

## **A Marianist Prayer to Abolish the Death Penalty**

**Mary, we unite with you at the foot of the cross and remember your son, Jesus, unjustly accused and put to death.** We pray for all who have been falsely accused or those awaiting execution. Embolden us to work for the abolition of state sanctioned death and to uphold the dignity of all human life.

**Mary, we unite with you at the foot of the cross and remember you as mother.** Give us courage to reach out to victims of crime with support and compassion.

**Mary, we unite with you at the foot of the cross and remember the two prisoners on the crosses next to Jesus.** Give all prisoners the courage not to lose hope. Strengthen all prisoners, chaplains, and others working for prison reform.

**Mary, we unite with you at the foot of the cross and with John, the disciple whom Jesus loved.** May we unite the efforts of the MSJC Death Penalty and Restorative Justice Issue Team with the efforts of the church, religious organizations, and all individuals and agencies. Help us all to persevere in our advocacy for a moratorium on the death penalty.

Amen.

