



Society of Mary

THE MARISTS IN THE UNITED STATES

Creative Waiting
in Hope

2022 Calendar

Marian Church

by François Marc, SM

I would like to plead for a **Marian Church**; not for a church which multiplies processions and blesses huge statues.... rather a Church which “lives the Gospel after the manner of Mary.”

The **Marian Church** follows Mary into the mountains, going off with her to encounter life; she visits men and women, and, though things may seem to be sterile, she is on the watch for what is coming to birth, for possibilities, for the life which beats in things.

The **Marian Church** rejoices and sings. Instead of bemoaning its fate and the world's woes, she is in wonder at the beauty there is on the earth and in the human heart, as she sees what God is doing there.

The **Marian Church** knows she is the object of a gratuitous love, and that God has the heart of a mother. She has seen God on the doorstep, on the lookout for the improbable return of a son; she has seen him throw his arms around his neck, place the festal ring on his finger, and himself organize the home-coming feast. When she pages through the family album, she sees Zacchaeus in his sycamore, the woman taken in adultery, the Samaritan woman, foreigners, the lepers, beggars and a common prisoner at his place of execution. So you see, the **Marian Church** despairs of no one, and does not quench the smoking flax. When she finds someone on the side of the road wounded by life, she is moved by compassion, and with infinite tenderness tends their wounds. She is the safe harbor, who is always open, the refuge of sinners, “mater misericordiae”, mother of mercy.

The **Marian Church** does not know the answers before the questions are posed. Her path is not traced out in advance. She knows doubt and unease, night and loneliness. That is the price of trust. She takes her part in the conversation, but makes no claim to know everything. She accepts that she must search.

The **Marian Church** lives in Nazareth in silence and simplicity. She does not live in a castle. Her home is

like all the other homes. She goes out to chat with the other villagers. She weeps with them, she rejoices with them, but she never preaches to them. Above all she listens.

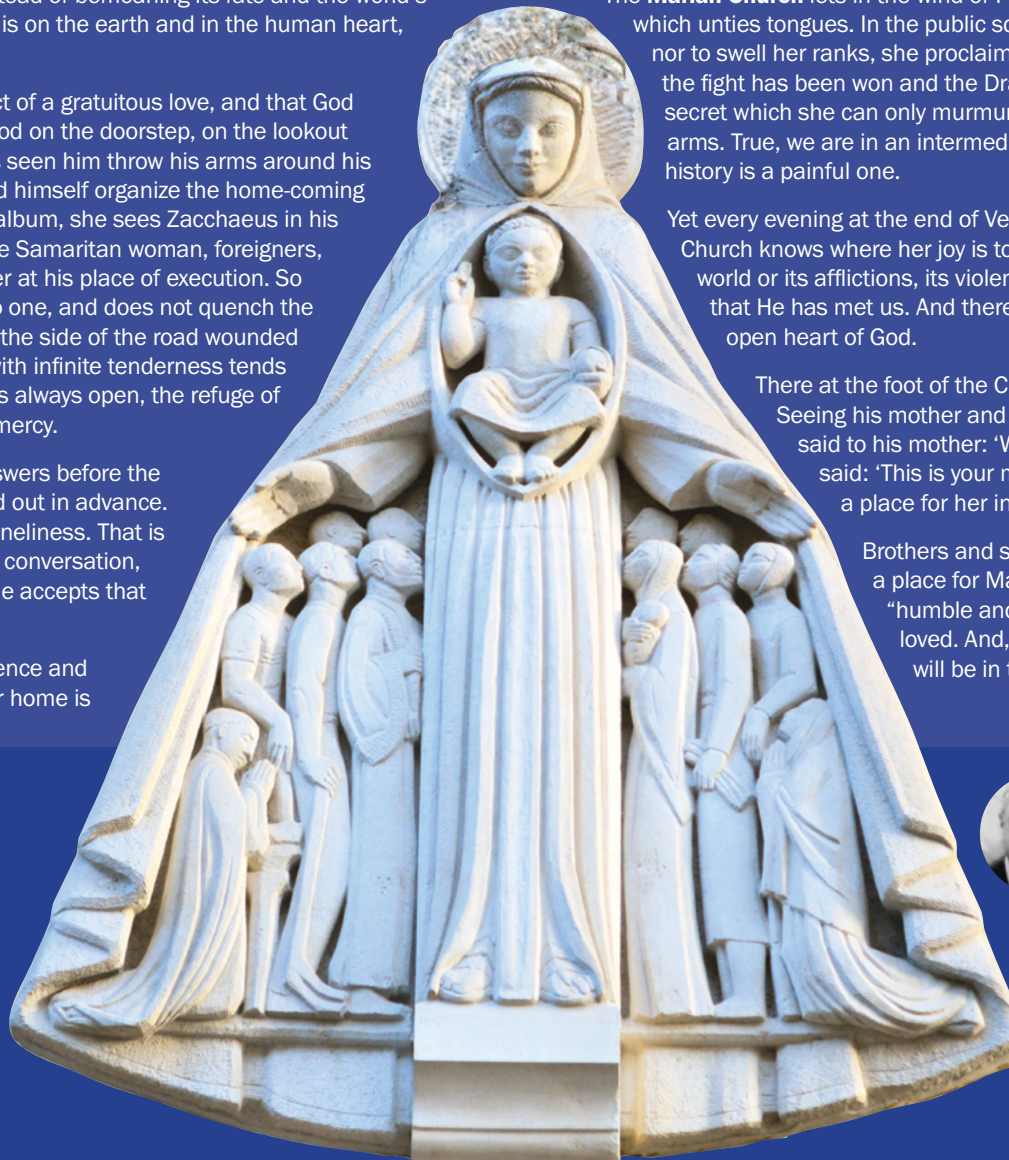
The **Marian Church** stands at the foot of the Cross. She does not take refuge in a fortress or in a chapel or imprudent silence when people are being crushed. She is vulnerable in her deeds as in her words. With a humble courage she stands alongside the most insignificant.

The **Marian Church** lets in the wind of Pentecost, the wind which impels one to go out, which unties tongues. In the public square, not for the sake of hammering doctrine, nor to swell her ranks, she proclaims her message: the promise has been kept, the fight has been won and the Dragon crushed forever. And this is the great secret which she can only murmur: to win the victory God has laid down his arms. True, we are in an intermediate time, the time of human history. And that history is a painful one.

Yet every evening at the end of Vespers the Church sings the Magnificat. For the Church knows where her joy is to be found. And look: God has not found our world or its afflictions, its violence or its wickedness uninhabitable. It is there that He has met us. And there, on the Cross, we have seen the “mercy”, the open heart of God.

There at the foot of the Cross a people was born, a Marian people. Seeing his mother and near her the disciple whom he loved, Jesus said to his mother: ‘Woman, this is your son.’ Then to the disciple he said: ‘This is your mother.’ From that moment, the disciple made a place for her in his home.

Brothers and sisters, let us belong to this people. Let us make a place for Mary in our home. Let us enter with her into the “humble and heart-rending happiness” of loving and being loved. And, in the words of Therese of Lisieux, the Church will be in this world “a heart resplendent with love”.



Left: Bas relief carving “Our Lady of Mercy” (1953) by Georges-Laurent Saupique, Notre Dame de France, London, England

Cover: “The Annunciation” (1898) by Henry Ossawa Tanner



Fr. François Marc, SM, author of **A Marian Church**, took his vows on September 24, 1968 in France and lived through the turbulent years of hope and conflicts in society and Church. In his early years of spirituality, he was shaped by the ecumenical monastic slant of Taizé and the Trappist Monastery of Tamié. His ministry was as a chaplain in the schools of the Society of France. He died at the age of 47 after a battle with cancer. His love for God and the Society are reflected in this well-known and deeply appreciated poem **A Marian Church** on the charism of the Marists. This poem touches the hearts of many and for many Marists articulates who we are.

Creative Waiting in Hope

by Ted Keating, SM

“The Marian Church ... path is not traced out in advance. She knows doubt and unease, night and loneliness. That is the price of trust.” – Francois Marc, SM

In June 2021, the Marists in the United States had a well-received and highly reviewed retreat led by Maryknoll priest Larry Lewis. When Fr. Lewis initially communicated the retreat theme to the planning committee, the **spirituality of “waiting”**, we were left puzzled but hopeful.

Fr. Lewis knew that we would be dealing with significant challenges at our Provincial Chapter (the formal meeting of Marist representatives from the Province to plan for our future). **As we look to our changing future**, like many smaller religious congregations, we are facing diminishing numbers in terms of recruitment of men for vowed religious life and growing numbers of older men. So, he thought that this would put us into the proper mindset.

He began the retreat by sharing forty adjectives that people use in surveys when asked about their attitudes toward waiting. None of them are positive. They go from “anxious” and “angry” to “waste of time” and “unbearable”. We shared some of our experiences about waiting — from waiting in doctors’ offices to grocery stores, airports, auto repairs, traffic and on and on. Our attitudes about these experiences of waiting were similar to those shared in the survey results. Are we frustrated and exhausted at all the lost time? We came to the conclusion in our discussion that we are.

When you research the word “wait” in the English language, you find that it was the word for “watching”. The people in the early years of the English language probably did not have to wait so much as we do today. The word “wait” was what the watchman (usually males) did for the protection of the people (tribe, fort, castle, etc.) - watching for danger or threat in order to warn and help protect others. So, there may still be something deeply internal to the experience of waiting that carries **“concern for others”** in our service to our sisters and brothers and the awareness of what we are perceiving and seeing relative to this service. Observation, focus and a caring heart for other people was the foundation of the word.

The way we use the word today may better reflect contemporary life. We spend a great deal of time “waiting” for something more important and useful to happen, so we designate this time as “empty space”. The time we wait over a lifetime is likely enormous in our current world. It is no wonder that “frustration” is the word often used to describe how we feel about waiting.

As Catholics we come across “waiting” as a central part of the life of those to whom St. Paul wrote to in his Epistles, especially in the letter to the Thessalonians. At the center of their lives was the great and overarching reality of waiting for the return of Jesus. Their prayer in the original Aramaic language of Jesus was **Maranatha, meaning “Come Lord Jesus”**. St. Paul had to warn them that we “know not the day nor the hour” when He will return, so do not quit your jobs or walk away from your marriage while sitting around as if He will come in the morning. To be a Christian is to be “waiting for the return of Jesus” with the solid faith that He will certainly return, but we do not know when. It may well be that we ourselves will pass away and find Jesus in our own time before He returns.

So, our Christian life is one long period of waiting. We wait just as intensely for the coming of the reign of God when “there will be no more tears and no more sorrow”. While we feel much sadness “watching” so much suffering and cruel injustice in our world, it will be taken up with Jesus in the Resurrection. When our hearts are broken in the face of our own sorrows and those of the world around us, **this “waiting” is precisely the hope that feeds the courage we need to persevere in faith and hope**. Then we can put our lives on the line to seek ways to right the brokenness of humanity, knowing that only “the coming of the one we await” will bring the world back to the love that created it as gift in the first place. Maranatha is the cry of the whole Church and perhaps of all humanity in its various ways.



Painting: “The Storm on the Sea of Galilee” (1633) by Rembrandt van Rijn

What did all the reflecting and discussing about “waiting” do for us Marists in the face of our challenges at the coming Chapter? It began to help us be liberated from our anxious concern about ourselves and even about our “small Society”, as Fr. Colin called it. No doubt that there are challenges waiting for us in our anxious fears about our future, but they do not have to overwhelm us. The disciples in the death-defying storm sat with Jesus in the boat, beginning to see things through the eyes of Jesus, but trusting in the love and protection of Him who can “calm the seas and quiet the storms”. Our boat is tossed and threatened by massive waves of change in the Church and world around us. In all that, we wait to understand and discern what God is doing with our Society, our Church, and our world. **We patiently await our future already enclosed in the loving hands of God’s Providence here in the boat with Jesus who can calm any storm**. Then we can peacefully explore the choices and decisions we must discern, but always crying out “Maranatha! Come Lord Jesus”. What a way to transform all of our moments of “waiting” into moments of trust and hope in God’s presence now in a world already redeemed and awaiting its fulfillment.

We hope the beautiful images we have selected for the 2022 Society of Mary calendar inspire you to reflect upon the calendar theme, “Creative Waiting in Hope”. May Mary transform our moments of waiting into moments of trust and hope.

“To be a Marist ‘By Gracious Choice’ is to have a sense of being chosen and called by Mary. Marists feel themselves in some mysterious way called to be not only followers of Christ (as all Christians are) but also called by Mary to bear her name and share her concerns for the Church, the world, and the whole human race. This grace is an invitation to participate in her spirit and in her desire to see the Gospel of Jesus take root in our contemporary world. The unity of all Marists lies in the name and spirit of Mary.”

– “*The work of Mary*”, The Marist Way pamphlet,
Sharing the Marist Way

“*Descent of the Holy Spirit*” by Jason Jenicke, www.jasonjenicke.com



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God New Year's Day 1
Epiphany of The Lord 2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Baptism of The Lord Acceptance of Missions of Oceania, 1836 Mass and Prayers for the Society of Mary 9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day 17	18	19	20	21	22
St. Marianne Cope 23	St. Francis de Sales Secondary Patron of the Society of Mary 24	25	26	27	St. Thomas Aquinas Secondary Patron of the Society of Mary 28	29
30	31					

January 2022

DECEMBER 2021

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FEBRUARY 2022

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26	27	28				



“I noticed a monk, ski cap pulled over his ears, sitting perfectly still beneath a tree. There was such reverence in his silhouette, such tranquil sturdiness ... he was the picture of waiting.

Later I sought him out. ‘I saw you today sitting beneath the tree ... so still. How is it that you can wait so patiently in the moment? I can’t seem to get used to the idea of doing nothing.’

He broke into a wonderful grin. ‘Well, there’s the problem right there ... You’ve bought into the cultural myth that when you’re waiting, you’re doing nothing.’

... (He) peered straight into my eyes and said, ‘I hope you’ll hear what I’m about to tell you. When you’re waiting, you’re not doing nothing. You’re doing the most important thing there is. You’re allowing your soul to grow up. If you can’t be still and wait, you can’t become what God created you to be.’

Somehow I knew in my soul that his words were God’s words.”

- Sue Monk Kidd. *When the Heart Waits*

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			Feast of the Presentation of The Lord Marists Renew Their Vows			
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	St. Valentine's Day	14	15	16	17	18
20	Presidents' Day	21	22	23	24	25
27	Approbation of Fr. Colin's Constitutions, 1873 Mass and Prayers for the Society of Mary	28				

February 2022

JANUARY 2022

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MARCH 2022

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“Who do people say that I am?”

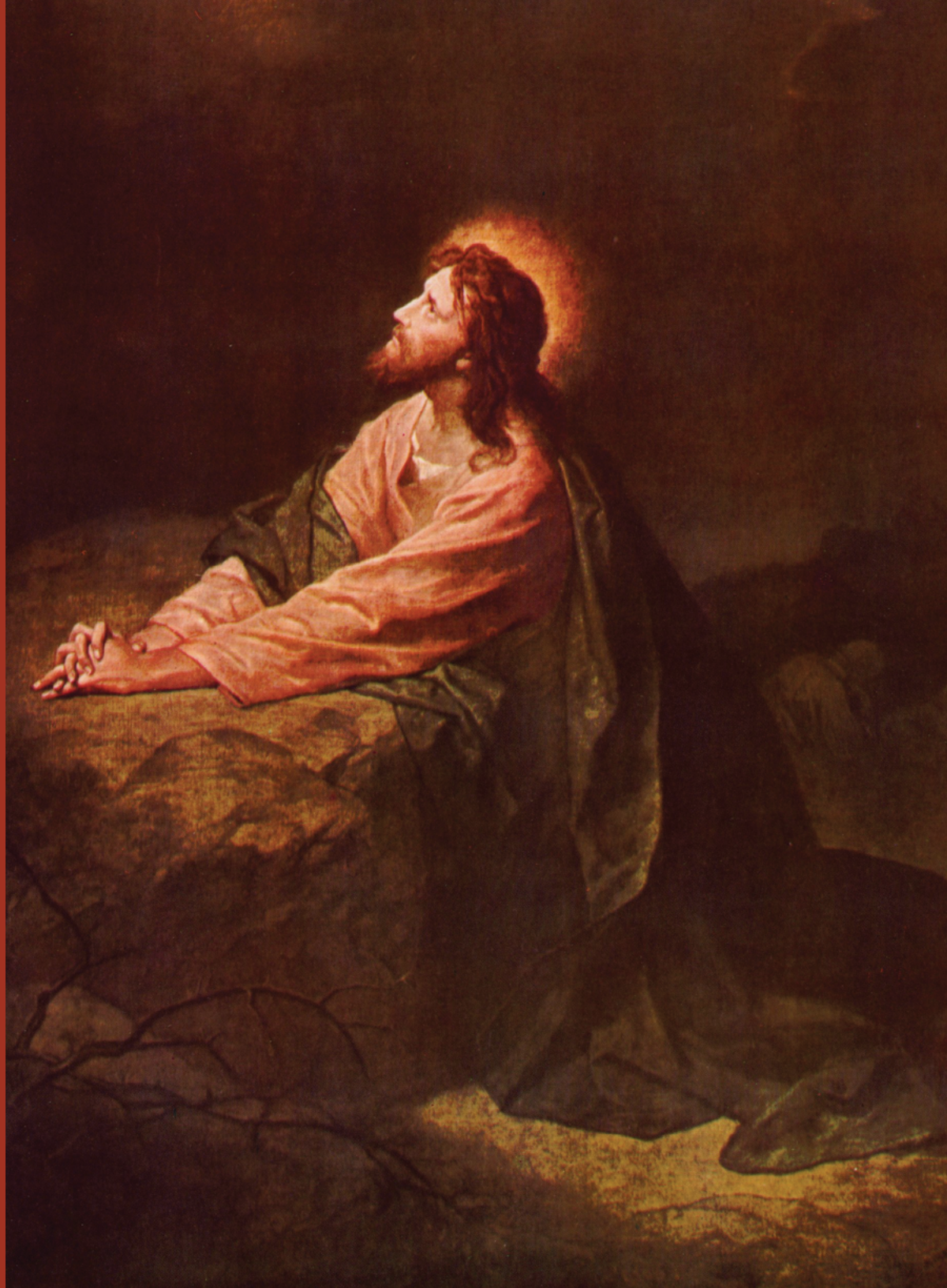
As a child I imagined Jesus to be an all-powerful Wizard of Oz — without the fakery. Jesus was real! At least the priest, nuns, brothers, and my parents told me so, and I believed them. I also trusted that if I said enough Our Father’s, Hail Mary’s and Glory Be’s, Jesus would respond. I was taught not to ask for frivolous things, but temptation often got the better of me. ... I made very specific, typically inconsequential requests. These things did not work out, ... but I kept praying.

Truly the problem was me, because the eight-year-old had yet to consider who Jesus was not. He ... was not a spiritual vending machine awaiting the coins of my prayers. This misguided image may yet resonate for many of us, but Jesus directs us to the truth.

.... With Lent, we remember who Jesus is and is not, and remember that in Him we must think like God. To do so is to put aside the coins of our childish requests, and to open our hearts to death that is followed by new life.”

- Fran Rossi Szpylczyn, *Give Us This Day*, February 2019

“Christ in the Garden of Gethsemane” (1890) by Heinrich Hofmann



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			Ash Wednesday			
		1	2	3	4	5
First Sunday of Lent			Laudatory Brief of Pope Pius VII Mass and Prayers for the Society of Mary			
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Second Sunday of Lent Daylight Savings Time Begins				St. Patrick's Day		St. Joseph Patron of the Society of Mary
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Third Sunday of Lent				St. Oscar Romero	Annunciation of The Lord	
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
Fourth Sunday of Lent						
27	28	29	30	31		

March 2022

FEBRUARY 2022

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APRIL 2022

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“Luke the evangelist describes Mary as: one who hears the word of God and accepts it wholeheartedly (1:38); one who believes that what she has heard will be fulfilled (1:42,45); one who treasures what she has been told and ponders it (2:19-51) ...”

— “*The work of Mary*”, The Marist Way pamphlet, Sharing the Marist Way

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1	2
Fifth Sunday of Lent						
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Palm Sunday	Monday of Holy Week	Tuesday of Holy Week	Wednesday of Holy Week	Holy Thursday	Passion of The Lord Good Friday	Holy Saturday
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Easter Sunday Resurrection of The Lord	Easter Monday					
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
Second Sunday of Easter Sunday of Divine Mercy				St. Peter Chanel, Martyred 1841 Mass and Prayers for Vocations to the Society of Mary	Pontifical Approbation of the Society of Mary by Pope Gregory XVI, 1836 Mass and Prayers for the Society of Mary	
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

April 2022

MARCH 2022

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MAY 2022

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... Jean-Claude Colin was the one whose life was most marked by the French Revolution. If he could speak to us today, we might imagine him saying something like this:

“They were searing times, ... It’s no wonder that for me, ‘the world’ was not a friendly place at all. ... You can see why I wanted to be unknown, to be hidden from the world ... To be alone with God alone was more important to me than anything else. But there was another idea that kept coming back to me like a constant master thought. What did Mary do in the Church after the Ascension? And what if we copied her way of life in the Church? Gradually, I came to realize that my call was not to be hidden from the world, but in the world. There were worlds to conquer, souls to save, and the best way to do it was by not imposing myself, by being unobtrusive, by putting myself in the shoes of others. ...”

— Craig Larkin, SM, *A Certain Way: An exploration of Marist Spirituality*

Photo: San Felipe de Jesus, Brownsville, Texas



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Third Sunday of Easter						
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Fourth Sunday of Easter Mother's Day						
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
Fifth Sunday of Easter						
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
Sixth Sunday of Easter				Ascension of The Lord	Mass and Prayers for the Living Benefactors	
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
Seventh Sunday of Easter Pope St. Paul VI	Memorial Day	Visitation of The Blessed Virgin Mary				
29	30	31				

May 2022

APRIL 2022

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JUNE 2022

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“Viewed from a Marist perspective, the movie *Nomadland* immediately resonates with something very deep in our “Marist DNA” — the missions to the Bugey — a region in the department of Ain in eastern France. ... the similarities are found in the lives of the people. Both in *Nomadland* and in the Bugey, the people have been left behind by the world in which they live. They struggle, as Jessica Bruder author of *Nomadland* suggested, not only to find food or shelter but also hope.”

— Brian Cummings, SM, The Need for Hope: Prayerful Reflection with the Movie *Nomadland* *Today's Marists*, Volume 6, Issue 2.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1	2	3	4
Pentecost Sunday	Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church St. Marcellin Champagnat, Died 1840					
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
The Most Holy Trinity						
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Corpus Christi Father's Day Juneteenth				Nativity of St. John the Baptist	The Most Sacred Heart of Jesus	The Immaculate Heart of the Blessed Virgin Mary
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
			Sts. Peter and Paul, Apostles			
26	27	28	29	30		


June 2022

MAY 2022

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JULY 2022

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24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						



“I have a lot of faith. But I am also afraid a lot and have no real certainty about anything. I remembered something Father Tom had told me — that the opposite of faith is not doubt, but certainty. Certainty is missing the point entirely. Faith includes noticing the mess, the emptiness and discomfort, and letting it be there until some light returns.” — Anne Lamott, *Plan B: Further Thoughts on Faith*

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					St. Junipero Serra	
					1	2
	Independence Day					
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
		St. Peter Chanel, Born 1803		St. Kateri Tekakwitha		
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
						Pledge at Fourvière to found the Society of Mary, 1816 Mass and Prayers for the Society of Mary
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
St. Ignatius of Loyola						
31						

July 2022

JUNE 2022

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AUGUST 2022

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“It is faith that has ‘untold power’ to ‘inspire and sustain our respect for others.’ When we truly believe that no one is beyond the reach of God’s unconditional love, how can we not see one another with new eyes? How can we ever consider anyone less than ourselves? ... Our mission is clear.”

— Pope Francis, *Fratelli Tutti: On Fraternity and Social Friendship*



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	St. Alphonsus de Liguori Secondary Patron of the Society of Mary	St. Peter Julian Eymard, For- mer Marist, Founder Blessed Sacrament Congregation				Transfiguration of The Lord
	1	2	3	4	5	6
Fr. Jean-Claude Colin, SM, Born 1790						
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
	Solemnity of the Assumption of Mary Marists Renew Their Vows					
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

August 2022

JULY 2022
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SEPTEMBER 2022
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“In Mary, act and spirituality are one. In her, interior life has no need to fear that it will be profaned and die when it issues forth in the external work of conceiving a child, serving him as mother, submitting to a life of drudgery, enduring an oppressive political situation, walking the way of the Cross to its end. The Spirit that was imparted to her penetrates into this work. She obtains it by losing herself in sheer, self-giving service of this work. Mary is so given over to God that she can find him in everything: experience, prayer, action, suffering. She is active in contemplation, and contemplative in action ...”

- Karl Rahner, as quoted in Craig Larkin, SM,
A Certain Way: An exploration of Marist Spirituality

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1	2	3
	St. Teresa of Calcutta Labor Day	First Vows of Marist Sisters, 1826		Nativity of The Blessed Virgin Mary		
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	Solemnity of the Most Holy Name of Mary Marist Patronal Feast Mass and Prayers for the Society of Mary	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	Election of First Superior General of Society of Mary, 1836 First Profession of Marists Mass and Prayers for the Society of Mary
25	26	St. Vincent de Paul Secondary Patron of the Society of Mary	28	Sts. Michael, Gabriel, and Raphael, Archangels Patrons of the Society of Mary	30	24
		27		29		

September 2022

AUGUST 2022
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OCTOBER 2022
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“Yet every evening at the end of Vespers the Church sings the Magnificat. For the Church knows where her joy is to be found. And look: God has not found our world or its afflictions, its violence or its wickedness uninhabitable. It is there that He has met us. And there, on the Cross, we have seen the “mercy”, the open heart of God.”

— Francois Marc, SM, *A Marian Church*

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						St. Thérèse of the Child Jesus
						1
	St. Mother Théodore Guérin	St. Francis of Assisi			Our Lady of the Rosary	
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	Columbus Day Indigenous People's Day	Pope St. John XXIII				
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
						Pope St. John Paul II
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					


October 2022

SEPTEMBER 2022

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NOVEMBER 2022

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“Since we are all equal in the eyes of God,
we should treat one another as equals, no
matter where we come from, what
language we speak, what our politics are.
‘Love shatters the chains that keep us
isolated and separate, ... and in their place,
it builds bridges.’”

– Pope Francis, *Fratelli Tutti: On Fraternity
and Social Friendship*

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		All Saints	All Souls' Day Mass for Deceased Marists	Mass for Deceased Benefactors		
		1	2	3	4	5
Daylight Savings Time Ends					Veterans Day	
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
St. Frances Xavier Cabrini		Death of Fr. Jean-Claude Colin, SM, 1875 Mass and Prayers for the Society of Mary				
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Christ The King	Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary			Thanksgiving Day		
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
First Sunday of Advent						
27	28	29	30			

November 2022

OCTOBER 2022

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

DECEMBER 2022

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1 2 3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31



“I will await with confidence the moment at which it will please you to give me that decisive grace that will make me wholly die to self and live to You by a new life wholly hidden with Jesus Christ our Lord.”

- Robert Llewelyn (Ed.), *The Fire of Divine Love: Readings from Jean-Pierre De Caussade*

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1	2	3
Second Sunday of Advent				Immaculate Conception of The Blessed Virgin Mary	St. Juan Diego	
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Third Sunday of Advent	Our Lady of Guadalupe					
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Fourth Sunday of Advent						
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
The Nativity of The Lord Christmas					The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph Marist Missionary Sisters' Constitutions Approved by Rome, 1931	
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

December 2022

NOVEMBER 2022

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

JANUARY 2023

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				



Rev. Joseph Hindelang, SM, Provincial Superior



At our best, we are instruments of God's mercy working to help others taste the boundless love of the Lord, especially those who find themselves on the margins. As Marists, we seek to go where the Church is not. We should enable all with whom we come into contact to experience the gift of reconciliation as well as peace of heart and mind. Mary is the icon of God's Spirit. As her fellow disciples, we pray that with God's grace we become the same. (Statement of Identity for the US Province 2013)

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