

Participate in Marianist Family World Day of Prayer this Weekend!

This year the official celebration of the **Marianist Family World Day of Prayer** will be held on Sunday, October 11 beginning at 8:00 AM Central Daylight Time at the Shrine of Our Lady of El Salto in Latacunga, Ecuador. The celebration handout (in English) explaining the Shrine and including a lovely prayer service is attached at the end.

You can also participate in the beautiful service itself by using the event transmission links below:

Here are the links for the event transmission:

ZOOM <https://zoom.us/j/96265358089>

FACEBOOK

<https://www.facebook.com/Santuario-Nuestra-Se%C3%B1ora-de-El-Salto-113814936923150/?ti=as>

The service is likely to be in Spanish. If you don't understand the language, you can at least check out the beautiful Shrine and listen to a bit of the music they have planned for the event. It is sure to be lovely and lively!

This event is sponsored by the International Organization of Marianist Lay Communities. However, according to our SM historian, Fr. Antonio Gascón, "its origin goes back to the Marianist Day of Prayer which was **convoked by a group of affiliates of the St. Louis Province in February 1979**, gathered to pray for all the members of the Family of Mary. Since that year, Marianist religious and lay people in St. Louis have been gathering for this prayer of intercession. Through personal communications and letters this prayer meeting became known, and in 1985, it was established for the Marianist Family throughout the world. On this day, which is marked by the World Council of the Marianist Family, we pray for an intention, taking as a reference a Marian shrine in a nation where Marianist religious or lay people are present."

So, what initially started as a good idea by a small group of laity in the US, has grown to be a worldwide event! I encourage all of our Marianist Family members in the US to take time this month to pray to Our Lady of El Salto--maybe especially for peaceful elections in November!

For more information contact

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