

1 The new relationship between lay people and brothers is nourished by an awareness of sharing **the same vocation** in life with every human being. In the spirit of Vatican II, we feel we share a common vocation to holiness, the dignity of being children of God, having the same Lord, the same faith and **the same Baptism**.

2 The mission is what **brings us together**. Thus we assemble as a Church. Our Marist mission is enriched by our new relationship for it takes on new expressions due to the laity's spirit of initiative as well as communion.

3 From our new relationship we can assist in giving birth to a new model of the Church, based on the equal dignity of all Christian vocations and faithfulness to the image of the Church as the **People of God in communion**.

Our charism expresses all of **its fruitfulness and fullness** precisely when it is lived by the different members of the Church. It is a treasured grace that extends far beyond the life of the brothers **4**

5 The Marist vocation is a gift that the Spirit offers to dedicated people in different states of life who desire to live the Gospel according to the Marist charism. **The charism reliably serves as the focal point** for relationships between the laity and brothers.

6 We can be certain that our specific vocations, without becoming confused, **mutually illumine one another**. Each of us is a constant source of wealth the other.

7 Our future in communion impels us to **search together** for a greater vitality of the charism in today's world. In so far as we travel together, new forms of relationship will arise, more and more profound, and this will require **new structures** that welcome and greatly increase vitality.

Sharing the same inheritance and feeling that we complement one another means we help a new consecrated life to arise and **a new way of being brother**. The lay vocation is the **common ground** in which we are rooted. It sustains us all, brothers and laity. **8**

9 By dint of our mission as we respond to God's call, **spirituality becomes the center of our unity**, of the new relationship between laity and brothers.

10 We believe that the new brother-lay relationship demands of us nothing less than Champagnat's boldness and creativity. To set out on an **journey of conversion** and know how to die in order to live.

COMING CLOSER TO THE NEW RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN
THE LAITY AND THE BROTHERS



Sheets for the road
M A R I S T
Secretariat of Laity