



2026 CALENDAR

Society of Mary

THE MARISTS IN THE UNITED STATES



Dilexit Nos – “He Loved Us So That Nothing Could Ever Separate Us from that Love”

by Ted Keating, SM

Pope Francis’ final encyclical, *Dilexit Nos*, (“He Loved Us”) on the Human and Divine Love of the Heart of Jesus Christ, was published on October 24, 2024 (bit.ly/3U7d48o). This encyclical, on the Sacred Heart, was released quietly during the last week of the Synod on Synodality. *Dilexit Nos* is to be understood in conjunction with his previous two encyclicals, *Laudato Si’*, on Care for Our Common Home, and *Fratelli Tutti*, on Fraternity and Social Friendship.

Pope Francis wrote, “The present document can help us see that the teaching of the social encyclicals...is not unrelated to our encounter with the love of Jesus Christ, ... For it is by drinking of that same love that we become capable of forging bonds of fraternity, or recognizing the dignity of each human being, and of working together to care for our common home.”

Dilexit Nos focuses on the themes of divine and human love, the importance of the heart as a symbol of faith and the need for a renewed focus on Christ’s love in a troubled world. It emphasizes the Sacred Heart as a source of compassion, healing and a call to action for Christians to build a more just and loving world.

On November 15, 2025, Marists around the world celebrated the sesquicentenary of the anniversary of the

death of Jean-Claude Colin, our founder. It is appropriate to choose as the theme of the 2026 Marist U.S. Province Calendar the final encyclical of Pope Francis, *Dilexit Nos*, as we recall the three foundational quotes of Fr. Colin regarding the Sacred Heart (bit.ly/45rojgZ):

“I must renew devotion to the Sacred Heart in the Society, ...And is not devotion to the Sacred Heart essentially the devotion to Love?”

“When we shall have understood what real love is, we shall have understood - the form and exact intensity of love to give to a creature - in and for God. Love properly understood does not mutilate the soul. On the contrary, it dilates it by bringing order and balance into it.”

“We have learnt to recognize the love God has in our regard, to recognize it, and to make it our belief. God is love; he who dwells in love dwells in God, and God in him.”

It is our hope that the monthly quotes in this calendar which stem from *Dilexit Nos* (“He Loved Us”) and the images will help guide and remind us of the unconditional and never-failing love Christ has for all of us.

Statement of Identity

Mary of Nazareth, the first disciple of the Lord and Mother of the Church, is the heart of our identity as Marists. This remarkable woman of faith has called us to this way of life. We believe that we have been called by a “gracious choice” into the family of Mary. It is her work that we do and so we commit ourselves to think, judge, feel and act as she did.

These qualities mark us as Marists: mercy and compassion, availability, welcome and hospitality, simplicity manifest in everyday ordinariness and a common touch. We are self-effacing apostles who demonstrate a spirit of joy and respect for others; we are called to be humble and hidden and unknown in the world.

Our spirituality, which is both mystical and practical, responds to the reality and circumstances of today’s world. Jean-Claude Colin, acting on what he believed to be Mary’s desire, encouraged us to establish a Marian Church, a Church with the heart of a mother beating at its center.

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, US Province of the Marists
Assembly and Chapter of June 2013

Image: *Mary, Spouse of the Holy Spirit*, statue located in Esmond Brady Memorial Chapel at Marist School, Atlanta, Georgia





“The heart of Christ is “ecstasy”, openness, gift and encounter. In that heart, we learn to relate to one another in wholesome and happy ways, and to build up in this world God’s kingdom of love and justice. Our hearts, united with the heart of Christ, are capable of working this social miracle.” (No. 28)

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

January 2026

DECEMBER 2025

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FEBRUARY 2026

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“When [Saint] Therese [of the Child Jesus] was fifteen, she could speak of Jesus as the one ‘whose heart beats in unison with my own.’ Two years later, speaking of the image of Christ’s heart crowned with thorns, she wrote in a letter: ‘You know that I myself do not see the Sacred Heart as everyone else. I think that the Heart of my Spouse is mine alone, just as mine is his alone, and I speak to him then in the solitude of this delightful heart to heart, while waiting to contemplate him one day face to face.’” (No. 134)



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	Feast of the Presentation of The Lord Marists Renew Their Vows 2	3	4	5	6	Sr. Marie-Francoise Perroton, smsm, Born 1796 7
8	9	10	11	12	13	St. Valentine's Day 14
15	Presidents' Day 16	17	Ash Wednesday 18	19	20	21
First Sunday of Lent 22	23	24	25	26	27	Approbation of Fr. Colin's, SM, Constitutions, 1873 Mass and Prayers for the Society of Mary 28

February 2026

JANUARY 2026

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MARCH 2026

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“Jesus is calling you and sending you forth to spread goodness in our world. His call is one of service, a summons to do good, perhaps as a physician, a mother, a teacher or a priest. Wherever you may be, you can hear his call and realize that he is sending you forth to carry out that mission. He himself told us, ‘I am sending you out’ (Lk 10:3). ... it is up to you to let him send you forth on a mission in this world, and to carry it out confidently, generously, freely and fearlessly. If you stay trapped in your own comfort zone, you will never really find security; doubts and fears, sorrow and anxiety will always loom on the horizon. ... Never forget that Jesus is at your side at every step of the way. He will not cast you into the abyss, or leave you to your own devices. He will always be there to encourage and accompany you. He has promised, and he will do it: ‘For I am with you always, to the end of the age’ (Mt 28:20)”. (No. 215)

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

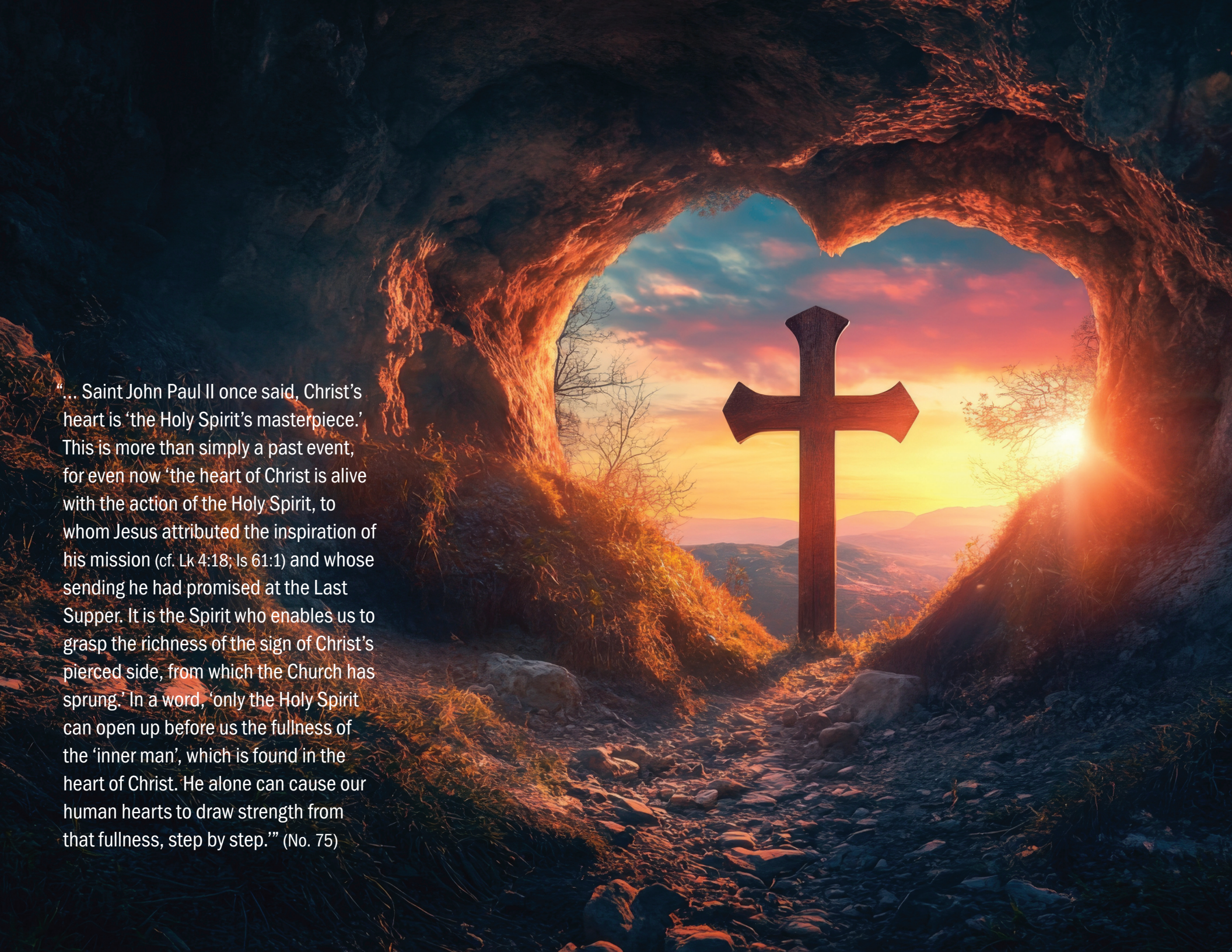
March 2026

FEBRUARY 2026

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APRIL 2026

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A large wooden cross stands in the center of a cave's opening. The cave's interior is dark and textured, with the cross silhouetted against a bright, colorful sunset sky. The sun is low on the horizon, casting a warm, golden glow that fills the cave's entrance and illuminates the surrounding landscape. The landscape features a rocky path leading towards the cross, with hills and sparse vegetation visible in the distance. The overall mood is serene and spiritual.

“... Saint John Paul II once said, Christ’s heart is ‘the Holy Spirit’s masterpiece.’ This is more than simply a past event, for even now ‘the heart of Christ is alive with the action of the Holy Spirit, to whom Jesus attributed the inspiration of his mission (cf. Lk 4:18; Is 61:1) and whose sending he had promised at the Last Supper. It is the Spirit who enables us to grasp the richness of the sign of Christ’s pierced side, from which the Church has sprung.’ In a word, ‘only the Holy Spirit can open up before us the fullness of the ‘inner man’, which is found in the heart of Christ. He alone can cause our human hearts to draw strength from that fullness, step by step.’” (No. 75)

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

April 2026

MARCH 2026

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MAY 2026

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31						



“In the heart of the Church, the mediation of Mary, as our intercessor and mother, can only be understood as ‘a sharing in the one source, which is the mediation of Christ himself.’ For this reason, ‘the Church does not hesitate to profess the subordinate role of Mary.’ Devotion to the heart of Mary in no way detracts from the sole worship due the heart of Christ, but rather increases it: ‘Mary’s function as mother of humanity in no way obscures or diminishes this unique mediation of Christ, but rather shows its power.’ Thanks to the abundant graces streaming from the open side of Christ, in different ways the Church, the Virgin Mary and all believers become themselves streams of living water. In this way, Christ displays his glory in and through our littleness.” (No. 176)

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1	2
Fifth Sunday of Easter						
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Sixth Sunday of Easter Mother's Day						
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Ascension of The Lord			St. Marcellin Champagnat, FMS, Born 1789			
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
Pentecost Sunday	Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church Memorial Day Mass and Prayers for the Living Benefactors				Pope St. Paul VI	
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
The Most Holy Trinity Visitation of The Blessed Virgin Mary						
31						

May 2026

APRIL 2026

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JUNE 2026

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“I ask our Lord Jesus Christ to grant that his Sacred Heart may continue to pour forth the streams of living water that can heal the hurt we have caused, strengthen our ability to love and serve others, and inspire us to journey together towards a just, solidary and fraternal world. Until that day when we will rejoice in celebrating together the banquet of the heavenly kingdom in the presence of the risen Lord, who harmonizes all our differences in the light that radiates perpetually from his open heart. May he be blessed forever.” (No. 220)

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						St. Marcellin Champagnat, FMS, Died 1840
	1	2	3	4	5	6
Corpus Christi					The Most Sacred Heart of Jesus	The Immaculate Heart of the Blessed Virgin Mary
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
					Juneteenth	
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Father's Day			Nativity of St. John the Baptist			
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
	Sts. Peter and Paul, Apostles	Sr. Jeanne-Marie Chavoin, sm, Died 1858				
28	29	30				

June 2026

MAY 2026

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JULY 2026

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“If we find it hard to trust others because we have been hurt by lies, injuries and disappointments, the Lord whispers in our ear: ‘Take heart, son!’ (Mt 9:2), ‘Take heart, daughter!’ (Mt 9:22). He encourages us to overcome our fear and to realize that, with him at our side, we have nothing to lose.” (No. 37)

Image: Marist Family Founders (left to right): Fr. Jean-Claude Colin, SM, St. Marcellin Champagnat, FMS, Sr. Jeanne-Marie Chavoin, sm, and Sr. Marie Françoise Perroton, smsm

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			St. Junipero Serra			Independence Day
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
St. Peter Chanel, SM, Born 1803		St. Kateri Tekakwitha				
12	13	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	24	25
					St. Ignatius of Loyola	
26	27	28	29	30	31	

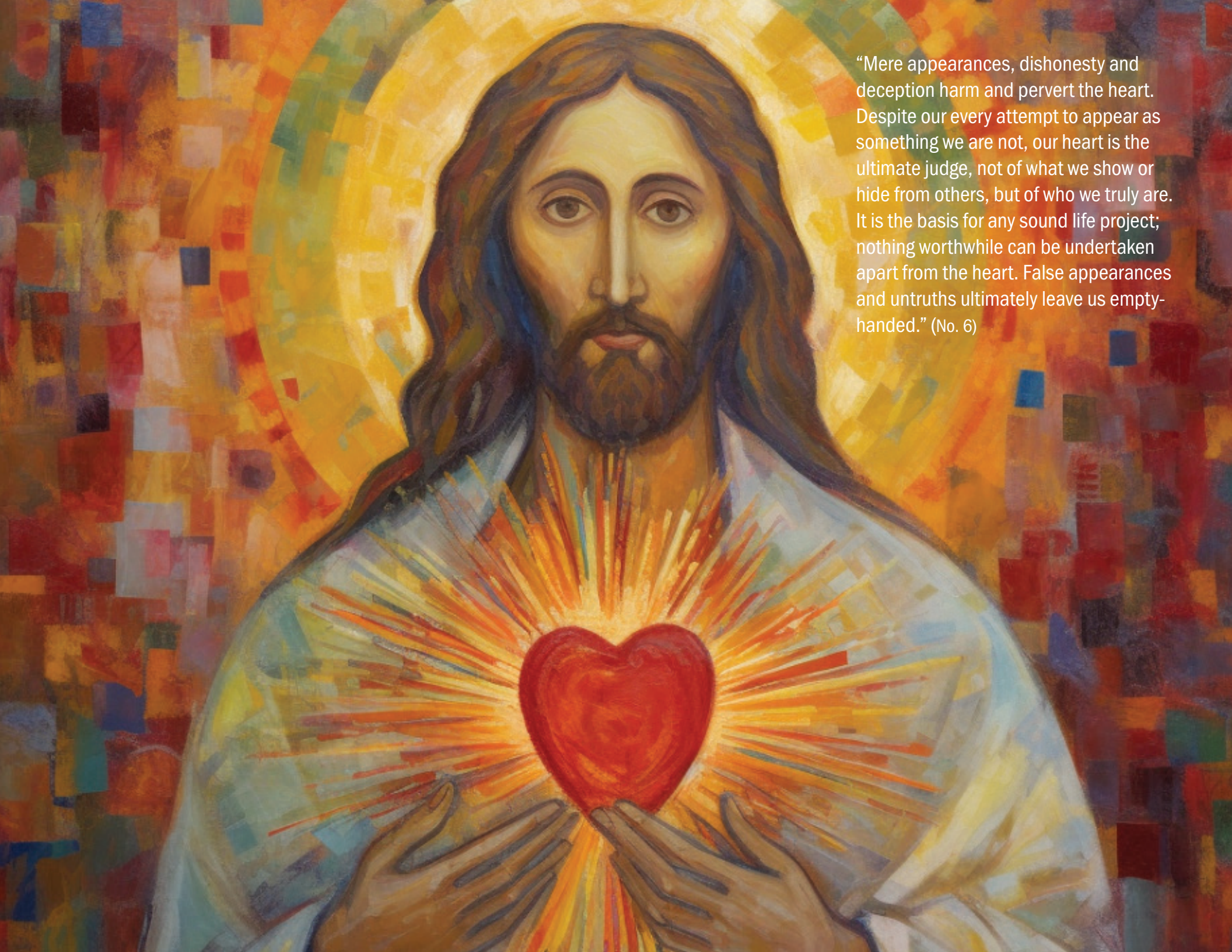
July 2026

JUNE 2026

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AUGUST 2026

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“Mere appearances, dishonesty and deception harm and pervert the heart. Despite our every attempt to appear as something we are not, our heart is the ultimate judge, not of what we show or hide from others, but of who we truly are. It is the basis for any sound life project; nothing worthwhile can be undertaken apart from the heart. False appearances and untruths ultimately leave us empty-handed.” (No. 6)

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						St. Alphonsus de Liguori Secondary Patron of the Society of Mary 1
St. Peter Julian Eymard, Former Marist, Founder Blessed Sacrament Congregation 2	3	4	5	Transfiguration of The Lord 6	Fr. Jean-Claude Colin, SM, Born 1790 7	8
9	Sr. Marie-Francoise Perroton, smsm, Died 1873 10	11	12	13	St. Maximilian Kolbe 14	Solemnity of the Assumption of Mary Marists Renew Their Vows 15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	St. Louis 25	26	27	28	Sr. Jeanne-Marie Chavoin, sm, Born 1786 29
30	31					

August 2026

JULY 2026

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SEPTEMBER 2026

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26	27	28	29	30		



Dilexit Nos "... can help us see that the teaching of the social Encyclicals *Laudato Si'* and *Fratelli Tutti* is not unrelated to our encounter with the love of Jesus Christ. For it is by drinking of that same love that we become capable of forging bonds of fraternity, of recognizing the dignity of each human being, and of working together to care for our common home." (No. 217)

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

September 2026

AUGUST 2026

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OCTOBER 2026

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“Christ asks you never to be ashamed to tell others, with all due discretion and respect, about your friendship with him. He asks that you dare to tell others how good and beautiful it is that you found him. ...” (No. 211)



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				St. Thérèse of the Child Jesus		St. Mother Théodore Guérin
				1	2	3
St. Francis of Assisi			Our Lady of the Rosary			
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Pope St. John XXIII	Columbus Day Indigenous People's Day					
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
World Mission Sunday				Pope St. John Paul II		
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
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October 2026

SEPTEMBER 2026

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NOVEMBER 2026

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“If we fail to appreciate the specificity of the heart, we miss the messages that the mind alone cannot communicate; we miss out on the richness of our encounters with others; we miss out on poetry. We also lose track of history and our own past, since our real personal history is built with the heart. At the end of our lives, that alone will matter.” (No. 11) “Whenever we feel that everyone ignores us, that no one cares what becomes of us, that we are of no importance to anyone, he remains concerned for us.” (No. 40)

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

November 2026

OCTOBER 2026

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DECEMBER 2026

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“In the presence of the heart of Christ, I once more ask the Lord to have mercy on this suffering world in which he chose to dwell as one of us. May he pour out the treasures of his light and love, so that our world, which presses forward despite wars, socio-economic disparities and uses of technology that threaten our humanity, may regain the most important and necessary thing of all: its heart.” (No. 31)

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

December 2026

NOVEMBER 2026

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JANUARY 2027

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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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