

CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS

EVENTS 1853

Jan 1	Midnight Mass celebrated for the intentions of his sisters as was his annual custom.
Feb 2	Consecration in the Congregation of the Blessed Virgin at La Seyne-sur-Mer.
Apr 5	Took room adjacent to the chapel with a side window giving a view on the altar of the Blessed Sacrament at La Seyne.
Apr 18	Received a grace of conviction that he ought to work for nocturnal adoration and for the Order of the Blessed Sacrament and that he ought to give himself totally to the Eucharist.
May	Captain de Cuers met Father Hermann at Marseilles and spoke to him about the eucharistic plans of Father Eymard.
Jul 17	Solemn transfer to La Seyne of the body of Saint Victorius, martyr.
Aug 9-16	On retreat at Laus with six other Marists for 7 days.
Aug 16-18	At La Salette where he made the vow to found the Congregation.
Aug 18	To La Mure.
End Aug	In Lyons.
Sept 7	To La Seyne to preach community retreat followed by student's retreat.

EVENTS 1854

Jan 12	Circular letter by Father Colin S.M. announcing his resignation and convoking a General Chapter.
May	At this Chapter, Father Eymard was named by his colleagues to give the discourse which was to follow the election of the Superior General.
Jun 25	Sunday in the Octave of Corpus Christi, initial encouragement from Pius IX for the foundation of the Congregation of the Blessed Sacrament in an audience granted to Father Jandel, o.p.
Aug	Return to La Mure where the cholera was striking at La Salette and Laus; then to Lyons, for the annual retreat.
Sep 3	Annual or monthly retreat - personal notes.
Sep 17	Feast of Our Lady of Seven Sorrows, 15th Sunday after Pentecost. Captain Raymond de Cuers received the clerical habit and the tonsure in Marseilles. One month later he began seminary.
Sep 25	Father sent the Cure d'Ars a certificate authorizing him to receive people into the Third Order of Mary of the Interior life.
Dec	Retreat to military personnel leaving for Crimea.
Dec 8	Definition of the Dogma of the Immaculate Conception. This definition was preceded with a solemn novena. With this feast he began the celebration of the Jubilee year which opened on August 1, 1854.

EVENTS 1855

Jan 1	"How I wish I could extend the beautiful kingdom of Jesus Christ on earth."
Mar	Became interim pastor at the parish of La Seyne for two months following the unexpected death of the pastor in painful circumstances.
May 11-15	At Maubel, House of Theology.

May 18	At La Seyne.
May 23	Crowning of Our Lady of Laus. Father had the plans for the Constitutions of the Order of the Blessed Sacrament placed on Mary's altar.
Jun 24	Priestly ordination of Father de Cuers.
July	Father Favre forbade him to continue working for the eucharistic project.
Aug 2	Date of the petition addressed to Pius IX, later presented by Father Touche.
Aug 10	To Mont-Dore to renew his weakened health.
Aug 12	Father Touche embarked at Marseilles for Rome.
Aug 27	Father Touche in an audience with the Pope presented Father Eymard's plan. Pius IX replied, "The church needs this."
Sep 2-10	Annual Retreat in Lyons.
Sep 10-20	Ceased to be Superior of La Seyne and was sent to Chaintrè where he worked on the Manual of the Third Order of Mary. Father Jandel sent him a few observations on the planned Constitutions (for the Order of the Blessed Sacrament).

EVENTS 1856

Jan	Direct letter to Rome concerning the foundation of the Work, probably by means of Fr. Brunello. [This text is not among those available to the translator.]
Feb 4	Around this date, interview with Father Favre at Belleville.
Mar 1-30c	Preached a mission at St. Chamond. Beginning of the month of St. Joseph, praying to obtain protection and help for the eucharistic Work.
Mar 17	Letter to Father Favre to present the purpose and means of the Work and ask him to read his letter to the Pope.
Apr 6	Great favor at Holy Mass. (Patronage of St. Joseph.)
Apr 19	Beginning of a novena "to obtain the necessary light."
Apr 22	Decisive interview with Father Favre at nine o'clock in the morning. Received the dispensation of his Marist vows, then to Chaintrè to replace the Master of Novices.
Apr 29	Father Favre gave him the written dispensation of his vows.
Apr 30	Departure for Paris on the express train, arrival there "toward nightfall."
May 1	Ascension day. He celebrated Mass at Notre Dame des Victoires. Began his retreat at night. Requested an audience with Bishop Leon Sibour, the Auxiliary Bishop of Paris and temporary Bishop of Tripoli.
May 5	Monday. He presented an initial memoir to the Auxiliary Bishop of Paris (Bishop Leon Sibour) together with a petition footnoted by Bishop de la Bouillerie, Bishop of Carcassone, former Vicar General in Paris.
May 7	Wednesday. Presentation of a more detailed explanation to Bishop Leon Sibour.
May 7	or 8. Visit from Father Julien Favre, S.M.
May 8	Thursday. Pilgrimage to Montmartre.
May 13	Pentecost Tuesday. Affirmative reply from Archbishop Marie Dominique Sibour of Paris, and foundation of the Congregation of the Blessed Sacrament. He and Father de Cuers went to thank the Blessed Virgin at Saint Sulpice. "They offered themselves entirely to the service of Jesus Hostia through Mary, Queen of the Cenacle."
May 14	Wednesday. The three bishops resolved his personal issue, the dispensation of his Marist vows.
May 19 or 20	Departure for Leudeville where he was to prepare a new project of Constitutions.

May 20	Tuesday. Letter from Father Julien Favre, Superior General of the Marists, expressing his satisfaction that the matter was finally settled.
May 22	Thursday, Corpus Christi (Feast of the Body and Blood of Christ). Seriously ill at Leudeville.
May 24	Saturday. Circular letter of Fr. Favre to the Marist Fathers to announce Fr. Eymard's departure.
May 25	Sunday. Fr. Eymard used and adopted the initials S.S.S. for the first time.
May	Departure from Leudeville for Paris
Jun 1	Sunday. Moved into the house on rue d'Enfer.
Jun 2	Monday. First celebration of Mass in the chapel of rue d'Enfer.
Jun 15	The Blessed Sacrament was placed in the tabernacle at rue d'Enfer.
Jun 22	Fr. Eymard wrote his last will and testament.
Aug 12	The lay cook stole the money which had been set aside by Father for the chapel.
Aug 26-29	Fr. Eymard was healed at Tours from palpitations of the heart by the oil from the oratory of the Holy Face (home of Mr. Dupont, Tours).
Sep 28	Sunday. Inauguration of the enlarged chapel. The same afternoon he was notified that he would have to abandon the premises and he began a novena in honor of Our Lady of Seven Sorrows.
Dec 8	Before the statue of the Blessed Virgin he promised to give up the use of tobacco and snuff.
Dec 28	Meeting of the members of the Nocturnal Adoration Society of Paris at the chapel of the Fathers, rue d'Enfer. Father preached.

EVENTS 1857

Jan 6	Epiphany Thursday. Inaugural Mass of Solemn Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament at eight o'clock. Father spent the first hour in adoration from 9 to 10.
Mar 4	Arrival in Paris of the Ladies of Adoration from Toulon.
Apr 9	Holy Thursday. Father indicated that at 2:00 p.m., the Lord led him to rent a house with two separate buildings, one for the Fathers and one for the future Sisters. That evening, at 6:30 p.m., the Archbishop of Paris signed the permissions for perpetual Exposition. The same night at 8 o'clock, Father carried the relics of the Passion in procession at the Visitation Convent.
May	Father de Cuers fled temporarily in discouragement.
May 6	Cardinal Morlot came to visit the Villa Chateaubriand in view of making it his home.
May 13	First anniversary of the Foundation. The Bishop of Tripoli and Father Carriere, superior of St. Sulpice, came to celebrate.
May 15	Nocturnal adoration began due to an increase of personnel.
May 25	Annual Retreat for the Blessed Sacrament Fathers.
Jul 6	"I have just spent eight days in a kind of agony which could kill me."
Aug 11	He went to Alleverd to heal "the onset of sinus infection."
Sep 6-13	Pilgrimage to Laus.
Sep 20	Returned to Paris to face terrible trials: disloyalty of new members; failure of efforts to purchase a new house; friend turned to enemy.
Oct 11	Arrival of Father Champion.
Oct 15	Calumniated at the Chancery of Paris. Intervention of Father Lagarde (Cf. last retreat of St. Maurice, 2nd day, 3rd meditation).
Dec 16	Learned that his house on rue d'Enfer was sold.