MARIST PROVINCE OF WEST AFRICA

Religious Calendar: May 2026	
The pope's prayer intention: That everyone, from large producers to small consumers, be committed to avoid wasting food, and to ensure that everyone has access to quality food.	
May 1st Friday of the Fourth Week of Easter Office: week I **Saint Athanasius, Bishop and Doctor** (Memorial). Vestment: white	
Liturgy	Ac 13:26-33 God has fulfilled His promise by raising Jesus from the dead Jn 14**:** 1-6, I am the way, the truth and the life
Reflection	**WHEREVER YOU GO: THE MARIST BROTHERS' RULE OF LIFE** The joys and disappointments of his life taught Marcellin to be both humble and confident. As a consequence, he challenged our early brothers to live lives of integrity and to be truthful, candid, and transparent in their relationships (*Number 26*)
Intentions	For the sick Brothers in our Communities and those caring for them. For the community of Ahwiren (Postulancy).
May 2nd Saturday of the Fourth Week of Easter Office: week I **Saints Philip and James, Apostles (Feast)** **Vestment: white**	
Liturgy	**Ac13:** 44-52 Since you have rejected the word of God, we must turn to the pagans **Jn 14:** 7-14 To have seen me is to have seen the Father
Birthday	Stephen Kpunsa, (1971) from Cameroon.
Reflection	**WHEREVER YOU GO: THE MARIST BROTHERS' RULE OF LIFE** Share your life with children and young people, especially the poorest; allow yourself to be recognized and evangelized by them. Together with them, learn to see the world through the eyes of God. (*Number 32*)
Intentions	For Brothers Stephen Kpunsa, his vocation, personal intentions and mission. For our students and their parents. **Marian Saturday:** We pray for our Marist Vocation in our various countries
May 3rd Fifth Sunday of Easter Office: week 2 Vestment: white	
Liturgy	Ac 6: 1-7 They elected seven men full of the Holy Spirit **1Pt 2:** 4-9 Christ is the living stone, chosen by God and precious to Him **Jn 14** 1-12 I am the way, the truth and the life
Reflection	**WHEREVER YOU GO: THE MARIST BROTHERS' RULE OF LIFE** Mary, the Virgin of Tenderness, shows us the way to care for each other and how to become, over time, marvellous companions to one another. he reminds you to welcome others, as they are, different in many ways and yet complementary. (*Number 51*)

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Intentions	For perseverance in our spiritual and prayer life. For the Marist community of Yassa.
May 4th Monday of the Fifth Week of Easter Office: week 2 Vestment: white	
Liturgy	**Ac 14:** 5-18 We have come with good news, to turn you to the living God **Jn 14:** 21-26 The Advocate, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything
Birthday	Sylvain Yao Kouassi Kan (1959) from Côte d'Ivoire.
Reflection	**WHEREVER YOU GO: THE MARIST BROTHERS' RULE OF LIFE** You will have to overcome feelings of jealousy and, in the spirit of the Good News, embrace a love that is altruistic and non-possessive. This process takes time; never hesitate to seek help and to ask for guidance. In time of difficulty, open your heart to the support, understanding, and advice of your brothers. (*Number 14*)
Intentions	For Brothers Sylvain, his vocation, personal intentions and mission. For our relatives, and our benefactors.
May 5th Tuesday of the Fifth Week of Easter Office: week 2 Vestment: white	
Liturgy	**Ac 14:** 19-28 They gave an account, of how God has open the door of faith **Jn 14:** 27-31a A peace the world cannot give is my gift to you
Reflection	**WHEREVER YOU GO: THE MARIST BROTHERS' RULE OF LIFE** The sacraments of Baptism and Confirmation welcome you into a new life in him, and invite you to walk by his side and to announce the Reign of God. In your vocation as a brother, you are called to live out this gift fully and without reservation. Just as each religious family bears witness to an attribute of Jesus, you and your brothers are asked to make visible in the Church and world Christ's fraternal face. (*Number 2*)
Intentions	In thanksgiving to God for the gift of our vocation. For all teachers and educators.
May 6th Wednesday of the Fifth Week of Easter Office: week 2 Vestment: white	
Liturgy	**Ac 15:** 1-6 They were to go up to Jerusalem and discuss the problem with the apostles and the ethers Jn 15; 1-8 I am the vine; you are the branches
Reflection	**WHEREVER YOU GO: THE MARIST BROTHERS' RULE OF LIFE** I ask also of God, and I desire with all my soul, that you be constantly faithful to the devout practice of the presence of God, which is the soul of prayer, of meditation and of all the virtues; that humility and simplicity may

	ever be the distinguishing mark of the Little Brothers of Mary; that a tender and filial love for our Good Mother never fail you in all the changes of time and circumstance. Proclaim her love in every place, as far as lies in your power. She is the first Superior of the whole Society. *(Page 126)*
Intentions	For the community of Bafut For all those who are engaged in difficult works.
May 7th Thursday of the Fifth Week of Easter Office: week 2 Vestment: white	
Liturgy	**Ac 15:** 7-21 I rule that we do not make things more difficult for the pagans who turn to God **Jn 15:** 9-11 Remain in my love
Reflection	**WHEREVER YOU GO: THE MARIST BROTHERS' RULE OF LIFE** Marcellin invites you to seek out three places of significance for Marists: the crib, the cross, and the altar. In these three places, Jesus is the centre and in them he reveals God's love to us in a deeper way. (*Number 24*)
Intentions	For the Christians who are in crisis. For the grace to live authentic life.
May 8th Friday of the Fifth Week of Easter Office: week 2 Vestment: white	
Liturgy	**Ac 15:** 22-31 It has been decided by the holy spirit and by us not to burden you beyond these essentials **Jn 15:** 12-17 What I command you is to love one another
Reflection	**WHEREVER YOU GO: THE MARIST BROTHERS' RULE OF LIFE** Like Jesus, everything that you have comes from the Father. As his gratuitous love fills your heart, your needs will diminish and your sense of freedom increase. Recognizing that fact helps you to be open with others, to share your gifts, your joys and sorrows, your time and your person. In becoming poor, you are better able to go out and to meet those who are poor. (*Number 19*)
Intentions	For Marist community of Buokrom. For the grace to live the Marial virtues of humility, simplicity, and modesty.
May 9th Saturday of the Fifth Week of Easter Office: week 2 Vestment: white	
Liturgy	**Ac 16:** 1-10 Come across the Macedonia and help us **Jn 15:** 18-21 The world hated me before it hated you
Birthday	Cosmos Boakye (2001) from Ghana.
Reflection	**WHEREVER YOU GO: THE MARIST BROTHERS' RULE OF LIFE**

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	Look to Mary, the first disciple of Jesus, whenever you need inspiration on your journey of consecration, a pilgrimage marked by love of God and service to others. Like Mary, recognize your doubts and apprehensions and talk with the Lord about them: "How will this come about?" (Lk 1:34); "Do not fear, the Lord is with you" (Lk 1:30). Her motherly presence will help you to say "Yes" to God's plans. (*Number 8*)
Intentions	For Brothers Cosmos, his vocation, personal intentions and mission. For farmers and those who till the land. **Marian Saturday**: We offer special prayers for Mary's intercession.
May 10th Sunday of the Sixth Week of Easter Office: week 3 Vestment: white	
Liturgy	**Ac 8:** 5-8, 14-17 They laid hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit **1Pe 3** 15-18 In the body, he was put to death, in the spirit, he was raised to life **Jn 14:** 15-21 I shall aske the father and He will give you another advocate
Reminder	Beginning of Canonical Visit to Champagnat Community, Monrovia
Reflection	**WHEREVER YOU GO: MARIST BROTHERS' RULE OF LIFE** Share all your energy and enthusiasm, as well as your dreams and hopes for the future. Continue to integrate into your life all that you have learned in formation about yourself and our way of life (No. 59).
Intentions	In thanksgiving to God for the gift of Mary to our Congregation. For all those whose work is not rewarding.
May 11th Sunday of the Sixth Week of Easter Office: week 3 Vestment: white	
Liturgy	**Ac 16:** 11-15 The Lord opened Lydia's heart to accept what Paul was saying **Jn 15:** 26 – 16: 4 The spirit of truth will be my Witness
Reflection	**WHEREVER YOU GO: THE MARIST BROTHERS' RULE OF LIFE** Jesus dwells in you as you do in him. Within this simple and mutual indwelling, your covenant with the Lord is renewed each day. He calls you by name, leads you into the desert, speaks to your heart and entrusts you with the mission of being a bridge between humanity and our loving God. Surprised and grateful, you accept freely the call of the Lord to "come and follow me" With child-like trust, you place yourself in God's hands and allow yourself to be guided by the Spirit in following Christ. (*Number 7*)
Intentions	For spirit of generosity to the poor and the needy in our society. For the Marist community of Koumra.
May 12th Tuesday of the Sixth Week of Easter Office: week 3 Vestment: white	
Liturgy	Ac 16: 22-34 Become a believer and you will be saved and your household too Jn 16: 5-11 Unless I go, the advocate will not come to you

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Birthday	Br Owen Ormsby from USA who worked in Liberia
Reflection	**WHEREVER YOU GO: THE MARIST BROTHERS' RULE OF LIFE** Along with your brothers and other Marists, strive everywhere to be a mediator of the Good News of Jesus Christ and an agent of transformation. Wherever you find yourself living, respect and be sensitive to the customs, values, and beliefs of local people. At the same time, be aware of and thankful for the ways in which the Spirit is already present in their life and traditions. (*Number 82*)
Intentions	For Br Owen Ormsby, his vocation, personal intentions and mission. For all our Marist formators.
May 13th Wednesday of the Sixth Week of Easter Office: week 3 Vestment: white	
Liturgy	**Ac 17:** 15, 22 – 18: 1 I proclaim the God you already worship without knowing it **Jn 16:** 12-15 The spirit of truth, will lead you to the complete truth
Reflection	**WHEREVER YOU GO: THE MARIST BROTHERS' RULE OF LIFE** Together with Marcellin, our brothers realized that manual labour was not just something to talk about. There are lessons to be learned from working with your hands. At times, simple labour conveys truths that words fail to describe. (*Number 50*)
Intentions	For the Superior General and Provincials of our Institute. For our elderly Brothers
May 14th Thursday of the Sixth Week of Easter Ascension of the Lord (Solemnity), Office: Week 3 Vestment: white	
Liturgy	Ac 1: 15-17, 20-26 Jesus was lifted up, while they looked on Jn 15: 9-17 God made him sit at His right hand in heaven
Reflection	**WHEREVER YOU GO: THE MARIST BROTHERS' RULE OF LIFE** By living as a brother, you state clearly that you intend to follow Jesus by taking up his way of life. Your consecration has its roots in the incarnation, for it gives birth to a specific feature of the human face of God, revealed in Jesus. (*Number 9*)
Reminder	End of Canonical Visit to Champagnat Community, Monrovia
Intentions	For the grace to experience the love of God. For Marist community of Tatum.
May 15th Friday of the Sixth Week of Easter Office: week 3 Vestment: white	
Liturgy	**Ac 18:** 9-18 I have many people on my side in this city **Jn 16:** 20-23 Your heart will be full of Joy that no one will take from you

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Reflection	**WHEREVER YOU GO: MARIST BROTHERS' RULE OF LIFE** The joys and disappointments of his life taught Marcellin to be both humble and confident. As a consequence, he challenged our early brothers to live lives of integrity and to be truthful, candid, and transparent in their relationships (No 26).
Intentions	In thankfulness to God for his presence in our communities. For the members of the Novitiate Community
May 16th Saturday of the Sixth Week of Easter Office: week 3 **Vestment: white**	
Liturgy	**Ac 18:** 23-28 Apollos demonstrated from the scriptures that Jesus was the Christ **Jn 16:** 23b-28 The Father loves you for loving me and believing that I came from God
Reminder	Beginning of Canonical Visitation to Antonio Community, Kpan Town
Reflection	**WHEREVER YOU GO: MARIST BROTHERS' RULE OF LIFE** In making an offering of your life, you become a manifestation of the primacy of God's love. As that love becomes visible and tangible, your life is transformed into an effective sign of grace, a liturgy of love for God that makes his presence visible among us *(Number 6)*
Intentions	For the grace to love our learners in the spirit of our founder. For the grace to fully utilize our gifts. **Marist Saturday:** We offer prayers for Marist Vocation.
May 17th Seventh Sunday of Easter Office: Week 4 **Vestment: white**	
Liturgy	**Ac 1:** 1-11 The Apostles all joined in continuous prayer **Ep 1:** 17-23 It is a blessing to you, when they insult you for bearing the name of Christ **Mt 28:** 16-20 Father, it is time for you to glorify me
Birthday	Br Honore Togyanouba (1999) from Chad
Reflection	**Wherever You Go: Marist Brothers' Rule of Life** True to the name that we bear, let Mary shape and inspire your spirituality. Marcellin reminded our early brothers, "Without Mary we are nothing and with Mary we have everything because she always has her adorable Son within her arms or in her heart" *(Number 28).*
Intentions	For Brother Honore, his vocation, personal intentions and mission For courage to missionaries working in difficult places.
May 18th, Monday after Ascension Psalter week 3 **Vestment: White**	
Liturgy	**Ac 19:** 1-8 The moment Paul laid hands on them, the Holy Spirit came down on them **Jn 16:** 29-33 Be brave, for I have conquered the world

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Reflection	**WHEREVER YOU GO: THE MARIST BROTHERS' RULE OF LIFE** In the face of your incapacity, fragility, and even terminal illness, draw upon the sacraments as a source of healing, peace and inner courage. In these moments, your suffering unites you with Christ's Paschal Mystery. At your final moment, know that we, your brothers, are with you. Jesus and Mary will comfort and console you; they will tenderly accompany you to the end and as you cross over into the next life. (*Number 63*)
Intentions	For the grace of sharing and sensitivity towards the poor. For our aspirants and their parents.
May 19th, Tuesday after Ascension Office week 3 **Vestment: White**	
Liturgy	Ac 20: 17-27 I have without flattering, put before you the whole of God's purpose Jn 17: 1-11a Father, it is time for you to glorify me
Reflection	**WHEREVER YOU GO: THE MARIST BROTHERS' RULE OF LIFE** Never forget that you are sent on mission as a sign of God's maternal tenderness as well as the fraternal love that we share in Christ. Live it with passion and be a reason for hope among those to whom you are sent. (*Number 88*)
Intentions	For those involved in the work of Evangelization. For all those who do not believe in God.
May 20th Wednesday after Ascension Psalter week 3 **Vestment: White**	
Liturgy	**Ac 20:** 28-38 I commend you to God and to the word of His grace **Jn 17:** 11b-19 Father, keep those you have given me true to your name
Reflection	**WHEREVER YOU GO: THE MARIST BROTHERS' RULE OF LIFE** Value and take full advantage of the privileged time of the novitiate. First of all, without fear, open yourself to God's love; it is the source and origin of every Christian vocation and ultimately the only thing that sustains it. (*Number 58*)
Reminder	End of Canonical Visitation to Antonio Community, Kpan Town
Intentions	For our elderly and sick Brothers. For the spirit of collaboration in our communities and our schools.
May 21st Thursday after Ascension psalter week 3 **Vestment: White**	
Liturgy	**Ac 22:** 30; 23: 6-11 You have borne witness in Jerusalem: now, you must do the same in Rome **Jn 17:** 20-26 Father, may they be completely one
Reflection	**WHEREVER YOU GO: THE MARIST BROTHERS' RULE OF LIFE** the table at La Valla is an icon of our Marist fraternity, a powerful symbol of the communion that exists among diverse cultures, peoples, and personalities. In choosing

	to sit at this table, you and I help each other to become the person that God has called us to be. From this table, we set forth to witness to God's love for all people, especially children and young people who are most vulnerable. (*Number 54*)
Intentions	For the Spirit of Discernment For the Marist community of Buokrom.
May 22th, Friday after Ascension Psalter week 3 Vestment: White	
Liturgy	**Ac 25:** 13b-21 I ordered Paul to be remanded until I send him to Caesar **Jn 21:** 15-19 Feed my Lamb, feed my sheep
Birthday	Br Aureliano Garcia, Provincial of Mediterranea, who worked in Ghana.
Reflection	**WHEREVER YOU GO: THE MARIST BROTHERS' RULE OF LIFE** The trust that has been placed in you by the children and young people in your care is a special privilege and a serious responsibility. Honour that confidence by showing great respect toward each of them and protecting them from anything that could harm them. United together with other people and institutions denounce those structures that oppress them. Defend their dignity and rights, especially when they are under attack. (*Number 78*)
Intentions	For Brothers Aureliano Garcia, his vocation, personal intentions and mission. For all the missionaries in the world.
May 23th Saturday after Ascension Psalter week 3 Vestment: White	
Liturgy	**Ac 20:** 16-20, 30-31 In Rome, Paul proclaimed the Kingdome of God without hindrances from anyone **Jn21:** 20-25 This decuple is the one who vouches for those things and we know that his testimony is true
Reflection	**WHEREVER YOU GO: MARIST BROTHERS' RULE OF LIFE** Let the gift of your vocation inspire you to proclaim with your life the words of Jesus in the synagogue at Nazareth: "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring glad tidings to the poor *(Number 5).*
Intentions	That we may reflect the gospel values in our lives. For all Priests and Religious working in our dioceses. **Marist Saturday:** We pray for the love of our Vocation.
May 24th, Pentecost Sunday (Solemnity) Vestment: White	
Liturgy	**Ac 2:** 1-11 They were all filled with the holy spirit and began to speak **1Co 12:** 3b-7, 12-13 In the one spirit, we were all Baptize **Jn 21:** 19-23 As the Father send me, so I am sending you: receive the holy spirit
Reflection	**WHEREVER YOU GO: THE MARIST BROTHERS' RULE OF LIFE**

	Let the gift of your vocation inspire you to proclaim with your life the words of Jesus in the synagogue at Nazareth: "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring glad tidings to the poor; he has sent me to proclaim liberty to captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, and to announce a year acceptable to the Lord" (*Number 5*)
Intentions	For the grace to cooperate with the Holy Spirit. For the grace to be living witnesses of the Gospel in the places where we work.
May 25th Monday of the Eighth Week in Ordinary Time Office Week 1 Vestment: Green	
Liturgy	**1Pe 1:** 3-9 The mother of all those who live **Mk 10:** 17-27 Behold your son. Behold your mother
Reflection	**WHEREVER YOU GO: MARIST BROTHERS' RULE OF LIFE** Mary is both mother and disciple. "She takes the events of her everyday life into her heart and reflects upon them". Day by day, her discipleship is refined; life's daily events fail to limit her vision *(Number 42).*
Intentions	For the grace to value and appreciate the gifts and talents of one another. For donors who support our projects.
May 26th Tuesday of the Eighth Week in Ordinary Time Office Week 1 Vestment: Green	
Liturgy	1 Peter 1:10-16 They prophesied about the grace that was to be yours Mark 10:28-31 You will receive a hundred times as much.
Reflection	**WHEREVER YOU GO: THE MARIST BROTHERS' RULE OF LIFE** I desire that absolute and perfect obedience should always prevail among the Brothers of Mary: that those under authority see in their Superiors the representatives of Jesus Christ, and render them willing and implicit obedience, being ever ready to sacrifice at need their own will and judgment. Let them remember that the obedient religious will speak of victories. *(page 124)*
Intentions	For perseverance in our vocational journey. For the Provincial and his Council.
May 27th Wednesday of the Eighth Week in Ordinary Time Office Week 1 Vestment: Green	
Liturgy	**1Pe 1:** 18-25 You were ransomed by the precious blood of Christ, the spotless victim **Mk 10:** 32-45 The son of God came to give his life as a Ransome for many
Reflection	**WHEREVER YOU GO: THE MARIST BROTHERS' RULE OF LIFE** Like the Lord, you are called to put yourself at the service of others and to offer them a tender and self-giving love, particularly those who are poor and needy. In following

	Jesus, we are meant to love not only those who treat us well but to wash also the feet of those who disappoint us, hurt and betray us. (*Number 68*)
Intentions	For all workers in our schools and institutions. For our brothers undergoing initial formation.
May 28th Thursday of the Eighth Week in Ordinary Time Office Week 1 **Vestment: Green**	
Liturgy	**1Pe 2:** 2-5, 9-12 You are a royal priesthood, a people set apart **Mk 10:** 46-52 Go; your faith has saved you
Birthday	Theddy Gilles de Souza (1972) from Côte d'Ivoire. Jose Descarga (1945) former District Bursar, who worked in Cameroon.
Reflection	**WHEREVER YOU GO: MARIST BROTHERS' RULE OF LIFE** Surprised and grateful, you accept freely the call of the Lord to "come and follow me" With child-like trust, you place yourself in God's hands and allow yourself to be guided by the Spirit in following Christ (*Number 7*)
Intentions	In thanksgiving for the gift of Brothers Theddy and Descarga, their vocation, personal intentions and their mission. For those who have been rejected by the society.
May 29th Friday of the Eighth Week in Ordinary Time Office Week 1 **Vestment: Green**	
Liturgy	**1Pe 4:** 7-13 Each of you has received a special grace **Mk 10:** 11-26 The fig tree; the cleansing of the temple
Reflection	**WHEREVER YOU GO: THE MARIST BROTHERS' RULE OF LIFE** Your call to brotherhood contains an element of mystery; accept it as a gift. Take on the attitude of a pilgrim each day and discover that the path that you trod transforms your way of looking at life as well as your understanding of it Come now, live with the Lord, allow yourself to be guided by the Master. Like his earliest followers, never forget the moment when Jesus first touched your heart and called forth your deepest and most authentic self. (*Number 1*)
Intentions	We pray for the grace to make Jesus known and love For the Marist community of MIC, Nairobi
May 30th Saturday of the Eighth Week in Ordinary Time Office Week 1 **Vestment: Green**	
Liturgy	Jude 17: 20b-25 Use your most holy faith as your foundation Mk 11: 27-33 I will not tell you my authority for acting like this
Reminder	Beginning of Online Provincial Council Meeting
Reflection	**WHEREVER YOU GO: THE MARIST BROTHERS' RULE OF LIFE**

	On your daily journey of faith, use those means that will help you to embody the mystery of God in your life There are many ordinary means that give rise to extraordinary results. The practice of meditation1 and the Review of the Day. will help you to discover and attend to the presence of God in the events of each day. Never hesitate to make use of any opportunity for spiritual direction; it will deepen your ability to discern and foster your human and religious growth. (*Number 30*)
Intentions	For the spirit of love and understanding in our communities. For domestic workers in our communities. **Marian Saturday:** We pray for our Marist Vocation in our various countries
May 31st Sunday of the Nineth Week in Ordinary Time Office Week 2 **Solemnity of The Holy Trinity** **Vestment: White**	
Liturgy	**Ex 34:** 4b-6, 8-9 The LORD, a merciful and gracious God, slow to anger and rich in kindness and fidelity. **2C0 13:** 11-13 Lord, Lord, a God of tenderness and compassion **Jn 3:** 16-18 The grace of Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit
Reflection	**WHEREVER YOU GO: THE MARIST BROTHERS' RULE OF LIFE** Be tender in your loving, show respect and compassion to the children and young people to whom you are sent on mission. Strive to love everyone alike and to welcome the love of others as though it is God's own. Never forget that only God can satisfy your deep need for love. When you live your life with kindness, a purity of heart, and a love for those whom society disregards, you begin to experience the beauty of your vocation and feel a sense of personal fulfilment. (*Number 13*)
Reminder	End of Beginning of Online Provincial Council Meeting
Intentions	For all those working in Catholic institutions. For all farmers and those who till the land.