MARIST PROVINCE OF WEST AFRICA

RELIGIOUS CALENDAR: JUNE 2025	
Pope's intention for June 2025: That the world might grow in compassion Let us pray that each one of us might find consolation in a personal relationship with Jesus, and from his Heart, learn to have compassion on the world.	
June 1st Sunday of the 7th week of Easter. Psalter: Week 3 **Vestment: Voilet**	
Liturgy	Acts 7:55-60 "I see the son of man standing at the right hand of God." Rev. 22:12-14,16-17,20 "Come, Lord, Jesus." John 17:20-26 "May they become perfectly one."
Memorial	St. Justine, a pagan philosopher who became a Christian during the 2nd century. He wrote many books to defend Christianity and died as a martyr.
Birthdays	In 1939, birth of Brother Benito Arbues, 11th Superior General. Brother Elvis Tardzenyuy Tomla (1983) from Cameroon.
Reflection	**<u>Homes of Light by Br. Ernesto Sánchez Barba, Superior General</u>** Creating "*homes of light"*. What does this expression mean? How do these words of the General Chapter resonate in my heart? What is my experience of home and how does that experience shed light on my life? Is it a call from God for Marists today? Did Champagnat dream of creating 'homes of light'? These questions have stayed with me ever since the end of the XXII General Chapter (page 5).
Intentions	For Brother Elvis, his vocation, family, his personal intentions, and his apostolate. We pray for Brother Benito, his apostolate, and his community.
June 2ND Monday of the 7th week of Easter. Psalter: Week 3 **Optional Memorial: Marcellinus and Peter, presbyters, martyrs.** **Vestment: White, or Red**	
Liturgy	Acts 19:1-8 "Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you became believers?" John 16:29-33 "Be brave: I have conquered the world."

Reflection	**<u>Homes of Light by Br. Ernesto Sánchez Barba, Superior General</u>** I began to write this text a few months ago, and, along the way, the Covid-19 pandemic struck. We have been through this experience all over the world, and the crisis has impacted on virtually all the countries where we are present as an Institute. In each place, in each country, we have suffered the consequences in a very similar way. At one point, I had doubts as to whether the theme I had chosen was still relevant, and whether I should change the subject or delete some sections (page 5).
Intentions	We pray for good relationship with the dioceses where we work. For the priests in the parishes where we work. **First Monday**: We pray for our departed brothers, relatives, and benefactors.
June 3rd Tuesday of the 7th week of Easter. Psalter: Week 3 **Patron feast of the Laity in Africa: Charles Lwanga, catechist, and his companions, martyrs** **Vestment: Red**	
Memorial	**Saints Charles Lwanga and his Companions, Martyrs**
Liturgy	Acts 20:17-27 "I am finishing my race and carrying out the mission the Lord Jesus gave me." John 17:1-11a "Father, glorify your son."

Anniversary	In 1949, departure of the first Brothers for Malaysia in the Marist Province of China.
Reflection	**<u>Homes of Light by Br. Ernesto Sánchez Barba, Superior General</u>** It seems to me that, in the current context, there is no better time than now to talk about building *homes of light* in the face of this situation of uncertainty that seems to be dragging on. We are being called to *care for life and to generate new life* in moments of great fragility and vulnerability in the world. We will manage if we work together, in a spirit of self-giving and solidarity with those most in need, and place more importance than ever on relational, social and community factors (page 6).
Reminder	Beginning of Canonical Visitation to Kwadaso Community
Intentions	For unity in our Province. For our brothers and works in Malaysia.
June 4th Wednesday of the 7th week of Easter. Psalter: Week 3 **Vestment: White**	
Liturgy	Acts 20:28-38 "I commend you to God, who has power to build you up and give you your inheritance." John 17:11b-19 "May they be one like us."

Anniversary	In 1840 Father Champagnat received the Holy Eucharist for the last time.
Reflection	**<u>Homes of Light by Br. Ernesto Sánchez Barba, Superior General</u>** This circular is intended to be a resource for reflection and a stimulus for decisive action, along with two important documents of the Institute: the revised Constitutions and the document *Wherever you go - Rule of Life of the Marist Brothers*. At a number of points in this text, I make reference to them. In this circular, I present my reflections in three chapters, based on its title: *Homes of Light - Caring for Life and Generating New Life (page 6).*
Intentions	We pray for pregnant women. For drug addicts.
June 5th Thursday of the 7th week of Easter. Psalter: Week 3 **Vestment: Red**	
Liturgy	Acts 22:30; 23:6-11 "Now, you must bear witness in Rome." John 17:20-26 "May they be completely one."
Memorial	St. Boniface, Bishop and Martyr. An English Monk to whom the Pope entrusted the evangelization of Germany. He became bishop; he was martyred in the year 754.
Anniversary	In 1948, departure of the first Brothers for the Philippines.
Reflection	**<u>Homes of Light by Br. Ernesto Sánchez Barba, Superior General</u>** When I think about home, I also recall many experiences in Marist communities, moments and places where I have felt 'at home', accepted, respected. There have been many occasions with brothers of all ages where I have experienced the joy of being a brother, being together on a daily basis, in ministry, at meals and in extended conversations, going on outings and times of prayer. Conversation has flowed easily even when, at times, there has been some interpersonal tension. As I think back over these experiences and places, the figure of the community leader pops up as having played an important, proactive role (page 12).
Intentions	We pray for our brothers and works in the Philippines. For our Brothers responsible for projects in our province.

June 6th Friday of the 7th week of Easter. Psalter: Week 3 **Feast of St. Marcellin Champagnat. Office: Proper** **Optional Memorial: Norbert, bishop, religious founder** **Vestment: White**	
Liturgy	Acts 25:13b-21 "A dead man called Jesus, whom Paul alleged to be alive." John 21:15-19 "Feed my lambs, feed my sheep."

Anniversaries	In 1840, death of Marcellin Champagnat in the Hermitage. In 1961, Introduction of the cause of Brother Cipriano Jose and 21 Brothers killed in Spain in 1936. In 1985, the Marist International Novitiate in Sabin Akrofrom, Kumasi, Ghana, was blessed by The Most Rev. Peter Kwasi Sarpong, Catholic Bishop of Kumasi. In 2003 Equatoria Guinea and Chad joined the Marist District of West Africa.
Reflection	**<u>Homes of Light by Br. Ernesto Sánchez Barba, Superior General</u>** In recent years, I have had the chance of experiencing our international brotherhood, whether in the General House or in many other parts of the world that I have been privileged to visit. I have been able to witness, appreciate and feel for myself the invaluable gift of brotherhood that we have inherited from Marcellin and the first brothers. Without a shadow of a doubt, this *family spirit* continues to be very much present in the lives of so many Marists of Champagnat, in our communities, fraternities and families (page 12).
Intentions	In thanksgiving to the Lord for the gift of St. Marcellin to the church. For Marist vocations in our province.
June 7th Saturday of the 7th week of Easter. Psalter: Week 3 Vestment: White	
Liturgy	Acts 28:16-20,30-31 "Paul stayed in Rome, proclaiming the Kingdom of God." John 21:20-25 "This disciple is the one who has written these things down, and we know that his testimony is true."
Birthdays	John Nyuydine (1971) from Cameroon. Washington Tekay (1972) from Liberia.
Reflection	**<u>Homes of Light by Br. Ernesto Sánchez Barba, Superior General</u>** Where does this wish to form homes with a spirit of brotherhood, *homes of light*, come from? No doubt communities and families are places where our natural desire to love and be loved can be fulfilled. Mission also binds us tightly as a community since we form 'communities on mission'. Indeed, forming communities and being brothers to one another are already expressions of mission. Yet, these two aspects of community and mission, despite their importance, are not enough by themselves: I believe that a fundamental aspect of forming *homes of light* is to be found in being deeply spiritual people, each of us as individuals and together as communities (page 13)
Reminder	End of Canonical Visitation to Kwadaso Community Submission of Headmasters/Principals End of Year Reports
Intentions	For Brothers Tekay and John, their vocation, intentions, families, mission, and communities of the Provincial House and Manuel Jorques respectively.

	Marist Saturday: We offer special prayers for our vocations.
June 8th PENTECOST SUNDAY, SOLEMNITY. Psalter: Week 4 Vestment: Red	
Liturgy	Acts 2:1-11 "They were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues." 1Cor.12:3-7,12-13 "By one spirit, we were all baptized into one body." John 20:19-23 "As the Father has sent me, even so I send you, receive the Holy Spirit." John 14:15-16,23b-26 "The Holy Spirit will teach you everything."
Reflection	**Homes of Light by Br. Ernesto Sánchez Barba, Superior General** A recurring thought for me ever since the COVID-19 pandemic erupted is how what happened in Mary's life might shed light on this moment of crisis. She confronted her fears and doubts in three steps that might be helpful to us today: 1) we experience doubt and are afraid, so we ask God what is going on, why this now? 2) we feel ourselves like small children in the hands of God and we place our trust in God. Fiat! Let it be! 3) we bend our shoulders to the task and play our part to the best of our ability in serving others. Like Mary, in the face of uncertainty and fear, we need faith, trust and passion for God and humanity as solid ground for moving forward (page 16).
Reminder	Submission of Commissions and Teams End of Year Reports
Intentions	For health worker in various hospitals. We pray for our Provincial and his intentions.

June 9th Monday of the 10th week in Ordinary Time. Psalter: Week 2 Memorial: Monday of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church. Vestment: White	
Memorial	St. Ephrem (4th Century). He was ordained deacon and given charge of a school of theology. He lived an ascetic life, preached and wrote extensively. He is doctor of the church.
Liturgy	Genesis 3:9-15,20 "Adam and Eve disobeyed God." Or, Acts 1:12-14 "Jesus returned to the Father." John 19:25-34 "Son, behold your mother; mother, behold your son."
Birthday	Br Tameh Conrad (1987) from Cameroon
Reflection	**Homes of Light by Br. Ernesto Sánchez Barba, Superior General** Of all the phrases in the Gospels where direct mention is made of Mary, there is one in particular that attracts my attention, "*Mary treasured all these things and pondered over them in her heart*" (Lk 2:19). The heart is mentioned often in the Bible as the inner place within humans, the seat of ideas, feelings and memories

	… but, especially, where divine Being can be perceived and sensed, since this is the mystery of the incarnation. To treasure, meditate, ponder in our hearts is to read, understand, and accept our lives and events as God sees them. It is to listen to the inner voice whispered to us by the Spirit, inspiring the best steps to take (page 16).
Intentions	For Br. Conrad, His family, personal intentions and his community of Tatum. For the grace to live in the presence of the Lord.
June 10th Tuesday of the 10th week in Ordinary Time. Psalter: Week 2 Vestment: Green	
Liturgy	2Cor. 1:18-22 "Jesus was never Yes and No! With him, it was always Yes." Matthew 5:13-16 "You are the light of the world."
Reflection	**Homes of Light by Br. Ernesto Sánchez Barba, Superior General** A heart that listens, meditates, ponders and discerns is the ideal place for radiating light and, consequently, for letting God's light shine through us. Such a heart has the capacity to reduce the force of our ego because it makes greater room for the presence of God. This is how I imagine Mary in her daily life, a woman with a peaceful heart, busy about her household tasks, treating people sensitively, and ready to help out when needed. I imagine her, together with Joseph and Jesus, creating a home, *a home of light* (page 17).
Reminder	Beginning of Board of Superiors Meeting in Novitiate
Intentions	We pray for all our Provincial administrative staff. We pray for the members of our Provincial council.
June 11th Wednesday of the 10th week in Ordinary Time Psalter: Week 2 Memorial: Barnabas, Apostle Vestment: Red	
Liturgy	Acts 11:21b-26; 13:1-3 Barnabas was a good man, filled with the Holy Spirit and with faith." Mt. 10:7-13 "You received without charge, give without charge."
Reflection	**Homes of Light by Br. Ernesto Sánchez Barba, Superior General** I also imagine Mary being alert to signs of relational difficulties, resolving any possible tensions that cropped up from time to time in her own family or between her neighbours. Her kind face, her smile, her attitudes, her words and her patience all made visible the light coming from within that was constantly replenishing her: the very light of God that gives birth to dedication, service, selflessness, kindness and peace (page 17).

Intentions	For the Novice Master of our Novitiate. For our brothers working outside our province.

June 12th Thursday of the 10th week in Ordinary Time. Psalter: Week 2 **Vestment: Green**	
Liturgy	2Cor.3:15-4:1,3-6 "God has shown in our minds to radiate the light of the knowledge of God's glory." Mt.5:20-26 "Anyone who is angry with his brother will answer for it before the court."
Anniversary	In 1954 canonization of Father Peter Chanel, member of Missionaries of the Society of Mary.
Reflection	**<u>Homes of Light by Br. Ernesto Sánchez Barba, Superior General</u>** In proposing that we be "*beacons of hope in this turbulent world,"* the General Chapter was not just issuing a personal invitation but rather a call to the whole Marist community: to *be light* as *a charismatic global family*. It is a call for every community, fraternity and family as a group to be like a beacon or lighthouse, a source of light and hope for all who look at it. Amongst other things, the Chapter recommended *cultivating contemplative practices* and *a spirituality of the heart*. *Living an integrated spirituality* is how we expressed this in the vision of the Strategic Plan of the General Administration (page 18).
Intentions	In thanksgiving to God for the gift of Father Peter Chanel to the Missionaries of the Society of Mary. For the abandoned aged people.
June 13th Friday of the 10th Week in Ordinary Time. Psalter: Week 2 **Memorial: Anthony of Padua, presbyter, religious and doctor of the Church.** **Vestment: White**	
Liturgy	2Cor.4:7-15 "He who raised Jesus to life will raise us with Jesus in our turn, and put by his side and you with us." Mt.5:27-32 "If a man looks at a woman lustfully, he has already committed adultery."
Anniversary	In 2015, death of Brother Jean Baptiste Tamessuien from Cameroon.
Reflection	**<u>Homes of Light by Br. Ernesto Sánchez Barba, Superior General</u>** In our spiritual life, if we want to make progress it seems that we have to deal with strong headwinds. The main one that comes to my mind is the level of activism we can find ourselves caught up in and that has weighed us down a lot in recent years. The document *The Identity and Mission of the Religious Brother in the Church* describes this well: "*In their eagerness to meet the needs of the mission, Brothers may fall victim to the temptation of activism, given that a lot of bread needs to be prepared for the hungry. Activism will quickly empty them of evangelical motivations and prevent them from contemplating God's work which is being done in their apostolic action. Allowing themselves to be carried*

	away by activism, they end up replacing the search for God and His will with the search for themselves" (page 19).
Reminder	End of Board of Superiors Meeting in Novitiate
Intentions	For the our novices who will make their First Profession of vows. In thanksgiving to God for the life of Brother Jean Baptiste to our institute.
14th Saturday of the 10th week in Ordinary Time. Psalter: Week 2 Optional Memorial: Blessed Virgin Mary Vestment: Green or White	
Liturgy	2Cor.5:14-21 "For our sake, God made the sinless one into sin." Mt.5:33-37 "I say to you, do not swear at all."
Reflection	**Homes of Light by Br. Ernesto Sánchez Barba, Superior General** We should not be surprised that in a society where communication is becoming faster and faster and quick answers are expected, it seems that everything is speeding up … there is little space left for reflection, silence or discernment. Hence deciding to offer learning pathways on contemplative practices and deepening our spirituality is essential if we are serious about our homes being light for ourselves and others (page 20).
Reminder	First Religious Profession, Sabin Akrofrom
Intentions	For respect to our African cultures. We pray for our former students. **Marist Saturday:** We offer special prayers for our vocations.
15th TRINITY SUNDAY, Solemnity. Psalter: Week 3 Vestment: White	
Liturgy	Proverbs 8:22-31 "Before the beginning of the earth, Wisdom was brought forth." Romans 5:1-5 "To God through Christ, is the love which is poured out through the spirit." John 16:12-15 "Whatever the Father has is mine. The Spirit will receive what I give, and tell you about it."
Anniversary	In 1946, Departure of the first brothers for Malawi.
Reflection	**Homes of Light by Br. Ernesto Sánchez Barba, Superior General** It is quite probable that the lockdown experience we have been through, because of the COVID-19 world pandemic, has been the occasion for learning more about slowing down, of growing in a more contemplative stance. We have had the chance to spend long periods in silence, on our own. It will be impor- tant to be careful, as we resume our daily activities, to avoid the risk of hooking onto the highspeed train of a life totally spent at work and where we so easily lose direction and depth (page 20).

Intentions	For the Bishops in the dioceses where we work. For our brothers who are involved the technical works in our Province.
June 16th Monday of the 11th week in Ordinary Time. Psalter: Week 3 Vestment: Green	
Liturgy	2Cor 6:1-10 "Let us prove we are servants of God." Mt.5:38-42 "I say this to you: offer the wicked man no resistance."
Reflection	**Homes of Light by Br. Ernesto Sánchez Barba, Superior General** Spirituality, I think, is about learning (or re-learning), about a journey, a pathway that begins when we enter our deepest centre within, what is sometimes called *interiority*. It is the place where we are accountable to ourselves, and where we can track and tell our own story. We look back over and accept our past history and, above all, we pull together all the threads of our lives in the present, at each moment, becoming fully conscious from the time we wake up each morning (page 20).
Intentions	We pray for all the accountants those in charge of financial services in our schools. For the Marist Province of Nigeria.
June 17th Tuesday of the 11th Week in Ordinary Time. Psalter: Week 3 Vestment: Green	
Liturgy	2Cor. 8:1-9 "Christ became poor for your sake." Mt.5:43-48 "Love your enemies."
Anniversary	In 2022, death of Brother Daniel Osei.
Reflection	**Homes of Light by Br. Ernesto Sánchez Barba, Superior General** It is important to cultivate *interiority* and *spirituality*, often and with perseverance *going into our inner room, shutting the door, and praying to our Father who is there unseen* (cf Mt 6:6). This demands time, the right physical place and, above all, the desire, the thirst and the felt need to go within. It means experiencing *silence*. A *silence* that puts us in touch with the deepest rhythms of our being and offers a better quality of life. A *silence* that gives us insight into the gift represented by each moment, each event and each encounter when viewed in the light of the Spirit, ever active and present (page 21).
Reminder	Beginning of Provincial Council Meeting: New Appointments and Transfers
Intentions	We pray for journalists and those who work in the social media space. We pray for the Nuncios in the various countries of our province.
June 18th Wednesday of the 11th Week in Ordinary Time. Psalter: Week 3. Vestment: Green	
Liturgy	2Cor.9:6-11 "God loves a cheerful giver." Mt.6:1-6,16-18 "Your father who sees all that is done in secret will reward you."

Anniversary	In1900, departure of the Brothers for Born Principio, first foundation in Southern Brazil.
	Homes of Light by Br. Ernesto Sánchez Barba, Superior General Each day put aside time to be with God and to discover the peace that you experience when you are in his presence. Let him speak to your heart; listen to the Spirit *who cries out: Abba!* (cf. Gal 4:6; Rom 8:15) and by giving yourself the opportunity to experience intimacy with God in this way, you will come to understand the Divine mystery more fully, as well as the needs and concerns of those around you, and to respond with joy, confidence, courage (page 22).
Intentions	For our brothers and works in Brazil. For good health to our brothers.
June 19th Thursday of the 11th week in Ordinary Time. Psalter: Week 3 **Romuald, abbot, religious founder** **Vestment: Green, or White**	
Liturgy	2Cor.11:1-11 "I preached the Gospel of God to you and took no fee for it." Mt.6:7-15 "You should pray like this."
Reflection	**Homes of Light by Br. Ernesto Sánchez Barba, Superior General** In the meeting between Jesus and the Samaritan woman, a beautiful story to be meditated on at depth, the woman told Jesus that he had no bucket and the well was deep, and asked, "*Where do you get that living water?* (Jn 4:11). Jesus said to her, "*Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life*" (Jn 4:13-14). The woman said to him sir, please give me this water, so that I may never be thirsty" (Jn. 4:15) (page 23).
Intentions	For our brothers who are experiencing various challenges in their lives. For our former teachers and/or lecturers.
June 20th Friday of the 11th week in Ordinary Time. Psalter: Week 3 **Vestment: Green**	
Liturgy	2Cor.11:18,21-30 "To leave out much more, there is my preoccupation: my anxiety for all the churches." Mt.6:19-23 "Where your treasure is, there will your heart be also."
Anniversaries	In 1851, legal authorization was granted to the Marist Institute in France. In 1910, in Lyons, initial steps taken to promote the cause of Brother Francois.
Reflection	**Homes of Light by Br. Ernesto Sánchez Barba, Superior General** During the retreat he preached to Pope Francis and the Roman Curia in 2018, Mons. Tolentino spoke about thirst. He pointed out that, on the physical level, we get thirsty and we hardly register the fact. And that, in general, we drink less than

	we should. Similarly, on the spiritual level, it is worthwhile asking ourselves if we recognize the thirst which exists in us. Are we aware of the dehydration that we are imposing on ourselves, whether we know it or not? Do we take time to decode the state of our thirst? (page 24).
Reminder	World Refugee Day
Intentions	For the cause of canonization of Brother Francois. For high enrollment in our schools.
June 21st Saturday of the 11th week in Ordinary Time. Psalter: Week 3 Vestment: White	
Memorial	St Aloysius Gonzaga: He was a son of a high court official; at the age 17, he entered the Society of Jesus. He caught the plague while working with the sick people in a hospital.
Liturgy	2Cor.12:1-10 "I shall be very happy to make my weaknesses my special boast." Mt.6:24-34 "Do not worry about tomorrow."
Reflection	**Homes of Light by Br. Ernesto Sánchez Barba, Superior General** We are deficient beings, made with infinite longings. God alone can bridge this gap that is in all of us and that this same God opened up in making us in God's own image. We are thirsty for the original Reign of God to be restored in us. God alone can satisfy what our eyes long to see, our ears hear, our skin touch, our palate taste, since we are made in the image of God. This explains our thirst for God, our desire for the One thing necessary, our yearning to be intoxicated with the divine" (page 24).
Reminder	End of Provincial Council Meeting: New Appointments and Transfers
Intentions	For our Provincial Bursar and those working in the financial management of our province. For all those who work as traders. **Marist Saturday:** We offer special prayers for our vocations.
June 22nd Sunday: Body and Blood of Christ (Corpus Christi), Solemnity Vestment: White	
Liturgy	Genesis 14:8-20 "He brought out bread and wine." 1Cor. 11:23-26 "As often as you eat this bread and drink this chalice, you proclaim the Lord's death." Luke 9:11b-17 "All ate, and were satisfied."
Reflection	**Homes of Light by Br. Ernesto Sánchez Barba, Superior General** As I move around the Institute, I am pleased to meet up with brothers and lay Marists who tell me about their spiritual experience: their thirst, their search for God, their attempts, their progress and also their times of discouragement. We have among us living examples of God-seekers, men and women of profound

	spirituality. At the same time, as I indicated above, I believe that we have a long way to go in this area. Perhaps some of us could even describe ourselves as being spiritually lukewarm (page 25)
Intentions	For the practice of simple lifestyle in our communities. For all our Principals/Headmasters.
June 23rd Monday of the 12th week in Ordinary Time. Psalter: Week 4 **Vestment: Green**	
Anniversaries	1815: Marcellin Champagnat, John Vianney, and Jean-Claude Colin were ordained deacons. 1958: first Brothers arrived in Central Africa, presently in the Province of Africa Central East.
Liturgy	Genesis 12:1-9 "Abram went as the Lord told him." Mt.7:1-5 "Take the plank out of your own eye first."
Reflection	**Homes of Light by Br. Ernesto Sánchez Barba, Superior General** When I meet with brothers and laypeople of any age, I always insist that it is never too late to start again and to make a fresh effort. I tell them that maybe some ideas and practices worked for us at some stage and were helpful on our spiritual journey, but today they are not so helpful or simply do not work for us anymore. So, we have to start all over again, doing what disciples do best: learn, try, experiment … This is not to discredit any practice, nor to impose or sacralise others, but rather for each of us to look for and find the way that slakes his thirst in the here and now, helps him to develop a deeper interior life and facilitate his encounter with God (page 25).
Intentions	For the Spirit of discernment in our province. For Brothers who are preparing for perpetual vows.
June 24th Tuesday of the 12th week in Ordinary Time. Nativity of John the Baptist, Solemnity. Psalter: Week 4 **Vestment: White**	
Liturgy	Isaiah 49:1-6 "I will make you the light of the nations, so that my salvation may reach to the ends of the earth." Acts 13:22-26 "Jesus, whose coming was heralded by John." Lk 1:57-66,80 "His name is John."
Birthday	Brother Chin Emile, 1996.
Anniversary	In 2014, death of Brother Antonio Ruiz, first District Superior (2000-2006).
Reflection	**Homes of Light by Br. Ernesto Sánchez Barba, Superior General** We could envisage the whole of Marcellin Champagnat's life as a light shining in the midst of the dark circumstances of his times. A light shining in the midst of young people to whom he gave priority and preferential consideration and

	attention when he founded the Institute and set about his evangelizing ministry. A light in the midst of his brothers, with whom he formed a close-knit community, trying to create, from the very beginning, *homes of light (page 26).*
Reminder	Beginning of Canonical Visitation to Provincial House
Intentions	For Brother Chin Emile, his vocation, intentions, family, and his studies at MIC. For people who are engaged in difficult jobs.
June 25th Wednesday of the 12th week in Ordinary Time. Psalter: Week 4 Vestment: Green	
Liturgy	Genesis 15:1-12,17-18 (Abraham put his faith in God, and his faith was considered as justifying him. The Lord made a covenant with Abraham." Mt.7:15-20 "You will be able to tell them by their fruits."
Reflection	**<u>Homes of Light by Br. Ernesto Sánchez Barba, Superior General</u>** There is a symbolic story that Br Jean Baptiste tells about Marcellin Champagnat as a new-born baby. He says that Marcellin's mother, "several times, on approaching the cradle where baby Marcellin was lying, noticed a kind of *luminous flame* which seemed to issue from the child's chest".[1] I want to stay with the idea that the author puts forward by referring to a "*luminous flame*", without going into the historicity of the event, but noting, rather, the strong symbolism that is conveyed. Marcellin was a much-loved child, brought up in a home in which the presence and influence of his parents, his aunt, his brothers and sisters had a marked effect on his life. This was the home where the foundations were laid for him to discover his call to be a light for the world (cf Mt 5: 14), to be that *luminous flame* that young people, the brothers, and so many other people had the occasion to experience on meeting Champagnat. His life radiated *life* and this *luminous flame* continues to burn amongst us (page 26).
Intentions	For the administrative staff in our school and other Marist works. For the domestic staff in our communities.
June 26th Thursday of the 12th week in Ordinary Time. Psalter: Week 4 Vestment: Green	
Liturgy	Genesis 16:1-12, 15-16. Or, 16:6b-12,15-16 "Hagar bore Abram a son, and Abram gave him the name Ishmael." Mt. 7:21-29 "The house built on rock, and the house built on sand."
Anniversary	In 1964, Brothers Christian Ettinger, Provincial and Lucien Vandamme were killed in Congo during a civil war.

Reflection	**<u>Homes of Light by Br. Ernesto Sánchez Barba, Superior General</u>** I would also like to recall another occasion where a *luminous flame* appeared in the life of Marcellin. In February 1823, Marcellin was lost in the snow, in the middle of a blizzard, with Br Stanislaus. He appealed fervently to Mary, "full of confidence, he knelt down beside the brother (now apparently unconscious), and said the *Memorare* with great fervour. After that prayer, he tried to raise the brother again and get him to walk. They had taken only a few steps, when they noticed a light shining in the distance; for it was night. They made in the direction of the light and arrived at a house, where they spent the night". Mary was for Marcellin a *luminous flame* who accompanied his every step throughout his life (page 27).
Reminder	International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit drug Trafficking. International Day in support of Victims of Torture.
Intentions	For our brothers and works in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. For the Postulancy Community of Ahwiren, Ashanti Bekwai, Ghana.
June 27th Friday of the 12th week in Ordinary Time. Psalter: Week 4 **Solemnity: The Most Sacred Heart of Jesus** **Vestment: White**	
Liturgy	Ezekiel 34:11-16 "I will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I will make them lie down." Romans 5:5b-11 "God shows his love for us." Luke 5:3-7 "Share my joy, I have found my lost sheep."
Anniversaries	In 1851, Brother Francois consecrated the Institute to the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary. In 2001, death of Brother Anthony Tanyi, from Cameroon.
Reflection	**<u>Homes of Light by Br. Ernesto Sánchez Barba, Superior General</u>** I wonder if, when crises arise among us and we find ourselves in the middle of a storm, we are able to see the light shining close by, in the form of some event or concrete person… Seeing the *luminous flame* in such a way, always keeping our eyes open: this is the miracle! This is how it was for Marcellin, thanks to his unshakeable faith in difficult moments when he never lost hope but pressed on, keeping his eyes open to spot the light (page 27).
Intentions	For the repose of the soul of Brother Anthony Tanyi. For our brothers working in the renewal programs.
June 28th Saturday of the 12th Week in Ordinary Time. Psalter: Week 4 **Memorial: The Immaculate Heart of Mary** **Vestment: White**	
Memorial	St Irenaeus (2nd century) He was Bishop of Lyons in France and a powerful defender of the faith. He is thought to have been martyred.

Liturgy	Genesis 18:1-15 "Is anything too wonderful for the Lord? I shall visit you again, and Sarah will have a son." Matthew 8:5-17 "Many will come from the East and West to take their places with Abram, Isaac, and Jacob.
Reflection	**Homes of Light by Br. Ernesto Sánchez Barba, Superior General** At the end of his days, Marcellin saw the great Light. He was in his room, really sick. Brothers Hippolyte and Jerome were with him. At about half past two in the morning, he said to them, "Brothers, your lamp is going out". "Excuse me, Father", one of them explained, "but the lamp is burning well." "But I can't see it. So bring it closer," Marcellin protested. This was done without any improvement in the situation. "Ah", he said with a dying voice, "I understand that it is my sight which is failing; my hour has come; thanks be to God! Some hours later, when the community was assembled in the chapel for the singing of the *Salve Regina*, Marcellin fell asleep peacefully in the Lord. It was Saturday, June 6th, the vigil of Pentecost (pages 27-28).
Reminder	End of Canonical Visitation to Provincial House
Intentions	For the Marist Province of Southern Arica. For grace to be good guides to the young people placed in our care. **Marist Saturday:** We offer special prayers for our vocations.
June 29th Sunday of the 13th Week in Ordinary Time. Office: Proper **SOLEMNITY OF THE APOSTLES PETER AND PAUL** **Vestment: Red**	
Liturgy	Acts 12:1-11 "Now I am sure that the Lord has rescued me from the hands of Herod." 2Timothy 4:6-8,17-18 "From now on, there is laid up for me, the crown of righteousness." Matthew 16:13-19 "You are Peter, and I will give you the keys of the Kingdom of Heaven."
Birthday	Brother Ngardoum Nandoumangar Sucees.
Anniversaries	In 1996: Brother Daniel Taylor, Brother Theddy De Souza, and Brother Vincent Mé Konan made their First Profession. In 1997: Brother Etienne Balma, Brother Eugene, Brother Germain, Brother Cyprian, and Brother Tekay made their First Profession.
Reflection	**Homes of Light by Br. Ernesto Sánchez Barba, Superior General** This light accompanied Marcellin all through life. He lived with trust. He did not doubt for an instant that his life and mission were the work of God, the work of

	Mary. He never put himself forward as the leading actor, but in all things, gave glory and praise to the Lord, seeing himself as the Lord's servant. He always lived under the motherly protection of Mary and often had recourse to her (page 29).
Intentions	For Brother Suceess, his personal intentions, his family, and his community of Koumra. For all our brothers who will make their Perpetual Vows this year.
June 30th Monday of the 13th Week in Ordinary Time. Psalter: Week 1 **Optional Memorial: First martyrs of the Church of Rome** **Vestment: Green, or Red**	
Liturgy	Genesis 18:16-33 "Are you going to destroy the just man with the sinner?" Matthew 8:18-22 "Follow me."
Anniversary	In 1858, Death of Jeanne Marie Chavoin, foundress, with Fr Molin of the Marist Sisters.
Reflection	**<u>Homes of Light by Br. Ernesto Sánchez Barba, Superior General</u>** This life gave him a spirit of daring. He was always attentive to discern the voice of God in the events of life and in his personal prayer. His boldness made him open and flexible to develop new responses without getting bogged down in pre-determined schemes. He gave himself to the education and evangelization of youth, giving priority attention to the most abandoned. He did all this while building up a spirit of brotherhood, forming *homes of light* (page 29).
Intentions	Thanking God for our safe travels. For the progress made on our land in Abidjan.