

**Blessed Marie-Rose Durocher**  
**Foundress of the Sisters of the Holy Names of Jesus and Mary**

**Leader's/User's Guide**

**Starting Point (Quiet Reflection and/or Sharing)**

Who is a source of inspiration to you?  
What do you know of Blessed Marie-Rose?

**Prayer (layout: booklet form, landscape)**

The quotes from Marie-Rose for the reflection and sharing are on the last page of the prayer.

**Music Suggestions for Prayer**

Saint of God in Glory, Bernadette Farrell  
Je Mets Ma Confiance



**Discussion**

What more do you want to know about Marie-Rose and the Sisters of the Holy Names of Jesus and Mary?  
How has the spirit of Marie-Rose touched you?  
What in the quote(s) from Blessed Marie-Rose encourage you? inspire you? challenge you?

**Further Steps**

Look at archival material of the Sisters of the Holy Names  
Invite someone who has a devotion to Marie-Rose to share

**Other resources on Blessed Marie - Rose Durocher**

Printed Material

[She Who Believed in Tomorrow](#), Frances Allison, snjm

[From Vision to Mission](#), Germaine Duval, snjm

[Mother Marie Rose, Eulalie Durocher 1811 - 1849](#), Yolande Laberge, snjm

*In the heart of this marvelous woman burned a fire of love which spread,  
and has not ceased to give light and warmth to many corners of the universe.  
Hermance Baril, snjm*

**Leader:** Spark of God, Spirit of Life!

We remember and celebrate your dwelling within Blessed Marie-Rose and within the hearts of each person gathered here.

**All:** Divine Fire, never waver in your faithful presence with us as you were present to Blessed Marie-Rose. Amid the seasons of life, be our inner illumination. *pause for prayer*

**All:** Ever present Light, may the spark of your inspiration be always with us; in every movement of our lives, lead and guide us as you did Blessed Marie Rose. *pause for prayer*

**All:** Spirit of God, may your fiery presence give us passion for what is vital and deserving of our enthusiasm. *pause for prayer*

**All:** Blazing Love, may the radiant glow of your compassion fill us as it did Blessed Marie-Rose, with awareness, kindness and understanding. *pause for prayer*

**All:** We praise you, Shining Spark of Life, for the vision and mission of Blessed Marie-Rose. We ask you for the grace to carry her fire amid the cares and questions of our times. Amen.

**Reading** *Blessed Marie-Rose Durocher, Prophet-Mystic-Christian Leader*

Marie-Rose's penetrating, far-reaching vision for the future; her precise perception of the signs of the times in seeing the need for education, especially for the poor; her unswerving belief in the mission of the Church and in the Congregation she was asked to found; these were her greatest gifts from God. These were the gifts she in turn used so fully and with such dynamism for the building up of the people of God in her time, in her part of the universal Church, in her corner of the world community.

In fulfilling her personal mission she had choices to make. To her it was evident that she should teach children. If she were to encourage others to learn to teach and inspire others to continue the work which would perpetuate the educating she had begun, then she could give her gifts to the world, then she could help untold thousands to become more fully human, more in love with their God. This was her choice: to give to God's people in many lands, and throughout these many years.

*Marian Christensen, snjm*

### **Blessed Marie Rose – Gospel Woman**

Blessed is she whose poverty freed her to risk much before insurmountable obstacles,  
for now she is proclaimed a Gospel Woman.

Blessed is she whose gentleness was empowered by vision,  
for she birthed a great community as inheritance.

Blessed is she who mourned the plight of the poor  
and the injustices of her society,  
for her followers rejoice in her spirit.

Blessed is she who hungered and thirsted for  
the liberation of women through education,  
for she believed in their potential to transform family life.

Blessed is she whose solidarity with the needy was merciful and kind,  
for mercy was her legacy.

Blessed is she who was pure of heart,  
for she was able to discern God's will for her nascent community.

Blessed is she whose sense of peace flowed from her universal love,  
for she inspired unity in the Congregation.

Blessed is she who suffered persecution from the Church and society  
for her reward is great in heaven.

*Maureen Hussey, snjm*  
*Antoinette Janisse, snjm*

### **Reflection and/or sharing**

What in the life of Marie-Rose inspires you?  
What words of Marie-Rose speak to you?

### **Poetic Response**

You took the Good News  
outside Custom's boundaries...  
and when onlookers said: I hope  
they know what they are doing,  
It wasn't easy...

As I go moment by moment toward  
what will come, I watch  
your portrait which follows me  
with the Legacy we both inherit,  
the heirloom words:

*Those who live in me  
and my words live in them  
can ask for anything.*

*Bernadette Carlson, snjm*

**Leader:** Spark of God, Spirit of Life!

We remember and celebrate your dwelling within Blessed Marie Rose and within the hearts of each person gathered here.

**All:** Eternal Joy, may the dancing flames of your joy be reflected in our happiness and in the many ways we delight in life in the spirit of Blessed Marie Rose.

Purifying Flame, may your refining fire transform us as we experience life's sorrow, pain and discouragement.

Radiant Presence, may your steady flame of unconditional love kindle our faithful and enduring relationships.

Luminous One, as you breathed love into Blessed Marie Rose, you breathed love into each one of us at our birthing and your love will be with us always. AMEN

## Words of Blessed Marie-Rose Durocher

I am always united with you in the  
Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary.

*I wish you courage, although I am certain that you are not lacking it.*

Let us extend a hand to one another,  
to help surmount the difficulties, which occur.

*God has been infinitely good and merciful to me.*

I wish you all the happiness, which I myself enjoy.

*We await with confidence the help of God and of the Blessed Virgin.*

Be confident that the one who protects you  
will never abandon you.

*Never forget to meet with God in prayer.*

Take courage, God will not abandon you.

*May the Lord make you live in charity with one another  
and in great union with Him.*

I suggest that you pray to Our Lord that He assist you  
and give you the direction you need.

*I leave you now in the peace of the Lord and under the  
auspices of the Holy Names of Jesus and Mary.*

May Jesus and Mary always reign in your hearts.

*Always be grateful for the days that the Lord gives you.*

Let our charity be a bright and burning light, pointing out the path of virtue to all who surround us.

