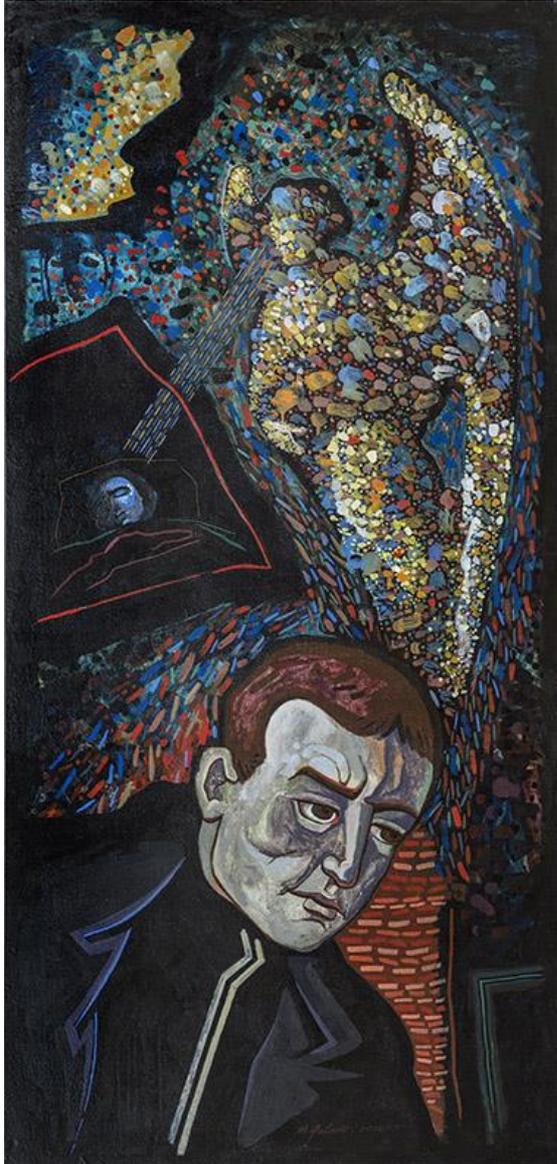


~ MORNING PRAYER ~

*Our Marist Mission:
To make Jesus Christ known and loved,
in the way of Mary,
through the education and care of young people,
especially the most neglected.*



What do you see when you look at this painting?

DYING BOY

This is a story you may have already heard. It is the story of St Marcellin visiting a young boy who was dying knowing nothing of God. You will notice in the painting that the artist has chosen much darker colours to emphasise this crisis for this young boy and the local church.

While the painting shows the boy has already died and is in the care of the angels, St Marcellin is depicted contemplating how he can respond to this crisis to make Jesus known and loved. This mission is now urgent!

Artist's comment: My rendition shows Marcellin without the halo as he is not a saint yet in the forefront of the painting. His bust takes almost half of the entire painting and his prominent face shows emotions, but above all, the resolve ... The head of the boy is above the saint to the left, reduced in size; his death is already part of the past we cannot change, details matter less now than decisions stemming from the event being the catalyst for such a resolve of Marcellin's.

Gospel reading: Mark 10:13-16

People were bringing little children to Jesus, for him to touch them. The disciples scolded them, but when Jesus saw this he was indignant and said to them, 'Let the little children come to me; do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. In truth I tell you, anyone who does not welcome the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it.' Then he embraced them, laid his hands on them and gave them his blessing.

The gospel of the Lord.

R. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

[Time for reflection on the reading]

Prayers of Petition

In Marcellin's encounter with the **dying young man**, we see how disturbed Marcellin was to meet a boy facing the end of his life without knowing the love God had for him. This event aroused him to immediately put into action his foundational insight, *We must have Brothers!* (WFR 8/9) *For all young people on the margins of our society, that we may help them to come to know and love Jesus, we pray. Response: Lord hear us.*

Camino Salve Regina by Br Michael Herry

Closing Invocations