



Our SNJM Adventure with the Spirit and Our Foundresses

Music suggestions: We Are Standing, Je Mets Ma Confiance (words for both in body of prayer)

Ambiance suggestions: Picture of Marie Rose Durocher (if available)



Preamble: Adaptive Reading from SNJM 34th General Chapter

...We acknowledge this moment in our SNJM story, in our ecclesial and global milieu, as both richly graced and immensely challenging.

We recall our beloved Foundress, Melanie Eulalie Durocher, now called Blessed Marie Rose, who with her friends Henriette Céré and Mélodie Dufresne, followed the inspiration of the Spirit to embark on this Adventure to create communities of faith committed to the full development of each human person.

We affirm and celebrate the wisdom of our foremothers, those whose presence continues to enrich our lives, and those who now enjoy each other in the company of our loving God.

We welcome the gift that future members will bring to religious life as we share with them the charism and mission that was entrusted to us as our heritage.

We rejoice in the collaboration that enriches each of us and our colleagues, from our unique cultures of family heritage, specific milieu, generation, and our respective countries of Brazil, Canada, Lesotho, Peru, Republic of South Africa and the United States.

-Adapted from Draft of SNJM 34th General Chapter by Jo' Ann De Quattro, SNJM, September 2016

Reading I: Standing on the Shoulders (may be recited or sung)

We are standing on the shoulders of the ones who came before us
We are stronger for their courage, we are wiser for their words
We are lifted by their longing for a fair and brighter future
We are grateful for their vision, for their toiling on this earth

We are standing on the shoulders of the ones who came before us
They are saints and they are humans, they are angels, they are friends
We can see beyond the struggles and the troubles and the challenge
When we know that by our efforts things will be better in the end

They lift us higher than we could ever fly
Carrying our burdens away
We can't imagine our world if they hadn't tried
We wouldn't be here celebrating today

We are standing on the shoulders of the ones who came before us
We are honored by their passion for our liberty
We will stand a little taller, we will work a little longer
And our shoulders will be there to hold the ones who follow us

They lift us higher than we could ever fly
Carrying our burdens away
Imagine our world if they hadn't tried
We wouldn't be so very blessed today

We are standing on the shoulders of the ones who came before us
We are honored by their passion for our liberty
We will stand a little taller, we will work a little longer
And our shoulders will be there to hold the ones who follow us

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Reading II: Isaiah 61:1

The Spirit of GOD is upon us, because our GOD has anointed us to bring good news to people who are afflicted, to bind up brokenhearted people, to proclaim liberty to people in captivity and freedom to imprisoned people.

Time for reflection/sharing

Intercessory prayers:

Marie Rose, Woman of Vision, embolden us with your spirit of audacity and freedom, you who heard the cries of people in great need of God's healing and liberation,

~ *Help us to listen with the ear of our hearts.*

Woman of Compassion, who, by listening with the ear of your heart, recognized the call to respond to the needs of God's people,

~ *Help us, your daughters, to become healers and liberators in our world.*

Woman of the Spirit, refined by suffering, disappointment and waiting until the way was made clear,

~ *Obtain for us the gift of wisdom.*



Woman of Insight, who saw in women the power to transform society when given the opportunity of education and access to resources,

~ *May we always share this same insight and act on this conviction.*

Woman of Courage, who dared to trust when all was hidden until your dream was able to be realized,

~ *May we keep your dream alive, and realize peace with justice and true liberation for all people.*

Other hopes and requests you would like to ask from Mother Marie Rose...

May we keep your dream alive, and realize peace with justice and true liberation for all people.

Closing prayer:

*Blessed Marie Rose, obtain for us today
The audacity of faith,
The simplicity of hope,
The power of love,
That we may actualize the words of Jesus:
“I have come to cast fire upon the earth,
And wish that it were already kindled.”
We ask this in your name and in the names of Jesus and Mary.*



Concluding Hymn: Je Mets Ma Confiance

Traditional SNJM

Je Mets Ma Confiance Vierge en votre secours,
Servez moi de défense prenez soin de mes jours.

Et quand ma dernière heure viendra fixer mon sort,
Obtenez que je meure de la plus sainte mort.

Je Mets Ma Confiance Vierge en votre secours,
Servez moi de défense prenez soin de mes jours.



Prayer service adapted from *Pilgrimage of the Heart* and other sources by Jo' Ann De Quattro, SNJM, September 2016.

The Spiritual Ministries Network of the Sisters of the Holy Names of Jesus and Mary (SNJM) provides a variety of prayer services for personal and group spiritual nourishment. May your prayer life draw you closer to the Divine.

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