Let us pray the Rosary with Ven. Mgr. Marion de Brésillac

O good Jesus,
let us testify to you
our love

Mary Star of Evangelization
INTRODUCTION

In accordance with the decisions of the 2019 General Assembly, the Superior General and his Council have put in place a new spirituality commission. Among other things, this commission has the mission of setting “stages for a devotion to our Founder” (GA 2019, art. 49.2). To do this commission will use all the documents available to deepen a proper SMA spirituality. The first meetings of the members of the commission took place the year Melchior de Marion Brésillac was proclaimed Venerable, paving the way for a cult although limited.

The members of this commission, in union with the Postulator of the Cause of our Founder, had a rosary made with the effigies properly SMA (photo of our Founder and SMA logo) and designed a small guide for Praying the Rosary with the Venerable Melchior by Marion Brésillac. This is only a beginning to mark the historic date of May 26, 2020, date of the proclamation of our Founder as Venerable and to give a booster to the devotion to de Marion Brésillac.

SMA Members and associates, members of the Charismatic family of African Missions, seminarians and aspirants, benefactors and friends, and all people of good will who are in love with our founder and with the mission of the Church will see in this devotion an instrument of communion and mission.

May the Lord, through the intercession of the Virgin Mary and the Venerable de Marion Brésillac, give an attentive ear to our pleas.

Members of the Spirituality Commission

December 02, 2020; on the 207th anniversary of birth of the Venerable Melchior de Marion Brésillac, Founder of the Society of African Missions (SMA)
“Very dear sons, always have your eyes fixed on Mary. Let her be our hope and our refuge in our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. In her we find both a model and help. For she is our Mother and Jesus’ Mother, Son of God, who is himself God. Our mother can never reject us while God, her Son doesn’t reject his Mother’s prayer. In our needs, temptations, tribulations and desolations, let us run with confidence to Mary; she will be our consolation and our strength. In times of joys, happiness and jubilation let us implore Mary; she will be our guard so that we do not forget God while in times of rejoicing[...]. That is why, very dear sons, put your resolutions in Mary’s hands. She is source of piety and “what can come out the source of the piety if not piety? – Ven. Mgr. Marion de Brésillac"
The joy I wish you, that which must be the faithful companion of our work, is the joy of heart, the joy of a pure conscience, the joy of a servant who loves his master and who rejoices in working for him. It is the joy of a vocation which makes us feel at home, wherever the Lord sends us. It envies nothing, desires nothing, regrets nothing, because it has only one desire in the world: to do what God wishes and nothing else. It is the joy which the Apostle recommends when he says: "Finally, my brothers and sisters, rejoice (P 246) in the Lord" (Phil. 3,1); and also: "Rejoice in the Lord always. I say it again: rejoice"(Phil. 4,4); "Rejoice always";(1 Thess. 5,16). This is the joy which the same Apostle preserves in all his trials, sufferings, reverses, even in the darkness of prison and under the weight of chains, while he could speak of his sufferings as the complement of the Passion of Christ.
Let us place ourselves under the protection of Mary, whom purity rendered so precious in the eyes of him who is purity itself that he made her the mother of God. He did so without taking away her wonderful prerogative of remaining a virgin always. Let us pray to her to make us value a virtue so precious that it renders us on earth participants of the nature of angels and teaches us to avoid the numerous dangers which expose us to losing it. - Ave, Maria. Let us in the first place examine how great is our obligation to preserve chastity and then how great must be our vigilance so as not to risk losing it.
As the Word became incarnate in Mary, so it must, somehow, be embodied in all of us. As missionaries, we are called to proclaim to every creature that Jesus Christ wants to be embodied in the heart and mind of each individual to give his life and give it abundantly (cf. Jn 10:10). Try to have dispositions like those of the Virgin Mary, when the Word was on the point of being incarnate in her chaste womb. She said: Here I am Lord, behold your handmaid, let it be done to me according to your word. And the Word was made flesh, and he united himself to her in an incomparable union. So the Word, in some way, will be incarnated again in you.

Let us pray for the intentions of all the students in their different stages of formation.

Ven. Mgr. Marion de Brésillac
Spirituality for Mission, P. 290
“O Good Jesus, give us yourself what you want us to offer you, a humble heart, a chastened heart, a child-like heart, a soul emptied of everything, even of its very self, a spirit of recollection and of silence, the forgetting of the senses, the avoidance of those occasions that can distract us, a pure and right intention, a passionate desire to hear you and to listen to your lessons. Deign, then, to bless the first fruits of this retreat, dear Lord, so that we should become new men, true missionaries, true disciples, true apostles after your own heart.”
“Mother Church, my Mother! Holy Church – Catholic, Apostolic, Roman – only true Church of Jesus Christ! From my tenderest years you have been the dearest object of my thoughts. The burning passions of my adolescence gave way to one only passion: to love you and to devote myself to your glory. May my mature years be no less devoted than the springtime of my life! Until the end, be thou my one driving ambition on earth. How I long to see the whole world subject to you! But the greater part still does not know sweet is to obey you”.

Let us pray for the intentions of the Universal Church that she may communicate the unchanging face of God amidst the changing world.
“How little I thought then, O my God, that this state of affairs and states of mind- was getting ready to produce the crosses that you had waiting for me! On becoming a missionary, I was ready for any physical suffering, bodily privations, hard work or fatigue. Ready also for mental stresses…”

For the Forgiveness of Sins
God our Father, you know the secret thoughts of every heart and nothing is hidden from your sight. Hear our humble submission in accepting our sins and purify our inmost desires so that we may respond to your love with sincere and pure hearts. We ask this through Christ our Lord, Amen; Melchior de Marion Brésillac, pray for us.

Ven. Mgr. Marion de Brésillac
Marion de Brésillac, Souvenirs: Memories from Twelve years on the Mission, Vol. 1. Missionary in India 1841-1845, SMA 1988, pg. 157
“What could I do in the midst of all the turmoil? Just wait and see, and then wait some more… And then, Lord, let me know your will and do not let me take any step that is contrary to your designs”.

For Refugees
God our Father, the World is full of generations of refugees with nowhere to call home on earth. It is your providence that sustains them. Strengthen the work of service providers and guide the work of policy makers that they may embrace justice and mercy in seeking a solution to this evil. We ask this through Christ our Lord, Amen; Melchior de Marion Brésillac, pray for us.

Ven. Mgr. Marion de Brésillac
“It’s all in your hands, O my God. Please watch over your work, and over your servant here, who is looking for nothing but only the glorification of your holy name”.

“There is no single individual or group on the face of this earth that does not commit some faults. ... you can expect the Church as such, because Christ is with the Church, sustaining her by his continual and wonderful presence”.

For those Persecuted and for Prisoners
God our Father, for believing the Gospel and accepting to be followers of your Christ many are suffering persecutions today. Renew in us the Spirit of courage and hope in you that no pain or suffering may dissuade us from following you. Be the protector of all who have put their trust in you and grant us salvation. We ask this through Christ our Lord, Amen; Melchior de Marion Brésillac, pray for us.

Ven. Mgr. Marion de Brésillac
“Desires for greater sacrifices, more sufferings, more dangers; these are good and praiseworthy. Even if they were never to come true, they are still the sign of a soul filled with the love of God, burning to be used up for His glory”.

For the Sick
God our Father, in the Gospels you constantly show your mercy to the Sick by restoring their health and wholeness. You never turned your ear from anyone who cried out for your help. You listen even to sympathizers who cry out to you on behave of others. May you heal our sick brothers and sisters that they may join the company of the faithful in singing your praises? We ask this through Christ our Lord, Amen; Melchior de Marion Brésillac, pray for us.
“For death, O my God, when it is you who send it, is part of your providence, even part of your Grace, especially when one of your servants dies in the arms of your holy Religion”.

For the Faithful Departed

God our Father, giver and sustainer of life, your mercy is greater than the gift of life. Grant remission of sin to the faithful departed and to all the dead whose faith you alone know. May our supplication help them to secure pardon and attain everlasting life. We ask this through Christ our Lord, Amen; Melchior de Marion Brésillac, pray for us.

Ven. Mgr. Marion de Brésillac

“I should wish that we should use all possible means; at the same time, and above all, we should not neglect those (methods) that come closest to the simple and gospel, centered on the preaching of the apostles, and that we should not abandon the holy folly of the cross. I should wish that while there may be two or three missionaries engaged in large mission projects, there should also be missionaries that go through the pagan villages like St. Francis Xavier, simply preaching the Gospel, sanctifying their preaching through self-denial and prayer, and I should wish that they make use of the assistance of the laity in preparing the way and furthering the mission”.

Let us pray for all missionary societies that they may all be a sign of Good news of the Resurrection of the Lord

Ven. Mgr. Marion de Brésillac
Marion Brésillac, Retreat...op.cit., 21. De Marion Brésillac, Selon votre coeur, op.cit., no. 412.
"I confess it, it is singularly difficult for certain characters to overcome themselves in this respect (the love for all). I even believe that in some cases it is impossible by the powers of nature alone; but I also believe the grace necessary for that is essentially attached to our vocation as missionaries. And, provided that we be faithful, there is none of us who cannot overcome self and surmount this repugnance”.

Let us pray for all missionary societies that they may all be a sign of Good news of the Resurrection of the Lord.

“O God, before whom the greatest actions are nothing if they are not performed in your Spirit, in conformity with your sovereign will, before whom, on the contrary, the smallest project, the least advances, are full of merit when they are done according to your will, give us the grace of doing everything in you and for you, everything and always; so that when you come to us you will find us continually occupied with the accomplishment of your work”.

Let us pray for outpouring of the gifts of the Spirit on all the newly ordained confreres of SMA

Ven. Mgr. Marion de Brésillac
Marion Brésillac, Retreat to Missionaries, Rome, 1985, p.190.
“After God, we greatly put our confidence in Our Lady of Fourvière, under whose patronage we stood in Lyons and who condescended to encourage the beginnings of our modest and difficult enterprise. Also, we carry away her picture to Sierra Leone, and will construct for her a chapel as soon as we can, under the title *Mater febricitantium* (Mother of those who suffers from fevers).”

Let us consecrate the new missions places of the SMA to Mother Mary.
“In consolation as well as in trials, afflictions, work, temptations, in moments of interior calm and joy, let us have recourse to Mary. After Jesus, let Mary be our power and our support, our example and our model. She was the exact imitator of her Son’s virtues, and it was in her school and under her direction that the apostles, whose queen she was, were trained. [...].

Let her be the continuous guardian of our soul, and let her preserve in us, as in a leak proof reservoir, the treasures of virtues which Jesus Christ placed there with his hands. Let her watch over our bodies so that they always remain pure like victim of expiation, first of all our own sins and then for the sins of those whose salvation we are working for”.

Let us pray for the elderly and retired confrères of SMA

Ven. Mgr. Marion de Brésillac
“O God, you who sound the depths of our hearts, purify and clarify my intentions, and move me along by the breath of your Spirit, the Spirit of calmness and gentleness”.

Prayer for Pilgrims
God our Father, in Baptism you called us into your Divine life. Our entire life is made of many little steps into life with you. Listen to the prayer of your sons and daughters on pilgrimage. Fill us with your Spirit, we pray, that we may grow into a deeper union with you and so attain the gifts of your promises. We ask this through Christ our Lord, Amen; Melchior de Marion Brésillac, pray for us.

Ven. Mgr. Marion de Brèsillac
“My God, all your laws must be fulfilled; your physical laws never fail; but we often contradict your moral laws. Grant that we may always be faithful to them, O my God, we and all those near and dear to us”.

For the Institution of Family
God our Father, to show us the dignity of family life, you gave us the Savior through the Holy Family of Nazareth. Grant to our families protection from disintegration. Bless our families with the gifts of faith, love and understanding. Make us care for one another in our families with much dedication. May each new day bring healing and renewal to us. We ask this through Christ our Lord, Amen; Melchior de Marion Brésillac, pray for us.
“How can the Faith shine out clearly when we are busy covering it with our miserable clouds? “O God, make your truth shine out again before all people. And, if we are wrong on some points, make us see our error. Give us the strength to follow up and complete what we have to do”

For the Mission of the Church
God our Father, you called your disciples to be a light to the World. Bless and Strengthen the Mission of your Church that, at all times, and in all places, Christians may be the true sign of hope, truth, and Justice. May the faith and action of Christians bring your reign on earth and may many come to know you through the Church’s mission. We ask this through Christ our Lord, Amen; Melchior de Marion Brésillac, pray for us.

Ven. Mgr. Marion de Brésillac
“Believe me, I don’t want to diminish either our merit or the glory of your sacrifice; if you still cling to that glory. As your friend I would advise you to renounce it, just as you renounced all the other glories which you so courageously left behind”.

Prayer for Peace in the World
God our Father, you are the origin of all holy desires and all that is good. Grant us we pray, the peace which the world fails to give us. Help our hearts to desire you above all else and to be more devoted to your commandments. May we attain the peace of serving you in a peaceful World. We ask this through Christ our Lord, Amen; Melchior de Marion Brésillac, pray for us.

Ven. Mgr. Marion de Brésillac
Marrion Brésillac, Mission and Foundation Documens, Mediaspaul, Paris 1986, no. 8., pgs. 81.
“Having adored our Divine Master present in the tabernacle, and thanked him,… I went and prostrated myself before the high altar and made the same prayer to Him who crowns his gifts by crowning the merits of his Saints. I invoked the Patron of the Church to bring my poor prayers up to the Throne of our God and Master”.

For a Deeper Reverence of the Holy Eucharist
God our Father, in choosing the Eucharist, you ascended into your glory but also remained with us. Open our hearts and minds to the greatness of this mystery. Help us to recognize you present in our midst and to trust you more and more. May our encounter with you, bring us to benefit from the gift of your presence. We ask this through Christ our Lord, Amen; Melchior de Marion Brésillac, pray for us.

Ven. Mgr. Marion de Brésillac