MARIST PROVINCE OF WEST AFRICA

Religious Calendar: February 2026	
Pope's Intention: For children with incurable diseases. Let us pray that children suffering from incurable diseases and their families receive the necessary medical care and support, never losing strength and hope.	
February 1st FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME: Psalms Week IV. **Vestment Green**	
Liturgy	Zep 2:3; 3:12-13 "I will leave in the midst of you a people humble and lowly" 1 Cor 1:26-31 "God Chose what is weak in the world" Mt 5:1-12a "Blessed are the poor in spirit."
Reminder	Evening prayer I of the Solemnity of the Presentation of the Lord
Anniversaries	1856 The first Marist Foundation in Belgium
Reflection	**Marvelous Companion by Br. Sean Sammon** "Let Christ be the center and passion of your life and the life of your community."
Intentions	For all those working in the mass media. For Marist communities in Belgium and Chile
February 2nd MONDAY THE PRSENTATION OF THE LORD OFFICE PROPER **Vestment: White**	
Liturgy	Mal 3:1-4 "The Lord whom you seek will come to his temple" Heb 2:14-18 "He had to be made like his brethren in every respect." Lk 2:22-40 or 2:22-32 "My eyes have seen your salvation."
Birthday	Br. Martin Nguma Mbeng (1968) from Cameroon
Reminder	World day of Consecrated people (Religious Priest, Brothers and Sisters) Beginning of Canonical visit to Novitiate community.
Anniversaries	In 1934, a group of German Marist Brothers begun our Marist work in Uruguay.
Reflection	**Marvelous Companion by Br. Sean Sammon** Our identity as disciples of Christ lies at the heart of our mission and of our life together as brothers in community.
Intentions	For Br. Martin, his family, personal intension and his community in and his mission in Chad. For all the all-religious working in our province.
February 3rd Tuesday of the Fourth Week in Ordinary Time. Psalms: Week IV **Vestment Green**	
Liturgy	2 Sm 18:9-10, 14b, 24-25a, 30—19:3 "My son Absalom, would that I had died instead of you." Mk 5:21-43 "Little girl I say to you, arise."

Anniversaries	1874, Death of Brother Maria-Nizier, the first Marist Brother chosen by Fr. Champagnat to send out to the mission in Oceania in 1836 when he was 29 years old.
Reflection	**Marvelous Companion by Br. Sean Sammon** In making that public commitment, we let the faithful and everyone else know that, henceforth, our identity would be bound to our intention to live fully and radically the Good News of Jesus Christ within the community of Marcellin's Little Brothers.
Intentions	For all the Missionary Brothers working for from their home countries. For students in our schools who finds studies challenging.
February 4th Wednesday of the Fourth Week in Ordinary Time: Psalms Week IV. Vestment Green	
Liturgy	2 Sm 24:2, 9-17 "I have sinned in numbering the people; but these sheep, what have they done." Mk 6:1-6 "A prophet is not without honor, except in his own country."
Reminder	Submission of the Theme for Retreat 2026
Reflection	**Marvelous Companion by Br. Sean Sammon** Our failure to realize that community and mission are actually two sides of the same coin has caused us to accept all too readily a number of facile but inaccurate descriptions of our life together.
Intentions	For brothers passing through difficult moments. For the grace to always do the will of God.
February 5th Thursday of the Fourth Week in Ordinary Time: Psalms Week IV. Vestment Green	
Liturgy	1 Kgs 2:1-4, 10-12 "I am about to go the way of all the earth. Be strong, Solomon, and show yourself a man." Mk 6:7-13 "He began to send them out."
Memorial	St. Agatha, virgin and Martyr
Reflection	**Marvelous Companion by Br. Sean Sammon** It may surprise some to learn that in parts of our Institute at the moment, the fundamental question about our community life centers around its meaning.
Intentions	For all the brothers working in various teams and commissions of our province.

	For our brothers working in Provincial House.
February 6th Friday of the Fourth Week in Ordinary Time: Psalms Week IV. Vestment Green	
	Sir 47:2-11 "David praised the Lord God with all his heart and loved God." Mk 6:14-29 "John, whom I beheaded, has been raised."
Memorial	Paul Miki and Companions, Martyrs. Paul Miki and his 25 companions were crucified in Japan, 1597.They were Japanese and Europeans, religious and laypeople.
Anniversaries	1867: Departure of Brothers to South Africa. This was the first Marist foundation in Africa and the first outside France.
Reflection	**Marvelous Companion by Br. Sean Sammon** Arriving at a commonly understood and accepted definition is a pressing task facing many Institutes today, including our own.
Intentions	For the Church in Japan. For the brothers and works in Marist Province of Southern Africa.
February 7th Saturday of the Fourth Week in Ordinary Time: Psalms week iv. Vestment Green	
Liturgy	1 Kgs 3:4-13 "Give your servant an understanding mind to govern your people." Mk 6:30-34 "They were like sheep without a shepherd."
Reflection	**Marvelous Companion by Br. Sean Sammon** We know that Marcellin held community life in high regard. In his Spiritual Testament he included these words: "I beg of you, my dear brothers, with all the affection of my soul, and by all the love you have for me, do all you can to ensure that charity is always maintained among you."5The virtue of charity was to lie at the heart of any community that mirrored the founder's spirit.
Intentions	For the Church and Civil leaders. For the brothers working in Bafut community. = Marist Saturday: Day of prayer for Marist Vocations in the Province.
January 8TH FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME: Psalms: Week I Vestment: Green	
Liturgy	Is 58:7-10 "Your light shall break forth like the dawn." 1 Cor 2:1 "I have told you of the mystery of Christ crucified." Mt 5:13-16 "You are the light of the world."
Reminder	End of Canonical visit to Novitiate community
Reflection	**Marvelous Companion by Br. Sean Sammon**

	When it comes to community, each Institute has its own traditions. Consequently, there are unique bless ings as well as challenges in our Marist way of living it. Today we have the task of identifying those skills necessary to live well our life together and empowering each of our brothers to use them.
Intentions	For the sick and those caring for them. For the brothers working in Yassa community.
February 9th Monday of the Fifth Week in Ordinary Time: Psalms week I. Vestment Green	
Liturgy	Kgs 8:1-7, 9-13 "They brought the ark of the covenant to the inner sanctuary, and a cloud filled the house of the Lord." Mk 6:53-56 "As many as touched it were made well."
Birthday	Ndi Derick, (1989) from Cameroon
Reflection	**Marvelous Companion by Br. Sean Sammon** First and foremost, life together with our brothers challenges you and me to form and nurture a loving heart. Without that, we may survive, but never flourish in community.
Intentions	For Brother Derick, his family, personal intention, his community and apostolate. For the brothers working in Babenga community.
February 10th Tuesday of the Fifth Week in Ordinary Time: Psalms week I. Vestment Green	
Liturgy	1 Kgs 8:22-23, 27-30 "You have said 'My name shall be there, 'that you may listen to the prayer of your people Israel." Mk 7:1-13 "You leave the commandment of God, and hold fast the tradition of men."
Memorial	St. Scholastica, Twen sister of St Benedict
Reminder	Beginning of Canonical visit to Champagnat Community Kwadaso, Kumasi
Reflection	**Marvelous Companion by Br. Sean Sammon** It is easy to point to many aspects of community life that are unattractive. How much more difficult, though, for us to acknowledge that being called together by God is what transforms our life in community into a moment of grace.
Intentions	For our domestics workers and their family. For the brothers and works in Kumra community.
February 11th Wednesday of the Fifth Week in Ordinary Time: Psalms week I. Vestment Green	
Liturgy	1 Kgs 10:1-10 "The Queen of Sheba saw all the wisdom of Solomon." Mk 7:14-23 "The things which come out of a man are what defile him."

Optional Memorial	Our Lady of Lourdes
Reflection	**Marvelous Companion by Br. Sean Sammon** There is concern about the quality of our community life, but even more so about the impact that a problem-ridden community can have on our ability to carry out the mission that has been entrusted to each of us.
Intentions	In thanksgiving to Mary for her motherly care of the Church and the world. For the brothers and works in Monrovia.
February 12th Thursday of the Fifth Week in Ordinary Time: Psalms week I. Vestment Green	
Liturgy	1 Kgs 11:4-13 "Since you have not kept my covenant, I will surely tear the kingdom from you; but I will give one tribe to your son, for the sake of David my servant." Mk 7:24-30 "The dogs under the table eat the children's crumbs."
Birthday	Br. Ebenezer Owusu (1990) from Ghana
Anniversary	1842: The first Mass is celebrated in what is now Liberia. Fr. Edward Brrron, Fr. James Kelley and Mr. Denis Pindar, the first Roman Catholic missionaries had arrived in Cape Palmas.
Reflection	**Marvelous Companion by Br. Sean Sammon** Sad to say, in recent years a lack of genuine community life has been one of the reasons given for requesting a dispensation from vows.
Intentions	For Brother Ebenezer, his family, personal intention, and his studies at MIUC For the brothers and works of the Khorogho community.
February 13th Friday of the Fifth Week in Ordinary Time: Psalms week I. Vestment Green	
Liturgy	1 Kgs 11:29-32; 12:19 "Israel has been in rebellion against the house of David." Mk 7:31-37 "He makes the deaf hear and the mute speak."
Reflection	**Marvelous Companion by Br. Sean Sammon** I must first say that we have many wonderful communities in our Institute: open, lifegiving, and prayerful centers of fraternity.
Reminder	End of Canonical visit to Champagnat community Kumasi
Intentions	For respect of human rights and human dignity. For the brothers and works of the Bouake community.
February 14th Saturday of the Fifth Week in Ordinary Time: Psalms week I. Vestment Green	
Liturgy	1 Kgs 12:26-32; 13:33-34 "Jeroboam made two calves of gold." Mk 8:1-10 "They eat, and were satisfied."

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Birthday	Br. John Lopez (1964) from Venezuela
Memorial	Saints Cyril, Monk, and Methodius, Bishop
Reflection	**Marvelous Companion by Br. Sean Sammon** We came together realizing that we were different but complementary, and that it was our passion for Jesus and his Good News that united us.
Intentions	For our brothers working in Eastern Europe, particularly our brothers in Hungary and Romania. For Bro. John Lopez's personal intention, his family and friend and his community of Awhiren.
February 15TH SUNDAY SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME: Psalms week II. Vestment Green	
Liturgy	Sir 15:15-20 "He has not commanded any one to be ungodly." 1 Cor 2:6-10 "The wisdom of God which he decreed before the ages for our glorification." Mt 5:17-37 "You have heard that it was said to the men of old; but I say to you."
Reminder	Beginning of Canonical visit to Buokrom Community
Reflection	**Marvelous Companion by Br. Sean Sammon** While trying to overcome our selfishness and sensitivity, we learned to forgive and accept forgiveness.
Intentions	For those suffering HIV/AIDS and their families. For the staff and novices at the Marist International Novitiate, Kumasi.
February 16th Monday of the Sixth Week in Ordinary Time: Psalms week II. Vestment Green	
Liturgy	Jas 1:1-11 "The testing of your faith produces steadfastness that you may be perfect." Mk 8:11-13 "Why does this generation seek a sign?"
Reflection	**Marvelous Companion by Br. Sean Sammon** In time these communities grew to be not only centers of evangelization, but also places of friendship and sharing where the human and spiritual qualities of each member were able to develop freely
Intentions	For all the priests working in the dioceses where we work. For brothers and their works in Buokrom Community.
February 17th Tuesday of the Sixth Week in Ordinary Time: Psalms week II. Vestment Green	
Liturgy	Jas 1:12-18 "God himself tempts no one." Mk 8:14-21 "Beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and of Herod."

Optional Memorial	The Seven Holy Founders of the Servite Order. They were seven business men, in the 13th century, that decided together to leave their city and to live as monks. They founded the Order of the Servite of Mary
Reflection	**Marvelous Companion by Br. Sean Sammon** Some feel overwhelmed by community life or lack the skills necessary to cope with a diverse and challenging group of adults living together physically. Consequently, they choose merely to co-exist with those with whom they share the house.
Intentions	For all those involved in education in our countries. For the staff and students of MIUC-Nairobi.
FEBRUARY 18TH ASH WEDNESDAY Psalter Week IV Vestment Violet	
Liturgy	Jl 2:12-18 "Tear your hearts not your garments." 2 Cor 5:20—6:2 "Be reconciled to God. Behold, now is the acceptable time." Mt 6:1-6, 16-18 "Your Father who sees in secret will reward you."
Reminder	End of Canonical visit to Buokrom Community
Reflection	**Marvelous Companion by Br. Sean Sammon** Some of us must also face the emotionally and spiritually crippling problem of activism.
Intentions	For the spirit of reconciliation in our communities. For those working in refugee camps.
February 19th Thursday after Ash Wednesday Psalms week IV. Vestment: Violet	
Liturgy	Dt 30:15-20 "I set before you blessing and curse." Lk 9:22-25 "Whoever loses his life for my sake, he will save it."
Reflection	**Marvelous Companion by Br. Sean Sammon** Stretched thin in our ministry, we return to a community equally busy and with some members uneasy about anyone taking time alone.
Intentions	For all the unemployed people around us. For the brothers working in Tatum community.
February 20th Friday after Ash Wednesday Psalms week IV. Vestment: Violet	
Liturgy	Is 58:1-9a "is such the fast that I chose." Mt 9:14-15 "When the bridegroom is taken from them, then they will fast."
Birthday	Br. Francis Verys (1958) from Cameroon
Reminder	Beginning of Canonical visit to Provincial House - Accra
Reflection	**Marvelous Companion by Br. Sean Sammon** We have too many brothers who arrive at midlife only to discover that they are strangers to themselves. One of the people you and I need to get to know and be

	friend early in life is our self. That can only occur if we take the time to do so, and learn to be at home with being alone.
Intentions	For our family members For brother Francis, his vocation, and personal intention, his family and his community of Champagnat house – Odeheho Kwadaso.
February 21st Saturday after Ash Wednesday Psalms week IV. Vestment: Violet	
Liturgy	Is 58:9b-14 "If you pour yourself out for the hungry, then shall your light rise in the darkness." Lk 5:27-32 "I have not come to call the righteous, bus sinners to repentance."
Reflection	**Marvelous Companion by Br. Sean Sammon** I am concerned about reports of brothers in community who are bitter and angry. We all have days when we are not at our best.
Intentions	For the end of war and all kinds of violence in our countries. For the provincial and his council.
February 22nd SUNDAY FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT Psalm Week I Vestment: Violet	
Liturgy	Gn 2:7-9; 3:1-7 "Creation of our first parents, and their sin." Rom 5:12-19 "Where sin has abounded, grace has abounded all the more." Mt 4:1-11 "Jesus fasted forty days and was tempted."
Birthday	Br Anthony Doe Siryeh (1978) from Liberia
Anniversaries	1957: Marist work begun in Bolivia.
Reflection	**Marvelous Companion by Br. Sean Sammon** The admission that many aspects of our life together in community can lead to hurt feelings and disappointment is understandable. Day-to-day disagreements are common among us, and those with whom we live often fail to meet our expectations. As a consequence, a spirit of reconciliation must also lie at the heart of any community today that claims the founder's charism as its own.
Intentions	For brother Anthony, his vocation and personal intention, his family and his community in mission in Liberia. Marist works in Bolivia.
February 23RD MOMDAY OF THE FIRST WEEK OF LENT Psalm Week I Vestment: Violet	
Liturgy	Lv 19:1-2, 11-18 "In righteousness shall you judge your neighbor." Mt 25:31-46 "As you did it to one of the lest of these my brethren, you did it to me."
Anniversaries	1942: Death of Bro Diogene, 6th Superior General. (1920-1942)
Reflection	**Marvelous Companion by Br. Sean Sammon**

	Are there ways in which community members can intervene when alcoholism or another addictive behavior is a problem for one of them?
Intentions	For the illiterate people in our the world. For staff and students os Sr. Shirley Kolmer school in Liberia.
February 24TH TUESDAY OF THE FIRST WEEK OF LENT Psalm Week I Vestment: Violet	
Liturgy	Is 55:10-11 "My word shall accomplish that which I intend." Mt 6:7-15 "Pray then like this."
Reminder	End of Canonical visit to Provincial House Accra
Reflection	**Marvelous Companion by Br. Sean Sammon** What approaches are most effective when dealing with other destructive behaviors in the community, such as chronic complaining and negativity, unremitting aggressive and explosive re actions, long-standing bitterness and anger among some of our brothers?
Intentions	For all those working for care and respect of our environment. For our brothers and works in China.
February 25th WEDNESDAY OF THE FIRST WEEK OF LENT Psalm Week I Vestment: Violet	
Liturgy	Jon 3:1-10 "The Ninevites turned from their evil ways Lk 11:29-32 "No sign shall be given to this generation except the sign of Jonah."
Anniversaries	1906: Massacre of 5 Brothers in Nanchang, Chana.
Reflection	**Marvelous Companion by Br. Sean Sammon** In what ways can you or I best foster a spirit of hospitality and prayerfulness in ourselves and among those with whom we live?
Intentions	For all those who are discriminated and marginalized in our society. For our brothers and works in China.
February 26th THURSDAY OF THE FIRST WEEK OF LENT Psalm Week I Vestment: Violet	
Liturgy	Esther 14: "I have no helper but you, Lord." Mt 7:7-12 "Everyone who asks receives."
Birthday	Br. Joseph Kwame Mammah (1969) from Ghana
Reflection	**Marvelous Companion by Br. Sean Sammon** How can we sensitively express affection, tenderness, and care for one another? Can conflict among members of the community be managed in a way that will strengthen the group?
Intentions	For brother Joseph Kwame Mamma, his family, personal intention, his community. For volunteers and organizations working for international solidarity.

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February 27th FRIDAY OF THE FIRST WEEK OF LENT Psalm Week I Vestment: Violet	
Liturgy	Ez 18:21-28 "Have I any pleasure in the death of the wicked, and not rather that he should turn from his way and live?" Mt 5:20-26 "G first and be reconciled to your brother:"
Reminder	Beginning of Online Provincial Council Meeting
Reflection	**Marvelous Companion by Br. Sean Sammon** How do you or I learn to admit our own role in some of the difficulties that occur in community life and to ask for forgiveness?
Intentions	For the new sensitivity, respect and co-operation between men and women. For our brothers and works in South America.
February 28th SATURDAY OF THE FIRST WEEK OF LENT Psalm Week I Vestment: Violet	
Liturgy	Dt 26:16-19 "You shall be a people holy to the Lord your God." Mt 5:43-48 "Be perfect as your heavenly Father is perfect."
Reminder	End of Online Provincial Council Meeting
Reflection	**Marvelous Companion by Br. Sean Sammon** Simply put, how can we build a Marist community where forgiveness is a habit and reconciliation no stranger?
Intentions	In thanksgiving to God for all we have received from this month. For those in charge on disciple in our schools.