

## 225<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Foundation of the Presentation of Mary



### Marie Rivier, Woman of faith!

As we journey towards 2021, let us look at her  
in order to recognize what God has done in her  
and to welcome this gift for us today.

**Fight the good fight, that of faith,  
take hold of eternal life ! 1 Tm 6: 12**

*Live in faith, my child, it is the life of the righteous, and if you want  
to become interior, animate all your actions with a holy motive.* Marie  
Rivier, Letter 648

March 2020

## ***Let us meditate the Word of God...***

**Mt 17: 20** If you have faith the size of a mustard seed, you will say to this mountain: “Move from here to there” and it will move. Nothing will be impossible for you.

**Nb 20: 12** The Lord said to Moses and his brother Aaron: “Because you were not faithful to me in showing forth my sanctity before the Israelites, you shall not lead this community into the land I will give them.”

**He 11: 6** Without faith it is impossible to please God, for anyone who approaches him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him.

**2 Co 13: 5** Examine yourselves to see whether you are living in faith. Test yourselves.

**Ph 1 : 27** As for you, conduct yourselves in a way worthy of the Gospel of Christ, so that, whether I come to see you or am absent, I may hear news of you, that you are standing firm in one spirit, with one mind struggling together for the faith of the Gospel.

**Col 2: 7** Be rooted in him and built upon him and established in the faith as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving.

## ***... and our Rule of Life***

C 12

C 50

C 27

C 72

C 46

C 96

## **Commentary**

*Faith without charity bears no fruit, while charity without faith would be a sentiment constantly at the mercy of doubt. Faith and charity each require the other, in such a way that each allows the other to set out along its respective path ... It is faith that enables us to recognize Christ and it is his love that impels us to assist him whenever he becomes our neighbour along the journey of life. Supported by faith, let us look with hope at our commitment in the world, as we await "new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells" (2 Pet 3:13; cf. Rev 21:1). Apostolic letter PORTA FIDEI, Pope Benedict XVI*

Having faith in the Lord is not a fact that touches only our intelligence, the field of intellectual knowledge, but it is a change that involves our life. With faith everything really changes in us and for us.

## **A prayer**

*Jesus Christ is at the heart of Marie Rivier's life as he is at the centre of God's plan for us. c 1 Lord Jesus, support our journey towards the 225th anniversary of the foundation of our Congregation. As we live our faith fully, may we always have the strength to make the profound changes to which the Gospel calls us.*

## **A commitment**

***Aim for what is best*** - this will enable us to respond to our vocation according to the heart of God. Dare to ask the question: ***what motive of faith makes me act?***

## Explanation of the Logo

The logo consists of five elements: two yellow arches with red outlines, the cross of the Presentation of Mary, our Mother River, a hand stretched out holding soil from which a plant sprouts, the number of years of existence and a dove.

- **The two arches** that create a circular movement without closing the circle represent the movement of the Spirit in which and through which the spirit of the Presentation of Mary was given to our Mother River. It is also in this same movement that the Congregation has grown, developed and must continue to be built over time. Their yellow colour and red outline are those of light.

- **The cross of the Presentation of Mary** has extended its great arms and embraced our world since 1796. An invitation to today's generation to strengthen their embrace of the cross of Christ so that it may truly be the refuge of our world.

- **Our Mother River**, at the origin of all this, is represented as a sign of the heritage received. Her face, both grave and recollected, reminds us of the seriousness of our vocation and the interior spirit that is proper to us.

- **A hand carrying soil from which a plant sprouts** represents the heritage received from our mother. It is a sign of the seed of the Presentation of Mary sown in Marie Rivier. She let it germinate and grow with all the love of her heart. Marie Rivier's extended hand gives this plant to the current generation of Presentation sister in good health. We have a duty to keep it alive, healthy and flourishing for the greater glory of God.

- **The dove** is the symbol of the Holy Spirit. He, the Inner Master, in a dynamic movement, invites us to proclaim Christ through our whole lives and to be attentive to His voice.