

**FATHER JOSÉ MARCHETTI**  
**A young but experienced man\***

The loving plan of God's trinity that theology exposes at present as being more and more explicit and involving is the same *leitmotiv* that guided so many Jesus Christ's disciples as it was for our father José Marchetti.

In him we contemplate the divine *hesed*, the maternal-merciful love of God manifested in the history of Israel by the prophets and totally revealed in the mystery of incarnation. This love, experienced by the passionate young Marchetti, has bloomed and abundantly fructified, as the absolute trust in the maternal-paternal Providence of God free the heart of all weaknesses and set wings on the feet and creativity on hands, proving that God's love is much stronger than the human weakness. This way the days passed and father Marchetti lived his history being a "victim of the love for the other, for the love of God" (vows' formula, October, 1896), as he has confirmed by the day of his eternal profession. He was tireless! He picked the essential and did wouldn't weaken and mainly, he wouldn't be puffed up with pride. With simplicity he wrote our "meteor": "the press puts me at the skies, with all the possible colors, when they say that, despite being so young, I managed to solve a problem that the government studied for so long and failed. Poor men, they don't understand that when God aims to do something big, He picks the less appropriate ways... *Deo Gratias!*" (Letter to Scalabrini, March, 1895). What a noble heart! What a human-divine maturity!

He was one of those authentic disciples that knew how to combine the love of God and for the other in the perspective of the self-donation that is peculiar to God and to the brothers. A person who let himself be conducted as "God has poured out his love into our hearts by the Holy Spirit, whom he has given us." (Rom 5:5): "here I am ready to die; I wished so many times for the martyrdom; if opposite to the blood martyrdom I have the grace to find the martyrdom of the apostolic tiredness, I'll be glad for it." (Letter to Scalabrini - December, 1895). That's why he is a motivation for all sisters MSCS and for all people who are inspired by the Scalabrinian Charisma, of the immeasurable aptitude for donation, accepting the price of being a disciple of a crucified God in a dimension of faith. The credits and critics that may occur due to the initiatives taken for the love for the mission are indifferent, as he confirms: "... if someone gives money, I'll take it, if it's humiliations they give, I'll get them as well". (Letter to Scalabrini January, 1895). So young, but soon he has learnt the science of the christianism! ]

Anything that showed up as an obstacle, was in fact an occasion of greater engagement, another way to establish his trust in God the peregrine that makes history along with those who "are supported by God's right hand" (Cf. Psalm 63: 9). What a challenge it is to learn day by day on the example of our co-creator, even more from Jesus Christ, mercy and comprehension to the weaknesses of our own and of the others. Identify but do not canonize them: it's crucial to understand that they're the denial of the evangelic ideal, but the will to overcome must be maintained, as the "martyr of charity" has done. As for us, MSCS, we shall follow Jesus Christ, like Marchetti, in a continuous tension between the evangelic ideal and the reality, even though it is usually tailored by the human fragility. We must renew our trust in the God of exodus that wishes and is able to intervene in the accomplishment of great things, particularly by making us instruments of love for the smallest ones, among sons and daughters, in mobility. **Happy holydays! *Deo Gratias!***

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\* Article written by Sister Leocádia Mezzomo, mscs – CSEM, for the Celebration in memory of Father Marchetti.