

July

Intentions of the Holy Father

Justice in Electing those who Govern

General: That in every nation of the world the election of officials may be carried out with justice, transparency and honesty, respecting the free decisions of citizens.

Missionary: An Urban Culture of Justice, Solidarity and Peace

That Christians may strive to offer everywhere, but especially in great urban centers, an effective contribution to the promotion of education, justice, solidarity and peace.

1st Thursday

Readings : Amos 7: 10-17 Mt. 9: 1-8

Intentions : Community at Kalpitiya

That we be ready to set aside our egoism and touchiness in communities

Reflection : Marvelous Companions – Sean Sammon

Community life is one place where the human weakness that you and I carry is very evident. And so, we must often ask ourselves these questions: Are we willing to place our legitimate human needs secondary to the overall goals of the community? Is that fact apparent in the way that we live and pray and share our lives? Are we willing to take responsibility for the life and direction of our communities, or do we spend our time criticizing those who do?

2nd Friday

Readings : Amos 8:4-6, 9-12 Mt. 9: 9-13

Intentions : Community at St. Mary's College, Chilaw

For candidates in Pre-Novitiate programs

Anniversary : 1967 – First vows Bros. Charles, Noel & Ephrem
1968 – First vows Bros. Shanthi, Sunil & Francois
2001 – Death anniversary of Br. Felician

Reflection : Marvelous Companions – Sean Sammon

Is a spirit of discipleship as obvious in our day-today life in community as it is in the ministries that we carry out in Jesus' name? Dietrich Bonhoeffer, wrote movingly about the experience of discipleship. In doing so, he made a distinction between what he called costly and cheap grace. The first is a gift for which we must ask. Its cost is the price of our lives, and it is grace because in return we receive the only true life worth having. In contrast, we pay nothing for cheap grace; it is grace without discipleship, without the cross, without Jesus Christ, living and incarnate.

3rd Saturday : St. Thomas, Apostle

Readings : Amos 9: 11-15 Mt. 9: 14-17 (Feast Eph. 2: 19-22 Jn. 20:24-29)

Intentions : Our Brothers in MAPAC

That we be ready to deny ourselves to follow Christ

Anniversary : 1951 – Start of the Beautification process of Br. Alfano, who died in 1943 in Italy

Reflection : Marvelous Companions – Sean Sammon

Faith has consequences. Discipleship demands that we sacrifice our own comfort, take a number of risks, and act with courage. Jesus was most serious when he offered this challenge: "Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me." He was equally serious when he promised in return the fullness of life in this world and in the next.

4th Sunday : 14th Sunday in Ordinary Time

(St. Elizabeth of Portugal)

Office : Week 2

Readings : Is. 66: 10-14 Gal. 6:14-18 Lk. 10: 1-12, 17-20

Intentions : Marist Schools in India

Bro. Provincial & his Leadership Team

Reflection : Marvelous Companions – Sean Sammon

The first stage in the formation of any Marist community involves the experience of simply *coming together*. The community gathers. Subsequent stages include *working out differences among community members, establishing norms for the group, and eventually getting on with the task of living and serving together*. Each stage takes some time to accomplish, and in omitting any one of them, we run the risk of forfeiting an opportunity to live together in a way that is profoundly human and deeply spiritual.

5th Monday : St. Anthony Mary Zaccaria - 14th Week in Ordinary Time

Office : Week 2

Readings : Hosea 2:16-18, 21-22 Mt. 9: 18-26

Intentions : Marist Schools in Pakistan

That we gain the ability to resolve conflicts

Reflection : Marvelous Companions – Sean Sammon

What is the best way to describe the second stage in the formation of a Marist community? *Working out differences*. For growth to take place beyond the first stage of coming together, you and I must be able to disagree as brothers, even heatedly at times, and to resolve our differences in a mutually acceptable manner. Unfortunately, false notions about what the virtue of charity entails have rendered many of us incapable of telling the truth. Instead, we remain silent to keep the peace.

6th Tuesday : St. Maria Goretti, Virgin & Martyr

Readings : Hoses 8:4-7, 11-13 Mt. 9:32-38

Intentions : Marist Schools in Sri Lanka

That we speak the truth in charity

Reflection : Marvelous Companions – Sean Sammon

The virtue of charity is practiced when I speak the truth out of my respect for you. I do so whether that truth is good news or bad. I don't have to tell you all the truth, at least as I see it, at one time, but charity requires that I speak the truth. It is far more useful, for example, to respond to a brother honestly during a community meeting than to spend the next week telling everyone else in the house what it was you wanted to tell him. The first response is fraternal, the second patronizing.

7th Wednesday

Readings : Hosea 10:1-3, 7-8, 12 Mt. 10:1-7

Intentions : Students & staff at Electro

For Brother Superior General and his Leadership Team

Reflection : Marvelous Companions – Sean Sammon

Likewise, remaining silent and allowing a person who is angry, withdrawn, or abusing alcohol to control the community with his behavior has little to do with Gospel living. In failing to take action, all who make up the group eventually become crippled. What happens in the life of one of our brothers has ramifications for all who make up the group. While we generally prefer to classify the person who is causing all the trouble, at least from our point of view, as the source of difficulty, in remaining silent we collude with that person and add to the group's dysfunction.

8th Thursday

Readings : Hosea 11:1, 3-4,8-9 Mt. 10:7-15

Intentions : Students of Boy's hostel in Peshawar

For Young boys interested in joining us

Reflection : Marvelous Companions – Sean Sammon

Norms are established during the third stage in the formation of a Marist community. Having agreed that it is safe to disagree, the community members can speak honestly about their hopes and disappointments, and arrive at a consensus about the details of their life such as prayer life, other responsibilities, together. Obviously, our Marist *Constitutions and Statutes* have a particularly important role to play in the life of the group at this stage.

9th Friday : St. Augustine Zhao Rong & Companions, Martyrs in China

Readings : Hoses 14:2-10 Mt. 10:16-23

Intentions : Marist mission in Kalpitiya

That we be brothers to all

Reflection : Marvelous Companions – Sean Sammon

Finally, having passed through the stages of *coming together, working out differences, and establishing norms*, the community will arrive at the last stage in its initial development: *getting on with the task at hand*. Having laid a solid foundation for life together, we are now able to live out honestly the day-to-day realities that any group must face. All will proceed well if respect for other brothers in the community is cherished, and right relations among all are actively encouraged. Then, we are able to get on, as a community, with the task at hand: being brothers to one another and proclaiming the *Good News* of Jesus Christ to poor children and young people.

10th Saturday

Readings : Is. 6:1-8 Mt. 10:24-33

Intentions : Students and staff in Boys Hostel in Pindi

Reflection : Marvelous Companions – Sean Sammon

When it comes to community, each Institute has its own traditions. But one point is quite clear: in our Institute, community entails living together physically, face to face, and being involved intimately in the life of the group. We read that message in the chapter on Community Life found in our *Constitutions*

11th Sunday : 15th Sunday in Ordinary Time

World Population Day

(St. Benedict, Abbot)

Office Week 3

Readings : Deut. 30:10-14 Col. 1:15-20 Lk. 10: 25-37

Intentions : Community at Kalutara

For brothers involved in formation

Anniversary : 1920 – Pope Benedict XV issued in Rome the decree proclaiming the virtues of Marcellin

Reflection : Marvelous Companions – Sean Sammon

There can be no doubt that community was central in Marcellin's vision of our life. In his circular letter of August 12th, 1837, he wrote, "How pleasant, how flattering it is for me to think that in a few days I shall have the wonderful pleasure of saying to you, with the psalmist, while embracing you, "It is a delightful consolation to me to have you all together again one in heart and mind, as a single family, seeking only the glory of God and the good of his holy religion."

12th Monday : 15th Week in Ordinary Time

Office : Week 3

Readings : Is. 1:11-17 Mt. 10:34-11:1

Intentions : Community at Nugegoda

That we live simple lives

Anniversary : 1803 – Birth of Peter Chanel

Reflection : Marvelous Companions – Sean Sammon

As disciples of Jesus, we are called upon continually to put aside those sterile comforts that serve only to domesticate our spirits and quench our thirst for God. Adopting a simple, even austere, lifestyle not only frees us from the concerns inherent in private ownership but can also enable us to be more effective in our service among those who are materially poor.

13th Tuesday : St. Henry

Readings : Is. 7:1-9 Mt. 11:20-24

Intentions : Community at Trichy

For our Novices and Postulants

Reflection : Marvelous Companions – Sean Sammon

Simplicity of lifestyle so often mirrors the simplicity of mind and heart that Marcellin considered the defining virtue for his Little Brothers. Regardless of the ministry in which I find myself, and irrespective of the socioeconomic level of those whom I am called to serve, each of us has an obligation to give witness to this simplicity in our day-to-day lives. Moreover, you and I will never be credible witnesses to the young and others in our wider Church if our way of living is little more than a mirror of the middle class values found in some cultures, no matter how acceptable they may be for others.

14th Wednesday : St. Camillus de Lellis, Priest

Readings : Is. 10:5-7, 13-16 Mt. 11:25-27

Intentions : Community at Marist Novitiate, Tudella

Reflection : Marvelous Companions – Sean Sammon

Today many young people have an interest in the radical possibility of adults living together in community so as to witness to reconciliation and peace. Isn't that what our Marist communities are meant to do? To be a group of brothers, and, at times, lay men and women who also share Marcellin's charism, coming together as a community to live the *Good News* of Jesus Christ.

15th Thursday : St. Bonaventure, Bishop & Doctor of the Church

Readings : Is. 26: 7-9, 12, 16-19 Mt. 11: 28-30

Intentions : Community at Peshawar

That our communities become centers of prayer

Birthdays : Br. Gerard Peiris

Reflection : Marvelous Companions – Sean Sammon

First and foremost, that every Marist community is a center of spirituality and prayer. A good initial impression and lingering memory of any visitor to one of our communities should always be that he or she has been among people who pray.

16th Friday : Our Lady of Mount Carmel
Readings : Is. 38: 1-6, 21-22 Mt. 12:1-8
Intentions : Community at Mangamanuthu

Anniversary : 2006 – Death of Br. Gregory Fonseka (at Lewella)
1755 – Birth of Jean Baptist Champagnat, father of Marcellin

Reflection : Marvelous Companions – Sean Sammon

What makes prayer so important in the life of any of our communities? One, it has a way of transforming us. If we pray, we are better able to practice patience, withhold judgment, and love generously – some of the very qualities that the founder asked us to hold dear, qualities that foster a spirit of reconciliation. Two, prayer transforms our way of seeing reality, leaving us simpler, more humble and compassionate. All these qualities are great gifts to the life of any Marist community.

17th Saturday
Readings : Micah 2:1-5 Mt. 12:14-21
Intentions : Community at Our Lady's Hermitage

Reflection : Marvelous Companions – Sean Sammon

Our *Constitutions and Statutes* tell us that the Eucharist has a central place in our life of prayer and in our communities.⁴⁸ We cannot exaggerate the intimacy and union that we experience with Jesus and one another when we celebrate Mass. Nowhere else is the body of Christ so physical, carnal, sensual and available for union.

18th Sunday : 16th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Office : Week 4
Readings : Gen. 18: 1-10 Col. 1:24-28 Lk. 10: 38-42
Intentions : Community at Maris Stella College

Birthdays : Br. Johnson

Reflection : Marvelous Companions – Sean Sammon

Eucharist is more radical than the Word of God as found in the Scriptures. The latter is sacramental but less physical than the body and blood of Christ. What is alarming in so many of our Marist communities today, however, is not only that the Eucharist is rarely celebrated, but that it appears to be hardly missed at all.

19th Monday : 16th Week in Ordinary Time
Office : Week 4
Readings : Micah 6:1-4, 6-8 Mt. 12: 38-42
Intentions : Community at Sargodha

Reflection : Marvelous Companions – Sean Sammon

While a religious congregation is not a family, our family comes along with us when we join one. No, it is not present physically. But all that our family taught us about self-esteem, communication, faith and spirituality, relationships, and a number of other areas accompanies us to the novitiate, and to every subsequent Marist community in which we live.

20th Tuesday : St. Margaret of Antioch, Sr. Apollinarius
Readings : Micah 7:14-15, 18-20 Mt. 12: 46-50
Intentions : Community at P. Udayapatti

Reflection : Marvelous Companions – Sean Sammon

What are some of the skills that needs to be learned? An ability to disagree, to give and receive compliments, to be at home with feelings of care, affection, and tenderness, to speak honestly, and to extend and accept forgiveness more readily. While cultural differences must be respected, schooling in these and other competencies needed for life in community today merits a place in our programs of initial and ongoing formation.

21st Wednesday : St. Lawrence of Brindisi
Readings : Jer. 1:1, 4-10 Mt. 13: 1-9
Intentions : Community at Marcellin Nivasa
That we develop sense of humor in our communities

Reflection : Marvelous Companions – Sean Sammon

Third, when it comes to life in one of our Marist communities, a sense of humor is a great help. Some of us take ourselves all too seriously; we lack an ability to laugh at ourselves. How do we expect to get through life's rough spots? Humor helps us to reinterpret the meaning of some events and lessens the effect of the frustrations and reversals that are part of everyone's day-to-day existence.

22nd Thursday : St. Mary Magdalene

Readings : Jer. 2:1-3, 7-8, 12-13 Mt. 13: 10-17

Intentions : Community at Haldanduwana

Anniversary : 1816 – Marcellin was ordained a priest in Lyons

Reflection : Marvelous Companions – Sean Sammon

A sense of humor among us is necessary for another important reason. Our way of life is meant to make people happy. Not in the sense of hilarity, but in that deep feeling of contentment experienced by people who have meaning and purpose in their life and marvelous companions with whom to share that life. I can think of no better advertisement for religious life.

23rd Friday : St. Bridget of Sweden, Religious

Readings : Jer. 3:14-17 Mt. 13: 18-23

Intentions : Community at Boys Town, Rawalpindi

Anniversary : 1816 – At Fourviere the young Marist aspirants Colin, Champagnat and others pledged to form a Marist Society.

Reflection : Marvelous Companions – Sean Sammon

Fifth, the presence of several "little virtues" among the members of any Marist community contributes greatly toward enhancing the group's quality of life. What are some of those "little virtues?" In addition to what we traditionally understand by the phrase "little virtues," today we need to add: answering the door or telephone, providing a welcome to all who visit, remembering birthdays and other special occasions, offering a word of thanks or congratulations, simply saying "hello" to those with whom I live.

24th Saturday

Readings : Jer. 7:1-11 Mt. 13: 24-30

Intentions : Community at Kalpitiya

Reflection : Marvelous Companions – Sean Sammon

An ability to celebrate is another important "little virtue" that greatly enhances community life. Ask yourself these questions. Do you enjoy being together with the other members of your community? When was the last time your community took some time together solely for the enjoyment of being with one another?

25th Sunday : 17th Sunday in Ordinary Time

(St. James, Apostle)

Office : Week 1

Readings : Gen 18: 20-32 Col. 2: 12-14 Lk. 11: 1-13

Intentions : Community at St. Mary's College Chilaw

Reflection : Marvelous Companions – Sean Sammon

Groups lacking in a spirit of celebration are hardly communities. Those who belong to them are forced eventually to look outside the group to meet most of their emotional needs. Each of the "little virtues" mentioned above doesn't cost much, but every one of them goes a long way toward creating an atmosphere in any Marist community that makes coming home a blessing.

26th Monday : Sts Joachim & Anne, Parents of Mary

Readings : Jer. 13:1-11 Mt. 13: 31-35

Intentions : Our Brothers at MAPAC

Reflection : Marvelous Companions – Sean Sammon

We also deceive ourselves when we argue that responsibility for the community's quality of life can be passed along to others in the group. Each of us has a daily obligation to refresh our commitment to those with whom we live. So let's ask ourselves this question: what have I done today to improve the quality of life among the members of my community? If my answer is "Precious little," then I have a great deal of work to do.

27th Tuesday

Readings : Jer. 14: 17-22 Mt. 13: 36-43

Intentions : Students and staff of Maris Stella College

Birthdays : Br. Godfrey Perera

Reflection : Marvelous Companions – Sean Sammon

Finally, a spirit of reconciliation needs to be at the heart of any community that calls itself Marist. From time to time, one learns of a situation where enmity between two brothers has caused them not to speak to each other for years. Or some injustice at the hands of a superior in times past has caused brothers to suffer and then choose to nurture their wounds, keeping their anger alive, and rejecting any notion of reconciliation. Eventually, they become so wedded to their hurt that they lose any ability to embrace the future with freedom and hope.

28th Wednesday

Readings : Jer. 15: 10, 16-21 Mt. 13: 44-45

Intentions : Students and staff of Electro

Reflection : Marvelous Companions – Sean Sammon

Anger is a hedge against humiliation, a protest against the loss of self-esteem. It is one thing to feel anger, though, and quite another to do something about it. With anger, as with other emotions, the goal I set for myself usually determines the action that I will take. If I want to punish you, I might insult you, or withdraw my affection and retreat into stony silence. However, some of us, having been taught not to voice our anger, fail to express it in any helpful way. The forgiveness that so often waits on the other side of the experience gets frustrated.

29th Thursday : St. Martha

Readings : Jer. 18:1-6 Mt. 13: 47-53

Intentions : Students and staff of Holy Cross College

Reflection : Marvelous Companions – Sean Sammon

Reconciliation is another way of addressing our anger. It entails a process wherein we *choose* not to let the hurt we have suffered get in the way of continuing our relationship, and *decide* to respond to whoever has hurt us rather than hold on to our pain. What was done is forgiven for the sake of who did it. While these decisions and choices are ours to make, cultural differences, lack of an adequate vocabulary for expressing emotional reactions, or a painful past history of managing conflict can make it more difficult for some of us to initiate the process of reconciliation. Not to do so, however, most often consigns us to the pain of our anger.

30th Friday : St. Peter Chrysologus, Bishop & Doctor of the Church

Readings : Jer. 26:1-9 Mt. 13: 54-58

Intentions : Staff & Students of St. John Vienny High School, Peshawar

Reflection : Marvelous Companions – Sean Sammon

Forgiveness is also a two-edged sword. There are few situations of hurt in life where only one party is to blame. In revisiting my hurt, I must also admit that I contributed to it. Thus, genuine forgiveness robs me of my hurt. I can no longer use it against you. Are there some disappointments and hurts in life that are impossible to heal? Not if we are open to God's grace and willing to take the time to be reconciled. In all of this, we do well to remember the Lord's directive about forgiving seventy times seven.

31st Saturday : St. Ignatius of Loyola

Readings : Jer. 26: 11-16, 24 Mt. 14:1-12

Intentions : For the Jesuit Congregation

Students and staff of Marcellin High School, India

Reflection : Marvelous Companions – Sean Sammon

Reconciliation, reminding us of our weakness, helps nurture in us a compassionate and loving heart. Such a heart is necessary if we are to be able to look on the face of any person in community and see him as my brother. In gradually developing that capacity, we come to know full well that regardless of the time of day it is, it is no longer night for us.

August

Intentions of the Holy Father

The Unemployed and the Homeless

General: That those who are without work or homes or who are otherwise in serious need may find understanding and welcome, as well as concrete help in overcoming their difficulties.

Victims of Discrimination, Hunger and Forced Emigration

Missionary: That the Church may be a “home” for all people, ready to open its doors to any who are suffering from racial or religious discrimination, hunger, or wars forcing them to emigrate to other countries.

1st Sunday : 18th Sunday in the Ordinary Time
(St. Alphonsus Liguori, Bishop & Doctor of the Church)

Office : Week 2

Readings : Ecclesiastes 1:2, 2:21-23 Col. 3: 1-5, 9-11 Lk. 12: 13-21

Intentions : Students and staff of St. Mary’s College, Chilaw

Reflection : Marvelous Companions – Sean Sammon

Life in community today requires a willingness to live a harsh and troublesome love rather than one that occurs in dreams. It was this type of love to which Father Champagnat was referring to when he said to our early brothers, “You know that I live and breathe only for you. I ask God every day to give you everything that is good, and I am ready to make any sacrifice to see that you get it.

2nd Monday : Sts. Eusebius of Vercelli, Bishop & Peter Julian Eymard, Priest
18th Week in Ordinary Time

Office : Week 2

Readings : Jer. 28:1-17 Mt.14:13-21

Intentions : Students & Staff of Marist School, P. Udayapatti

For our diseased Brothers, parents, relatives and friends

Reflection : Marvelous Companions – Sean Sammon

If you and I can continue to live gratefully and generously even when we receive nothing in return, then we will begin to understand more deeply the divine nature of love. The love of God continues unabated even as we take him for granted. Our loneliness is but one indication of our thirst for that God, a reminder that our hearts were made for him and for one another. By making Jesus the center and passion of our lives, you and I come, in time, to share in his redemptive loneliness; and in that loneliness we are healed and made one.

3rd Tuesday

Readings : Jer. 30:1-2, 12-15, 18-22 Mt. 14: 22-36

Intentions : Students & Staff of Sargodha Catholic School

Reflection : Making Jesus Known and Loved – Sean Sammon

Today, for example, we live in a world where globalization is shaping the context in which we operate, and so we are called once again to live out our apostolate in both renewed and new ways. Advances in technology offer opportunities unavailable to most people only a few decades ago. Today, however, for a number of reasons, these benefits are beyond the reach of millions living in conditions unworthy of their human dignity. Currently, worldwide, there are nearly 200 million children excluded from basic education and 800 million adults who are illiterate.

4th Wednesday : St. John Vianney

Readings : Jer. 31:1-7 Mt. 15:21-28

Intentions : Students & Staff of St. Mary’s High School, Peshawar

Birthdays : Br. Santosh

Reflection : Making Jesus Known and Loved – Sean Sammon

Education remains extraordinarily uneven within the world’s population, with the “quality gap” widening between schools attended by the poor and those whose students are not poor. Furthermore, they pointed out that primary education in particular remains dramatically insufficient in some parts of our world, and that the classic basic skills so often taught at that level — reading, writing, and arithmetic — are no longer sufficient in a global environment.

5th Thursday : Dedication of St. Mary Major

Readings : Jer. 31:31-34 Mt. 16:13-23

Intentions : Students & Staff of Christ King College, Tudella

Birthdays : Br. Lazar Sebastian

Anniversary : Final vows of Br. John Peter

Reflection : Making Jesus Known and Loved – Sean Sammon

Will the steps we take to address challenges in mission and apostolic life be innovative and forward-looking, even to the point of being unexpected or carrying with them the risk of entering unexplored territory? Or will history judge our plans as being little more than an attempt to restore the past?

6th Friday : The Transfiguration of the Lord

Readings : (Feast) Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14 2 Peter 1:16-19 Lk. 9: 28-36

Intentions : Students & Staff of St. Joseph's School, Nugegoda

Reflection : Making Jesus Known and Loved – Sean Sammon

What initiatives on behalf of justice should we undertake with the emerging generation? What response can we make to newly emerging needs among poor children and young people: those without homes or families, those alienated from the societies in which they live, those enslaved, exploited, without hope?

7th Saturday : St. Sixtus II, Pope and his Companions, Martyrs, St. Cajetan

Readings : Habakkuk 1: 12-2:4 Mt. 17: 14-20

Intentions : Community at Holy Cross College, Kalutara

Anniversary : 1790 – Birth of Fr. Colin

Reflection : Making Jesus Known and Loved – Sean Sammon

What is our role in educational programs aimed at fostering greater understanding, reconciliation and healing among young Catholics and their peers of other faiths, as well as among the communities and nations to which they belong?

8th Sunday : 19th Sunday in Ordinary Time

(St. Dominic)

Office : Week 3

Readings : Wisdom 18:6-9 Hebrews 11:1-2, 8-19 Lk. 12: 32-48

Intentions : Marist Community at Nugegoda

Reflection : Making Jesus Known and Loved – Sean Sammon

We face a number of challenges today in the area of our apostolic life. Some believe that our energies are best spent working in schools and other institutions that for years have been assisting the Church and young people with distinction, having the potential to continue to do so well into this new century. Others are equally convinced that new and urgent needs among many of today's young people are clear "signs of the times" that are calling us elsewhere at this moment in our history.

9th Monday : St. Teresa Benedicta of the Cross

International day for world's Indigenous People

Office : Week 3

Readings : Ezek. 1:2-5,24-28 Mt. 17: 22-27

Intentions : Community at Trichy

Anniversary : 1989 -Death of Br. Patrick

1896 – Introduction of the cause to declare Marcellin Champagnat Venerable

Reflection : Making Jesus Known and Loved – Sean Sammon

There are brothers who have lost any sense of mobility. Having spent almost their entire religious life serving in the same work or region of their Province or District, they are now frightened of change and, thus, unwilling to move on, even to meet an obvious need. Sad to say, while continuing to be involved in a work of the Institute, they may no longer be living a life of mission.

10th Tuesday : Lawrence, Deacon & Martyr

Readings : Ezek. 2:8-3:4 Mt. 18: 1-5, 10, 12-14

Intentions : Community at Marist Novitiate, Tudella

Reflection : Making Jesus Known and Loved – Sean Sammon

Founder wrote these tender and encouraging words about our apostolic work to Brother Barthélemy: "How happy I would be if I could be a teacher, and devote myself even more directly to the education of these impressionable children. What a wonderful and sublime occupation you have! You are constantly among the very people with whom Jesus Christ was so

delighted to be, since he expressly forbade his disciples to prevent children from coming to him. And you, dear friend, far from preventing them, are making every effort to lead them”.

11th Wednesday : St. Clare
Readings : Ezek. 9:1-7, 10:18-22 Mt. 18: 15-20
Intentions : Marist Community at Peshawar

Anniversary : 1990 – Death of Br. Rudolf Oppits

Reflection : Making Jesus Known and Loved – Sean Sammon
Founder wrote, “If our only aim were to give religious instruction, we could confine ourselves to being simply catechists. “But we aim at something better; we want to give them a Christian spirit and Christian attitudes and to form them to religious habits and the virtues possessed by a good Christian and a good citizen. If we are to do these things, we must be teachers; we must live in the midst of the children; and we must have them with us over a long period.”

12th Thursday : St. Jane Frances de Chantal
International Youth Day
Readings : Ezek. 12:1-12 Mt. 18: 21-19:1
Intentions : Community at Mangamanuthu

Birthdays : Br. Robin

Reflection : Making Jesus Known and Loved – Sean Sammon
The founder wanted the efforts of his early brothers to make a significant difference in the life of any child or young person entrusted to their care. And so he encouraged them to pray for those they were called to serve, to love them, and to earn their respect. From Marcellin’s point of view, his brothers and all associated with them were to be apostles to the young.

13th Friday : Sts. Pontian (Pope) & Hippolytus, Martyrs
Readings : Ezek. 16: 1-15, 60,63 Mt. 19: 3-12
Intentions : Community at Our Lady’s Hermitage

Anniversary : 1956 – Final Vows of Br. Lawrence Perera
1816 – Marcellin Champagnat arrived in La Valla to begin his priestly ministry. He remained in this parish for next 8 years.

Reflection : Making Jesus Known and Loved – Sean Sammon
Marcellin also set out to build the Hermitage only seven years after founding us and just a year or two after the Institute had passed through its first serious vocation crisis. In constructing the place, the founder planned not just for the recruits that he had but for the many more he believed would follow. He dreamed large dreams and was willing to spend himself in order to bring them to life.

14th Saturday : St. Maximilian Kolbe
Independence Day of Pakistan (1947)
Readings : Ezek. 18: 1-10, 13, 30-32 Mt. 19: 13-15
Intentions : For people of Pakistan and its Leaders
For Peace and harmony in Pakistan
Birthdays : Br. Udara Dalpadado

Reflection : Making Jesus Known and Loved – Sean Sammon
Founder’s belief in the continual presence of God helped him bear experiences and events in life that would have crushed others. He also trusted completely in Mary’s protection and intercession; she was truly a fellow pilgrim and sister in faith for him. Once her petitioners had done their best, it was her responsibility to see them through.

15th Sunday : Solemnity of The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Patronal Feast of the Marist Brothers
Independence Day of India (1947)
Office : Proper of Solemnity
Readings : (Feast) Apoca. 11:19, 12:1-6 1 Cor. 15: 20-26 LK. 1:39-56
Intentions : For the Marist Congregation
For people of India and its Leaders
Anniversaries : 1885 – The first Marist Brothers set out for Canada

First vows of Bros Gregory Fonseka & Hubert (1953), Clinton & Remi (1958), Kumarasinghe (1967), Victor & Godfrey (1971), Florentius (1972), Ranjith, Nicholas, Sunanda & Lal (1976),
Final vows of Bros Clinton & Remi (1963), Sunil, Shanthi & late Felician (1976), Hubert & Late Gregory Fonseka (1958)

Reflection : Making Jesus Known and Loved – Sean Sammon

Do we actually believe that the Spirit that was so active and alive in the founder is at work in us today and do our actions demonstrate that belief? For example, do we imitate Marcellin by drawing our inspiration and strength from this charism? François did just that when he prayed for the grace to become a “living portrait of the founder.” He was asking God to make evident in him and in his brothers the very same charism that we are talking about today.

16th Monday : 20th Week in Ordinary Time – St. Stephen of Hungary

Office : Week 4

Readings : Ezek. 24:15-24 Mt. 19: 16-22

Intentions : Community at Maris Stella College

Reflection : Making Jesus Known and Loved – Sean Sammon

While all charisms develop structures, the latter can also change from time to time. Such a development occurs in response to changed circumstances or when the structures in place no longer capture the experience of the Institute and its members. We call this process renewal. Sometimes it occurs slowly over time; on other occasions it is thrust upon us by circumstances.

17th Tuesday

Readings : Ezek. 28:1-10 Mr. 19:23-30

Intentions : Community at Sargodha

Reflection : Making Jesus Known and Loved – Sean Sammon

The challenge we face during a time of renewal or paradigmatic shift is different: re-imagining our charism anew in light of the signs of the times. And that means having to deal with the Holy Spirit. No easy task. The capitulants to our 20th General Chapter reminded us of this fact when they pointed out that as an Institute we had yet to make a gospel-based discernment aimed at bringing about the transformation of our apostolic works.

18th Wednesday

Readings : Ezek. 34: 1-11 Mt. 20:1-16

Intentions : Community at P. Udayapatti

Reflection : Making Jesus Known and Loved – Sean Sammon

We can never reduce charism to tradition alone. On the one hand, it places restrictions upon us; but on the other, it challenges us to go beyond ourselves. We are called to maintain a careful balance between both. To do so helps everyone understand the difference that exists between the apostolic work of one group and another. The charism of any group, our own included, is a vibrant, life-giving and self-correcting tradition, having its roots in the interaction of past tradition with the call of the Holy Spirit to meet the challenges of today and tomorrow.

19th Thursday : St. John Eudes

Readings : Ezek. 36:23-28 Mt. 22:1-14

Intentions : Community at Marcellin Nivasa

Reflection : Making Jesus Known and Loved – Sean Sammon

Our apostolate calls for making Jesus known and loved. Consequently, educational institutions such as the secondary schools in which many of our brothers and lay partners serve need to be more than fine academic centers with an excellent record of university admission. They should also be places where young people have the gospel proclaimed to them in word and deed.

20th Friday : St. Bernard, Abbot & Doctor of the Church

Readings : Ezek. 37:1-14 Mt. 22: 34-40

Intentions : Community at Haldanduwana

Reflection : Making Jesus Known and Loved – Sean Sammon

Our life of prayer and community plays a role here. It does little good to be performing wonders in the classroom or in my work with street children if, at the same time, I ignore the brothers with whom I live and fail to have Jesus as the center and passion of my life.

21st Saturday : St. Pius X, Pope
Readings : Ezek. 43: 1-7 Mt. 23:1-12
Intentions : Community at Boys Town, Rawalpindi

Reflection : Making Jesus Known and Loved – Sean Sammon
As apostolic religious, we are called to a life of service. Several images might come to mind when we think of the word *service*: sharing our time, talents, and education with others; showing a spirit of generosity; providing care for children, the aged and infirm, or other groups. All these examples fall under the heading of service.

22nd Sunday : 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time
(*Feast of the Queenship of Mary*)
Office : Week 1
Readings : Is. 66: 18-21 Hebr. 12: 5-7, 11-13 Lk. 13: 22-30
Intentions : Community at Kalpitiya

Birthday : Br. Hubert

Reflection : Making Jesus Known and Loved – Sean Sammon
However, much more than a desire for success, Jesus and his message together with a spirit of selfless service must be the motivation for everything that we do. In taking on an attitude of selflessness or disinterest, we insure that it is the Gospel of Jesus and not ambition that enlivens us in our apostolate.

23rd Monday : St. Rose of Lima
Readings : 2 Thes. 1: 1-5, 11-12 Mt. 23: 13-22
Intentions : Community at St. Mary's College, Chilaw

Birthdays : Br. Michael

Reflection : Making Jesus Known and Loved – Sean Sammon
As Christians, we are invited to enter into the Paschal Mystery, and to live out the dying and rising of Jesus in our everyday lives. As with any call to love, a Christian is invited to surrender, to imitate Christ in his pattern of selfemptying in order to be fully transformed by divine life.

24th Tuesday : St. Bartholomew, Apostle
Readings : 2 Thes 2: 1-3, 14-17 Mt. 23: 23-26
Intentions : Our Brothers in MAPAC

Reflection : Making Jesus Known and Loved – Sean Sammon
We are consecrated for mission; that fact is central to the covenant relationship that we have with God and one another. And that covenant — like every life commitment — must be cherished, guarded, and developed by those who have entered into it.

25th Wednesday : St. Louis of France & Joseph Calasanz
Readings : 2 Thes. 3:6-10, 16-18 Mt. 23: 27-32
Intentions : Marist Schools in India

Birthdays : Rev. Bro. Sumith Senadheera

Reflection : Making Jesus Known and Loved – Sean Sammon
Consecrated life itself is a mission. As a mission, it stands to reason that it should be visible. Our love for God expressed in the radical living out of the evangelical counsels, a passionate concern for those who are poor and needy, and a commitment to community life must be translated into behaviors that others can see and understand. Such behaviors are also invaluable for new members, orienting and giving them a sense of belonging. Without such common behaviors, there is no visibility; without visibility, there is no witness

26th Thursday
Readings : 1 Cor. 1:1-9 Mt. 24: 42-51
Intentions : Marist Schools in Pakistan

Anniversary : 1978 - First vows of Bros Mervyn, Michael & Sales

Reflection : Making Jesus Known and Loved – Sean Sammon

As we work toward forming a common identity and decide upon new ways to express that identity as an Institute, we must accept the fact that while diversity will continue to exist between our Institute and others, less diversity within the Institute will increasingly be more the norm.

27th Friday : St. Monica

Readings : 1 Cor. 1:17-25 Mt. 25:1-13

Intentions : Students and staff of Electro

Reflection : Making Jesus Known and Loved – Sean Sammon

Reason for our slowness to adopt new common practices and behaviors: our fear that to do so would signify a return to the past, an attempt to restore what might have been appropriate a half-century or more ago. Have no fear of that happening. The practices of the past were suitable for the past. However, if we are ever to re-establish the witness value of religious life we will need to find new signs to help us do so, and we will need to carry out that challenge as a group.

28th Saturday : St. Augustine, Bishop & Doctor of the Church

Readings : 1 Cor. 1: 26-31 Mt. 25:14-30

Intentions : Marist Schools in Sri Lanka

Anniversary : 1993 – Final Vows of Br. Lazar Sebastian

Reflection : Making Jesus Known and Loved – Sean Sammon

The Holy Spirit has ultimate responsibility for carrying out the mission in which we share. Our Institute, like all other religious communities, is an effect of the Spirit's indwelling among God's people, a charism in that respect. As members of the Institute you and I must ensure the Spirit's freedom to act in and through us.

29th Sunday : 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

(*Beheading of St. John the Baptist*)

Office : Week 2

Readings : Sirach 3:17-20, 28-29 Hebr. 12: 18-19, 22-24 Lk. 14: 1, 7-14

Intentions : Marist mission in Kalpitiya

Anniversary : 1786 – Birth of Jeanne Marie Chavoin, Foundress of the Marist Sisters

Reflection : Making Jesus Known and Loved – Sean Sammon

As religious brothers consecrated for mission, we are called to follow Jesus' example. For Him, there was no self-seeking or ambition in his preaching, neither in his miracles and healing, nor in his arguments with the Pharisees and Sadducees.

30th Monday : 22nd Week in Ordinary Time

Office : Week 2

Readings : 1 Cor. 2:1-5 Lk. 4:16-30

Intentions : Students of St. John's Hostel, Peshawar

Reflection : Making Jesus Known and Loved – Sean Sammon

As brothers, you and I also have a responsibility to give witness to the person of Jesus more fully and intensely. We must stand out in both the Church and the world for the selfless service we render in Christ's name. Failing to remain true to our choice of radically identifying with Christ, we will become but another group of political or social activists or followers.

31st Tuesday

Readings : 1 Cor. 2:10-16 Lk. 4: 31-37

Intentions : Students and staff of Boy's Town, Rawalpindi

Reflection : Making Jesus Known and Loved – Sean Sammon

A story tells of a man who died and arrived in heaven where an angel began to interrogate him. "Where are your wounds?" the angel demanded. Unable to hide his perplexity, the man said, "Wounds? I don't have any wounds." The angel sighed wearily and asked, "Was there nothing worth fighting for in life? Nothing worth the gift of your life?" What we suffer for others helps define us and makes us who we are.

September

Intentions of the Holy Father

The Word of God as Sign of Social Development

General: That in less developed parts of the world the proclamation of the Word of God may renew people's hearts, encouraging them to work actively toward authentic social progress.

The End of War

Missionary: That by opening our hearts to love we may put an end to the numerous wars and conflicts which continue to bloody our world.

1st Wednesday

Readings : 1 Cor. 3:1-9 Lk. 4: 38-44

Intentions : Community at Holy Cross College, Kalutara

That we take Champagnat as our model for apostolic zeal

Anniversary : Final vows of Br. Florentious Peiris

Reflection : Making Jesus Known and Loved – Sean Sammon

There can be no doubt that the founder was an equally attractive model when it came to the apostolic life. Here was a man in love with God. Nurtured by prayer, his passion for Jesus and Mary grew ever more profound. As an apostle he lived out his ideal so intensely that others were attracted to be like him and live like him. Marcellin Champagnat's heart burned to proclaim the *Good News*.

2nd Thursday

Readings : 1 Cor. 3:18-23 Lk. 5: 1-11

Intentions : Marist Community at Nugegoda

That we work hard to pursue our dreams for young people

Reflection : Making Jesus Known and Loved – Sean Sammon

Champagnat was a man who dared to dream. Dreams are one thing; having the zeal to bring them to life is quite another. Here again the founder was blessed. His determination and drive, often referred to as "a love of work", as well as his creativity and daring gave him the courage to purchase the small house in LaValla, equip it as best he could, seek his first recruits and get on with the task at hand.

3rd Friday : St. Gregory the Great, Pope & Doctor of the Church

Readings : 1 Cor. 4: 1-5 Lk. 5:33-39

Intentions : Marist Community at Trichy

Reflection : Making Jesus Known and Loved – Sean Sammon

Prophecy is central to the Church's mission. Called by God, prophets are sent to remind us about God's saving interventions in the past, challenge us to conversion in the present, and urge us to build up a new human community as God promised.

4th Saturday

Readings : 1 Cor. 4: 6-15 Lk. 6:1-5

Intentions : Community at Marist Novitiate, Tudella

Birthdays : Br. Remigious Fernando

Reflection : Making Jesus Known and Loved – Sean Sammon

In the post-conciliar Church, our way of life is no longer presented as a state of perfection as such but rather as one way in which believers can grow in love and holiness. Furthermore, the following of Christ is seen more clearly as the ultimate norm and supreme rule for all religious communities rather than adherence to a list of regulations.

5th Sunday : 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Office : Week 3

Readings : Wisdom 9:13-18 Philemon 9-10, 12-17 Lk. 14: 25-33

Intentions : Marist Community at Mangamanuthu

Reflection : Making Jesus Known and Loved – Sean Sammon

The late Pope John Paul II held the conviction that the Church of this era would eventually become known as that of the laity. Assuming that he was correct, we do well to ask ourselves how we as brothers can best help realize the mission of laymen and women in our Church and world today.

6th Monday : 23rd Week in Ordinary Time

Office : Week 3

Readings : 1 Cor. 5:1-8 Lk. 6:6-11

Intentions : Marist Community at Peshawar

For our diseased Brothers, Parents, relations, friends and affiliated members

Reflection : Making Jesus Known and Loved – Sean Sammon

Marist partnership is but one answer to this question. Recognized more fully during the years since Vatican II, its foundation lies in the common mission and prophetic call that we all share as a result of the sacrament of baptism. Partnership, however, runs much deeper than participating in a common work; it is about the sharing of faith and a common set of values, being in love with Jesus Christ, and the collective experience of having Marcellin Champagnat capture our heart and seize our imagination.

7th Tuesday

Readings : 1 Cor. 6:1-11 Lk. 6: 12-19

Intentions : Community at Our Lady's Hermitage

That we share our mission with laity

Anniversary : 1888 – Marist Mission began in Fiji & 1895 in Syria

Reflection : Making Jesus Known and Loved – Sean Sammon

Partnership with those who share our apostolic life is a characteristic of Marist identity, witnessing to the fact that our Church is capable of an ecclesiology of communion. Today that witness is more important than ever. In the past, Church actions have betrayed an ecclesiology based on power and position — an outcome antithetical to Gospel principles. As men and women who share a common charism, through our life and work together we are called to bear witness to the fact that the situation can and must be otherwise.

8th Wednesday : The Nativity of Mary

International Literacy Day

Readings : (Feast) Micah 5: 1-4 Mt. 1:1-16, 18-23

Intentions : Community at Maris Stella College

Birthdays : Br. Ben

Anniversary : Final vows of Br. Gerard (1952), Br. Devasiri (1984),

First vows of Br. Peter (1934), Br. Lawrence (1950)

1823 – Jeanne Marie Chavoïn founded the Marist Sisters

Reflection : Making Jesus Known and Loved – Sean Sammon

The founder's charism belongs to the Church and not just to his Little Brothers. Consequently, today many laymen and women challenge the notion that that charism is a treasure belonging to the brothers alone. Each and every Marist lay partner, they point out, also has his or her own life story to tell, has made his or her own journey of faith, and has his or her own unique experience of the founder and his spirituality

9th Thursday : St. Peter Claver

Readings : 1 Cor. 8:1-7, 11-13 Lk. 6:27-38

Intentions : Marist Community at Sargodha

Reflection : Making Jesus Known and Loved – Sean Sammon

Diversity also exists within religious life. Yet no one suggests that religious orders in existence for several centuries are any better than those of more modern origin, or that monastic congregations are somehow superior to mendicant or apostolic groups. In discussing the similarities and differences that exist between those of us who are Marcellin's brothers and our lay partners, we need to welcome not only all that we share in common but the ways in which we differ as well.

10th Friday

Readings : 1 Cor. 9:16-19, 22-27 Lk. 6: 39-42

Intentions : Marist work in Pakistan

Community at P. Udayapatti

Anniversary : 1966 – Marist mission began in Pakistan. Br. Remigius left for Pakistan to begin our Marist Mission.

Reflection : Making Jesus Known and Loved – Sean Sammon

To foster lay partnership today we need to be brothers to one another and to our partners in mission. And that means listening to and learning from one another, sharing our spiritual and apostolic inheritance, and fostering an attitude of cooperation. The time has come to move beyond simply inviting lay people to join us in these works to seeing them as co-responsible for them.

11th Saturday

Readings : 1 Cor. 10:14-22 Lk. 6:43-49

Intentions : Community at Marcellin Nivasa

Reflection : Making Jesus Known and Loved – Sean Sammon

The Marist partnership movement, however, has little to do with diminishment. Rather it is but one development among many in the overall evolution of our way of life. Moreover, this movement will fail to mature without the presence and active involvement of both brothers and laymen and women. Therefore, efforts aimed at vocation promotion and those spent fostering partnership must complement each other.

12th Sunday : 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Office : Week 4

Readings : Exodus 32: 7-11, 13-14 1 Timothy 1: 12-17 Lk. 15:1-32

Intentions : Community at Haldanduwana

Reflection : Making Jesus Known and Loved – Sean Sammon

The movement toward Marist partnership can be better understood as reflecting a universal need in today's complex and troubled world. Addressing that need is vital in our mission to adequately prepare today's poor children and young people for the coming of the Kingdom, a coming that will require a plurality of perspectives and experiences, both trans-cultural and international.

13th Monday : 24th Week in Ordinary Time – St. John Chrysostom

Office : Week 4

Readings : 1 Cor. 11: 17-26, 33 Lk. 7:1-10

Intentions : Community at Boy's Town, Rawalpindi

Birthdays : Br. Lawrence Prerea

Anniversary : 1980 – Final vows of Br. Godfrey & First vows of Rev. Br. Sumith Senadheera

Reflection : Making Jesus Known and Loved – Sean Sammon

We might consider those involved in Marist apostolates as falling into two groups: those who are at the heart of a particular work, and others for whom the work is merely a satisfying job. Each of us has a responsibility for promoting the unique set of values that has always marked a Marist apostolate and guided our work with poor children and young people.

14th Tuesday : The Exaltation of the Holy Cross

Readings : (Feast) Numbers 21:4-9, Phi. 2:6-11, Jn. 3: 13-17

Intentions : Marist Community at Kalpitiya

That we love the children we teach

Reflection : Making Jesus Known and Loved – Sean Sammon

Father Champagnat, for example, spoke about our need to have a personal concern for our students and to earn their respect. To do so, we must have a relationship with each of them that is genuine and straightforward, and do all that we can to help them develop a well-balanced moral conscience and a solid set of values on which to build their lives. "To bring up children properly," he so often said, "we must love them; we must love them all equally."

15th Wednesday : Our Lady of the Rosary

International Day for Democracy

Readings : 1 Cor. 12:31-13:13 Lk. 7:31-35 [Feast Hebr. 5:7-9, JN. 19:25-27]

Intentions : Community at St. Mary's College, Chilaw

Reflection : Making Jesus Known and Loved – Sean Sammon

Mary who reared Jesus of Nazareth is our model for this work; we allow her to inspire our faith and to shape our pedagogical approach. Here was a prophet and a friend of God. Like her, you and I are called to make the relationship that we have with God the foundation upon which to build our life.

16th Thursday : St. Cornelius (Pope) & St. Cyprian (Bishop), Martyrs

Readings : 1 Cor. 15:1-11 Lk. 7:36-50

Intentions : Our Brothers in MAPAC

Reflection : Making Jesus Known and Loved – Sean Sammon

The men and women who make up the Champagnat Movement of the Marist Family, lay volunteers, our students, and others are rediscovering the spirituality of Marcellin Champagnat. The fact that so many continue to find that spirituality a source of inspiration testifies to its continuing vitality and power to animate our apostolates.

17th Friday : St. Robert Bellarmine, Bishop & Doctor of the Church
Readings : 1 Cor. 15: 12-20 Lk. 8: 1-3
Intentions : Marist Schools in Pakistan

Reflection : Making Jesus Known and Loved – Sean Sammon
How can you and I go about strengthening our Institute's identity? By deciding upon a clear focus for its life and work. This decision does not imply that every one of us must engage in the same work or live and work in the same place or under the same conditions. Rather it means that anyone who takes a look at us can quickly answer the question, "For what is this Institute known?"

18th Saturday
Readings : 1 Cor. 15: 35-37, 42-49 Lk. 8: 4-15
Intentions : Marist Schools in Sri Lanka
Rainbow Project in India

Reflection : Making Jesus Known and Loved – Sean Sammon
The vitality and viability of our Institute depend upon, at least in part, its ability to demonstrate a consistent reason for its existence and engage in a credible corporate mission. Similar to other apostolic congregations, we came into being, in large measure, to meet a concrete need. An apostolate lay at the heart of our founding moment.

19th Sunday : 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time
(St. Januarius, Bishop & Martyr)
Office : Week 1
Readings : Amos 8:4-7 1 Timothy 2:1-8 Lk. 16: 1-13
Intentions : Students and staff of Boys Town, Rawalpindi

Reflection : Making Jesus Known and Loved – Sean Sammon
We need to remind ourselves today that it is my brothers and the Institute and no one else that sends me on mission and to a particular apostolic work. To lose this important aspect of our way of life will eventually transform any apostolic undertaking into little more than a job, leaving the provincial and his council addressing tasks more commonly associated with an employment agency than an apostolic religious institute such as our own.

20th Monday : Sts. Andrew Kim, Paul Chong and Companions, Korean Martyrs
Office : Week 1 (25th Week in Ordinary Time)
Readings : Proverbs 3: 27-34 Lk. 8:16-18
Intentions : Marist Schools in India

Reflection : Making Jesus Known and Loved – Sean Sammon
Like other religious institutes, we are a social group.⁵⁴ As such, we have greater potential for effectively carrying out the apostolate of our Institute when we work together. In most cases, people united in a common effort and working side by side have a greater impact than that achieved by most individual initiatives. Corporate commitments, even when they are short term, make a statement about a group and its nature that individual involvements do not.

21st Tuesday : St. Matthew, Apostle
International Day of Peace
Readings : Proverbs 21: 1-6, 10-13 Lk. 8:19-21 [Feast Mt. 9: 9-13]
Intentions : Students and staff of Electro

Reflection : Making Jesus Known and Loved – Sean Sammon
At the same time, radical gospel living in an Institute such as our own exacts a price. Ideally, in making a free choice to live fully the Word of God, you and I become deeply involved in the Institute's life, and, in turn, allow our brothers a significant claim over our person, time, and talents. We resist the temptation to view our way of life as existing primarily for the well-being and development of the individual.

22nd Wednesday
Readings : Proverbs 30:5-9 Lk. 9:1-6
Intentions : Marist mission in Kalpitiya

Reflection : Making Jesus Known and Loved – Sean Sammon

New models of religious life may well be emerging in parts of our world where elements other than a common mission, life together, and spirituality bind a group of people and help them make sense of their commitment to the gospel. However, our Institute must continue to give priority to – and support actively by word and deed – those among us who wish to pursue together a common and corporate apostolate as we work to breathe new life into our original founding inspiration.

23rd Thursday : St. Padre Pio of Pietrelcina

Readings : Eccl. 1:2-11 Lk. 9:7-9

Intentions : Community at Holy Cross College, Kalutara

Reflection : Making Jesus Known and Loved – Sean Sammon

To remain vital, every institution must undergo periodically a process of evaluation and, when necessary, transform itself. Most also need to be reminded now and again of the reason for their foundation. Unfortunately, none of us can guarantee that any institution will avail itself of these necessary corrective measures.

24th Friday

Readings : Eccl. 3:1-11 Lk. 9: 18-22

Intentions : Community at Nugegoda

Anniversary : 1836 – Election of Fr. Colin as Superior General & Fr. Champagnat's profession as a Marist Priest

Reflection : Making Jesus Known and Loved – Sean Sammon

Institutions, though, have the potential to be a powerful means for social change. They also serve several other purposes: giving those associated with them greater visibility in the local community and providing them with a place where they can come into contact with young people who might have an interest in joining our Institute.

25th Saturday

Readings : Eccl. 11: 9 – 12:8 LK. 9: 43-45

Intentions : Community at Trichy

Reflection : Making Jesus Known and Loved – Sean Sammon

Regardless of where we live, or the degree of wealth or poverty present among the peoples whom we serve, all of us are required to live in a way that is marked by an obvious simplicity of life, a willingness to roll up our sleeves and do manual work as needed, and an attitude of respect toward all those who work in our apostolates and houses, regardless of their task.

26th Sunday : 26th Sunday in Ordinary Time

(*Sts. Cosmos & Damian, Martyrs*)

Office : Week 2

Readings : Amos 6: 1, 4-7 1 Timothy 6: 11-16 Lk. 16: 19-31

Intentions : Community at Marist Novitiate, Tudella

Reflection : Making Jesus Known and Loved – Sean Sammon

No one, then, who claims to be a member of Marcellin's Institute is excused from addressing the topic of our works and their relationship to the population of poor children and young people in our world. And there are several ways to begin this effort. Fostering a spirit of dedication and zeal in our apostolic life is one. Taking on as much as possible the conditions of the poorest of those whom we serve is another way to help us understand more fully the realities with which they must live. Making our own the experience of those who have been marginalized also gives us more credibility as evangelizers.

27th Monday : St. Vincent De Paul

Office : Week 2

Readings : Job 1:6-22 Lk. 9: 46-50

Intentions : Community at Peshawar

Reflection : Making Jesus Known and Loved – Sean Sammon

Such was Gandhi's experience as he immersed himself increasingly in his mission of resistance in the cause of justice. Even though he and his wife had vowed celibacy after eleven years of marriage, it was only after he donned the homespun cloth and took to the streets as a poor man that he became a credible witness, and the masses of India began to follow him.

28th Tuesday : St. Wenceslaus, Martyr

Readings : Job 3: 1-3, 11-17, 20-23 Lk. 9:51-56

Intentions : Community at Mangamanuthu

Reflection : Making Jesus Known and Loved – Sean Sammon

More often than not as you and I work to simplify our lives, our spirit of zeal grows more intense.

29th Wednesday : Sts. Michael, Gabriel & Raphael, Archangels

Readings : (Feast) Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14 Jn. 1: 47-51

Intentions : Community at Our Lady's Hermitage

Reflection : Making Jesus Known and Loved – Sean Sammon

An option for the poor. This notion has its roots in Scripture and Catholic social teaching, and was a source of inspiration for several articles in our Marist *Constitutions and Statutes*. The principles upon which an option for the poor is based have also been guiding elements in the renewal efforts of a number of our Provinces and Districts during the years since the close of the Second Vatican Council.

30th Thursday : St. Jerome, Priest & Doctor of the Church

Readings : Job 19: 21-27 Lk. 10: 1-12

Intentions : Community at Maris Stella College

Reflection : Making Jesus Known and Loved – Sean Sammon

Our Church has in a special way invited men and women religious to turn their attention to the economically poor in recent years. These calls have been consistent and consistently passionate. Rather than resist them, we need to take on the spirit of our founder. Marcellin was not a reckless man. But he was bold, innovative in his responses, and fearless in his actions. Our founder surprised his contemporaries time and again.