days.

We ask this in your Holy Name,

Amen.



The Mass is the most holy act of religion; you can do nothing that can give greater glory to God or be more profitable for your soul than to hear Mass both frequently and devoutly. It is the favorite devotion of the saints."

St. Peter Julian Eymard