



2023 CALENDAR

Society of Mary

THE MARISTS IN THE UNITED STATES

Synodality:

A Message of Hope and Love Based on Dialogue – A Marist Perspective

Fr. Jean-Claude Colin and Synod in Parallel

Below are segments taken from the work by Fr. Paul Walsh, SM, Member and Superior of the Marist Community in Toulon, France

To live an ecclesial process involving the participation and inclusion of all, which offers everyone – especially those who for various reasons find themselves marginalized – the opportunity to express themselves and be listened to in order to contribute to the building up of the People of God.

The SM, a body open to all kinds of people – several branches – embrace all – Mary Mother of Mercy

Recognize the Christian community as a credible subject and as a reliable partner to engage in the paths of social dialogue, healing, reconciliation, inclusion and participation, the reconstruction of democracy, the promotion of fraternity and social friendship.

To recognize and be inspired by the nascent Church – cor unum et anima una – the only model and purpose of mission

.... Synodality is the royal way for the Church, called to renew herself under the action of the Spirit and through listening to the Word. The ability to imagine a different future for the Church and for her institutions, commensurate with the mission she has received, depends to a large extent on the choice to undertake processes of listening, dialogue and community discernment, in which everyone can participate and contribute.

To start a new Church again, according to the form of its beginnings – all agglomerated by our third order

At the same time, the choice to “walk together” is a prophetic sign for a human family that needs a common project, able to seek the good of all. A Church capable of communion and fraternity, of participation and solidarity, in fidelity to what she announces, will be able to stand alongside the poor and the smallest and lend them her voice.

Cor unum, anima una – Mary who gathers her children scattered under her cloak



Synodality:

A Message of Hope and Love Based on Dialogue – A Marist Perspective

by Ted Keating, SM

We see all around us parishes, dioceses, religious congregations and other Church gatherings devoting energy to conversation and dialogue in what Pope Francis calls **“synodality”**. The word Synod, from the Greek, *synodos*, means **“the way together”** and comes from the earliest centuries of the Church. Gradually it became the word for important gatherings of Bishops meeting to find the “way together” as Church.

“Synodality” is a newer word used by Francis trying to call forth a **“way of being Church”** - a style of dialogue involving consultation throughout the Church from the parish level all the way to the top echelons of the Church. It would be a normal practice for us as Church as we make our way through history as the People of God. The results of these gatherings and reflection on the current needs of the Church will be the basis of a formal Synod of the whole Church in Rome in 2023. This 2023 calendar is dedicated to **“Synodality”** and has quotations that are meant to inspire us as we work through this process and find ways to make this the characteristic way of **“being Church”** into the future. The quotes exemplify deep-rooted Marist values and inspire the type of Church being called forth.

Since Vatican II the Church has given us some wisdom, continuing from the work of St. Paul VI, on the understanding of dialogue for moments like this when we come together in conversation over the renewal and present situation of the Church and its constant need for reform.

Pope Francis said in a document on non-violence in 2017 (*World Day of Peace Message*):

I wish peace to every man, woman and child, and I pray that the image and likeness of God in each person will enable us to acknowledge one another as sacred gifts endowed with immense dignity. Especially in situations of conflict, let us respect this, our “deepest dignity”, and make active nonviolence our way of life.

When Pope Francis speaks of nonviolence here, it is clear that he wants to emphasize that **non-violence is a way of**

living a Gospel life and not just a stance in the face of war or other situations of physical violence. It is often first a way of speaking. In speaking about the Holocaust that he had lived through in Germany, Rabbi Abraham Heschel said that it did not begin with the force of weapons and massive arrests, but in words. The cycle of violence began in how Germans spoke about one another, especially in language used about the Jews. We see in our own contemporary world how the **words used when we speak about one another can lead to deadly consequences**.

Before St. Paul VI convened the first Synod of the modern Catholic Church in 1965, called for by Vatican II, he issued an Encyclical of the whole Church called *Ecclesiam Suam*, literally **“Your Church”**. There was already a great deal of conflict about the recent Council and how it was to be interpreted. Much of the Encyclical was about **“dialogue”** as a Christian form of conversation that should characterize the way a conversation unfolds no matter where it is being engaged - from the witness of daily life up to the great Councils and Synods of the Church. St. Paul VI coined the phrase that **“dialogue is the new word for love”**. Conversation that is not characterized by love cannot truly generate truth no matter the importance of the subject being discussed. It draws us back to the concern of Pope Francis that the speech of Christians must witness to the non-violence of love. Personal attack, cruel derogatory uses of language and other subtle forms of violent speech meant to demean cannot generate truth no matter how astute and well-reasoned the argument. We see how unhelpful it is in so much current political talk. Chapter 3 of the brilliant Letter of James in the New Testament is an excellent source of reflection on the **dangers of the “human tongue”**, the most dangerous organ of the human person, echoing the experience of Rabbi Heschel.

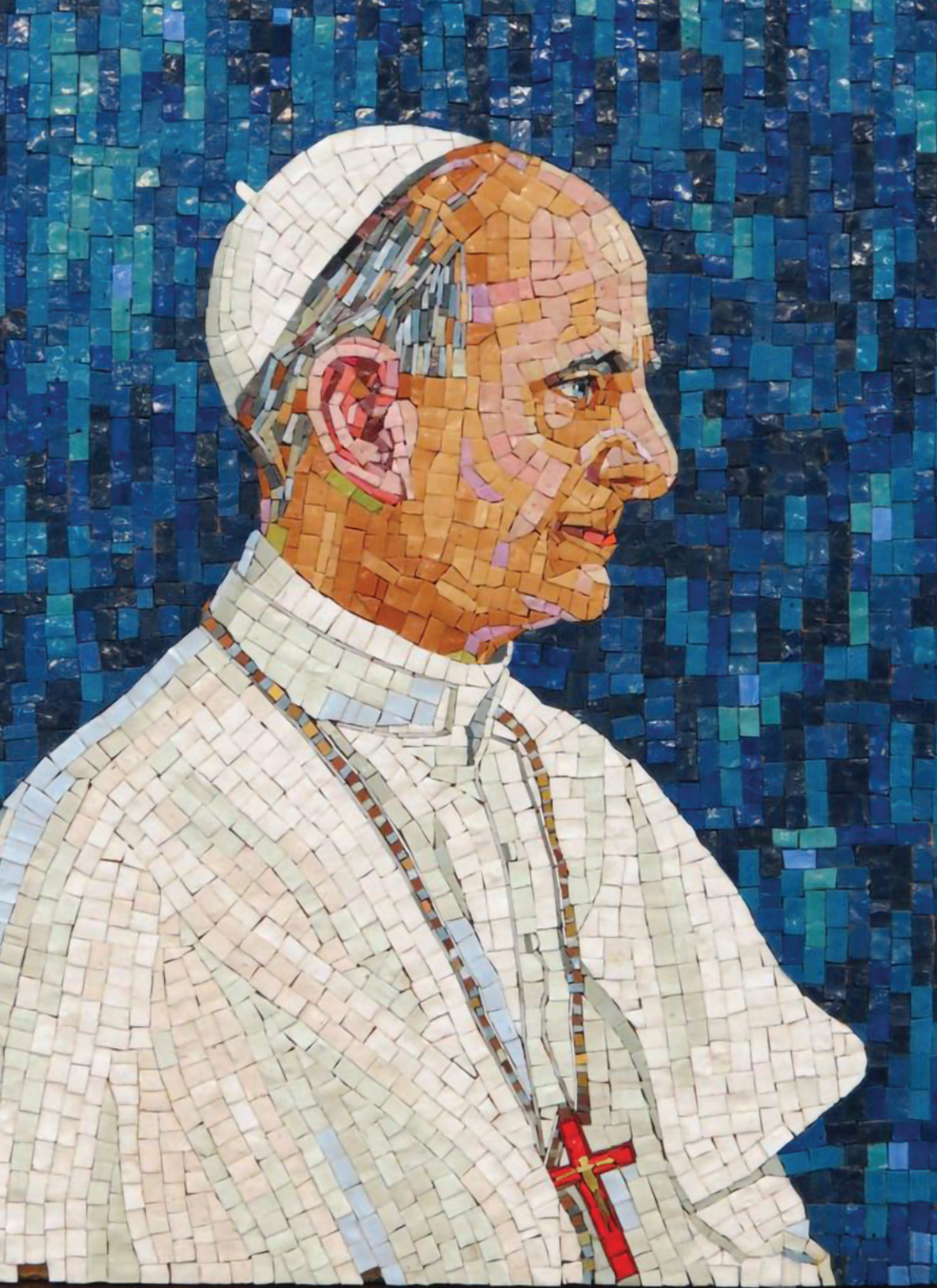
Our Founder, Jean Claude Colin, in many of his talks, writings and quotes says that our spiritual life must be one of growing **“emptying of self”** so that others that we engage with will find nothing that would stand in the way of their experience of God or the Gospel. When we live out that

spirituality, we find ourselves more open to the richness of the world beyond the narrow views of our own prejudices, hang ups and need for control in the world around us.

A disarmed heart that lives out a spirituality of dialogue will not have to give much thought to non-violence or the uses of violence to resolve conflicts. Dialogue is the very opposite of actual violence and of the subtle violence in demeaning and abusing another through speech or behavior. There are some practical principles of dialogue based on widespread experience that can help us examine our approach to dialogue:

- **The essential purpose of dialogue is to learn, which entails change and flexibility.**
- **Dialogue must be a two-sided project with openness, honesty, sincerity and mutual trust on both sides to work.**
- **Each party must not bring any preconceptions to the dialogue as to where any points of disagreement lie. The process should be to frame the disagreement together.**
- **Dialogue can take place only between equals which means that they learn from each other.**
- **To understand one another, parties in dialogue should have a humble sense of criticism about themselves and their beliefs and must try to understand the other with empathy.**

As Pope Francis says, dialogue only works as an alternative to violence or subtle violence in the context of a relationships in family or community. It is from there that we can bring the gifts of dialogue to the conflictive world around us with a sense of security and the boldness of an enduring and loving search for the grounds of dialogue with all we encounter. Dialogue will more likely bring everyone in our synodal gatherings to the **“truth born of love” and a Church rooted in love**.



History of the Synod

The institution of the Synod of Bishops was established on September 15, 1965 by Pope Paul VI, in keeping with the request of the fathers of the Second Vatican Council to maintain the collegial spirit fostered by the council. Since then synods have been organized every two or three years, bringing together bishops, experts and various delegates to discuss different topics.

- from Rahai – a Way of Life,
<https://youtu.be/I5IAktuejwo>

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

January 2023

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

FEBRUARY 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			



How is this Synod different from others?

This Synod, from 2021-2023, will be a journey of sharing, reflecting and listening at all levels across the entire Church. Synodality is about journeying together through listening to one another in order to hear what God is saying to all of us. It is realizing that the Holy Spirit can speak through anyone to help us walk forward together on our journey as the people of God. Synodality is a call to be a new way of being Church – it is the very heart of what the Church is all about.

St. John Chrysostom said that for him “Church and Synod are synonymous” since the Church is all about working together. Synodality is a way of renewing the Church, from her deepest roots in order to be more united with one another and better carry out our mission in the world.

- from Rahai – a Way of Life,
<https://youtu.be/I5IAktuejwo>

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
		St. Valentine's Day				
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
	Presidents' Day		Ash Wednesday			
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
First Sunday of Lent		Approbation of Fr. Colin's Constitutions, 1873 Mass and Prayers for the Society of Mary				
26	27	28				

February 2023

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				

MARCH 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	



“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. ...” - Francois Marc, SM, *A Marian Church*

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

March 2023

FEBRUARY 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				

APRIL 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						



When Pope Francis launched the synod on synodality last year, I immediately thought of Fr. Colin's prophetic intuition of the action of Marists in the Church, inspired by the short phrase; "all these devoted themselves with one accord to prayer, together with some women, and Mary the mother of Jesus..." (Acts 1:14) Like Mary, Marists of all branches are invited to be present and actively engaged with the whole Church in prayer, listening to the Holy Spirit, the world and each other as we seek a new way to reveal the Reign of God today.

- Sister Michelle de Silva, smsm, Society of Mary USA Vocation E-Newsletter, June 2022

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1
Palm Sunday	Monday of Holy Week	Tuesday of Holy Week	Wednesday of Holy Week	Holy Thursday	Passion of The Lord Good Friday	Holy Saturday
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Easter Sunday Resurrection of The Lord	Easter Monday					
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Second Sunday of Easter Sunday of Divine Mercy						
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
Third Sunday of Easter					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
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
Fourth Sunday of Easter						
30						

April 2023

MARCH 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	

MAY 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	



At the School Level:

Why is the Synod on Synodality critical to the Church today from a Marist Perspective?

Given the decrease in young people practicing the faith, it is more important than ever that those who are on the margins of the Church and those baptized who have left it are invited into dialogue by a Church who wants to hear from them as it prepares to minister to and evangelize in the present age. Students today want to know that their Church is listening to their concerns and is journeying alongside them as they encounter a world that works to convince them that self-

sufficiency is preferred to community, that ideology is more important than spirituality, and that division cannot be healed. The Synod on Synodality sends a clear and strong message of hope to young people that their Church is listening and, like their own hearts, is ready for conversion and change.

-Kevin Mullally, Principal, Marist School, Atlanta, Georgia

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

May 2023

APRIL 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						

JUNE 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	



At the Parish Level:

Why is the Synod on Synodality critical to the Church today from a Marist Perspective?

Marist Synodality is about listening to and walking with our people. Let's listen to the feedback San Felipe de Jesus (SFJ) parishioners in Brownsville, Texas shared during synod listening sessions ...

- SFJ is a simple, welcoming and humble community where you feel human warmth without excluding anyone ... we feel like family.
- Many have been attending for three generations and return home (SFJ) for the sacraments and other celebrations
- SFJ's focus is on helping everyone, especially the needy in the community and beyond ... food ministry, the migrant youth, migrants and communities and villages across the river in Mexico.
- Our pastor is approachable, loves everyone, is willing to help and serve, includes all ages, explains the gospel very well and participates in fellowship with the community...
- We are located in the neighborhood of Cameron Park. We as parishioners with our Marist priests have struggled in the neighborhood for the basics of lights, water and roadwork and continue collaborating to civically taking out the vote.
- Through the years our parish life has taught us to be creative and do everything we can with a spirit of renewal and courage.

- Fr. Tony O'Connor, SM, Pastor, San Felipe de Jesus, Brownsville, Texas

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

June 2023

MAY 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			

JULY 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					



In the Family:

Why is the Synod on Synodality critical to the Church today from a Marist Perspective?

The lay Marists are called to formation, mission, and community in the way of Mary to go out to spread the gospel. Through the document of *Our Hearts are Burning With Us* (USCCB), the church calls every family to commit to their role as disciples supported by their parish in equipping them to share the gospel. This is reflective of the Marist family where each voice is heard to build an enriched community.

Every disciple of the Lord Jesus shares in this mission. To do their part, adult Catholics must be mature in faith and well equipped to share the gospel. Promoting it in every family circle, in every church gathering, in every place of work, and in every public forum. They must be women and men of prayer whose faith is alive and vital, grounded in a deep commitment to the person and message of Jesus. (*Our Hearts are Burning Within Us*, #2)

- Elizabeth Piper, National Formation Leader for Catechesis of the Good Shepherd; Co-Leader of World Lay Marist; Director of Faith Formation, Our Lady of the Assumption Catholic Church, Brookhaven, Georgia

Photo: Our Lady of the Assumption Catholic Church, Brookhaven, Georgia

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

July 2023

JUNE 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	

AUGUST 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



Why is the Synod on Synodality critical to the Church today from a Marist Perspective?

Descriptions of a synodal church remind me very much of portrayals I've read about a Marian Church, particularly the beautiful, poetic "A Marian Church" by Francois Marc, SM.

"A Marian Church...visits men and women
And, although things may appear to be sterile,
She is on the watch for what is coming to birth,
for possibilities, for the life that beats in all things."

Marists will find much in this movement toward a synodal church that resonates with us and makes us feel at home.

Cardinal Robert McElroy recently published an article (America, July/August 2022) articulating Pope Francis' marks of synodality.

1. The whole of the People of God are journeying together in the life of the Church.
2. Synodality needs a constant stance of discernment, seeking the guidance of the Spirit.

3. It is rooted in listening to the Word of God and joyfully celebrating the Eucharist.
4. Listening lies at the heart of our encounters with other disciples.
5. A synodal Church is a humble and honest Church.
6. A synodal Church is a discerning Church, not a parliamentary one.
7. Synodality demands a participative, inclusive and co-responsible Church.

Do you feel at home with these seven elements of a synodal church?

- Sr. Linda Sevcik, SM, Marist Sister Atlantic Regional
Leader and Executive Director of Manresa Jesuit Retreat
House, Bloomfield Hills, Michigan

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			
		1	2	3	4	5
Transfiguration of The Lord	Fr. Jean-Claude Colin, SM, Born 1790					
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
		Solemnity of the Assumption of Mary Marists Renew Their Vows				
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

August 2023

JULY 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					

SEPTEMBER 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



Sustainability Covenant (adopted by the Marist General Administration on July 19, 2022) is founded on three Principles: Trinitarian, Incarnational, and Marian.

Our Marist covenant is rooted within the “ecology” of an ever-generative love and compassion that is the Holy Trinity. This dynamic of relationship and communion is the source and inspiration for the life and love of the human community and all of Creation, which we are called to through our baptism. In this way we make our own the Trinitarian dynamism which God imprinted in us when we were created. [*Laudato Si'* 240]

Our Marist covenant is Incarnational. It celebrates God-with-us in the very matter of our earthly dwelling. Jesus Christ, the embodiment of life and love Divine, raises the web of creation into a new realm. Immersed into this new realm by our baptism we labor with all creation to “bring all things in heaven and on earth together in Christ.” (*Eph.1:10*)

As Marists our sustainability covenant will be enfleshed and lived out through the Spirit of the Society of Mary. Marists are called to be Mary, to think, judge, feel and act as her. Mary nurtured the vulnerable Incarnate

Son of God at Nazareth and embraced his dead body at the foot of the cross; she was at the heart of the Church when the Spirit was poured out at Pentecost. Empowered by this same Spirit we are called to care for the most vulnerable, and the poor of our common home who are always the first to be affected by our ecological crisis. (*Laudato Si'* 241)

- *Sustainability Covenant* by Marist Ecological Commission
coordinated by Fr. Ben McKenna, SM

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1	2
	Labor Day	St. Teresa of Calcutta	First Vows of Marist Sisters, 1826		Nativity of The Blessed Virgin Mary	
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
		Solemnity of the Most Holy Name of Mary Marist Patronal Feast Mass and Prayers for the Society of Mary			Our Lady of Sorrows	
10	11	12	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			St. Vincent de Paul Secondary Patron of the Society of Mary		Sts. Michael, Gabriel, and Raphael, Archangels Patrons of the Society of Mary	
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

September 2023

AUGUST 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		

OCTOBER 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				



At the School Level:

Why is the Synod on Synodality critical to the Church today from a Marist Perspective?

Our Marist mission is to work with God to form Christian persons, upright citizens, and academic scholars. As a Marist school, we need to work together with our students, teachers, parents, coaches, and alumni to ensure that we properly understand, discern, and live our mission daily.

The Synod on Synodality is about coming together as a Church community. It's about listening and engaging all members of the Church in our faith and its beliefs, so that we can grow together as one. We need to bring our school community together in a similar fashion.

Our faith should not be taught in a vacuum, nor should it simply be rules for students to follow. It is important that we create an environment where teachers role model our faith for students so they can witness first-hand what it means to be a disciple of Christ. Dialogue, transparency, and effective communication are all keys to fulfilling the vision of Pope Francis for the Synod on Synodality and the mission given to us by Fr. Colin.

- Andy Guest, Head of School, Notre Dame Preparatory School
and Marist Academy, Pontiac, Michigan

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

October 2023

SEPTEMBER 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

NOVEMBER 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



Why is the Synod on Synodality critical to the Church today from a Marist Perspective?

The Synod on Synodality is critical for the Church today in light of the Society of Mary *Constitutions* (no. 16), which states, “Marists support the Bishop of Rome with all their strength; they place themselves at his disposal to answer the needs of the Church throughout the world. Because of their desire for the unity of the Church, the healing of divisions among God’s people will be one of their constant concerns.”

Pope Francis has said, “It is precisely the path of synodality which God expects of the Church of the third millennium.” The Pope would like to

see this type of decision-making not only among the bishops meeting in Rome but “at every level of the Church’s life.” If we as a Church can share his vision regarding synodality, we will be living the spirit of another of our *Constitutions* (no. 8), “Because they bear the name of Mary ... they come to share her zeal for her Son’s mission ... and to respond ... to the most urgent needs of God’s people.”

- Most Reverend Joel M. Konzen, SM, Auxiliary Bishop of Atlanta

Photo: San Felipe de Jesus, Brownsville, Texas

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	6	7	8	9	10	Veterans Day 11
12	St. Frances Xavier Cabrini 13	14	Death of Fr. Jean-Claude Colin, SM, 1875 Mass and Prayers for the Society of Mary 15	16	17	18
19	20	Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary 21	22	Thanksgiving Day 23	24	25
Christ The King 26	27	28	29	30		

November 2023

OCTOBER 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				

DECEMBER 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						



At the Formation Level: Why is the Synod on Synodality critical to the Church today from a Marist Perspective?

Synodality always begins with the example. As a Church, the best we have, after Jesus, is that of Mary. For she, in order to live, had to listen to the Word of God that gives life. She, who brought *the* Life to us, lived her life giving herself completely in service to others because she heard the cry of life that came from each child of God. Because she listened, she was able to be present in the needs of her children. Today synodality invites all of us to be like Mary: listening, being present, giving life. Thus, this synod on synodality is crucial for every Christian because it invites us to re-learn how to listen to the cry of the brother, of the one who is by our side and, who so many times, as a Church, we have failed to hear. Re-learning to listen is to make our hearts like Mary's, humble, that does not appear, but is always there for everyone, in a loving presence for all.

- David Raymundo Sánchez Garduño, SM,
Novice Director, Rome, Italy

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

December 2023

NOVEMBER 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		

JANUARY 2024

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)

Society of Mary Information

815 Varnum St, NE | Washington, DC 20017
202.529.2821 | smpublications@maristsociety.org

Support the Marist Foreign Missions

617.451.3237 | MaristWorldMissions@gmail.com

Support the Marists in the U.S.

Office of Development
617.451.3237 | development@maristsociety.org

Visit our website at: societyofmaryusa.org

Follow us on:

Facebook @SocietyOfMary.Marists.USA
 Instagram @smpublicationsusa