

## 29. Humility and Simplicity

*ant sa* The following extract is taken from the *Spiritual Testament of Marcellin Champagnat*, dictated just before his death on June 6, 1840. It picks up and summarises the main lines of his spirituality.

**I beg of God and desire with all my heart that you persevere faithfully in the holy exercise of the presence of God. It is the soul of prayer, of meditation, and of all virtues. May humility and simplicity always be characteristic of the little Brothers of Mary. May a tender and filial love of that good Mother animate you at all times and in every circumstance. Do all that you can to make her loved everywhere. She is the First Superior of the whole Society.**

Life of Marcellin Champagnat, Bicentenary Ed., I, p.237

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*lité* From initial formation onwards, humility and simplicity are absorbed by Marist Brothers as defining characteristics of their spirit. These seem to be the qualities that best reveal the personality and spirituality of Champagnat and are thus a foundational intuition for the vitality of the Institute.

