

JUNE 2010 FEAST DAYS

Thursday, June 3 — Charles Lwanga and Companions, Martyrs



The 22 Martyrs of Uganda died on June 3, 1886, and were canonized in 1964. Charles Lwanga and his companions had become Christians through the Catholic missions of the Missionaries of Africa. About 100 persons died during the persecution of the cruel and immoral King Mwanga, who was determined to stamp out Christianity in his country.

Saturday, June 5 — Saint Boniface, Bishop and Martyr



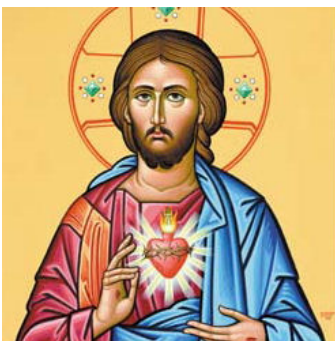
Pope Gregory II sent the English Benedictine monk, Boniface, to Germany as a missionary. His work there as bishop, organizer and reformer earned him the title of “Apostle of Germany.” On June 5 in the year 754, he and 30 companions were killed by non-Christians as he was preparing to confirm more converts.

Sunday, June 6 — Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ



Just as God fed the Israelites with manna from heaven, we feed on the best of wheat, the bread of angels, food for the pilgrim journey. At every Eucharist, Jesus gives thanks and breaks bread with us all. At that moment, the sacred breaks forth into human life and existence takes on a deeper meaning because the presence of God becomes recognizable—through blessing bread and then sharing it.

Friday, June 11 — Most Sacred Heart of Jesus



“The Lord loved you.” “Love is of God ... God is love.” Scripture’s words of love come on a day celebrating the human and divine love of Jesus. On this day, the Eucharist is celebrated for our fellow brothers and all those closely associated with the Society. During the week that follows a special remembrance is made at a Eucharist for the deceased members of the groups mentioned above.

Saturday, June 12 — Immaculate Heart of Mary



The devotion to the Immaculate Heart of Mary is closely linked to the devotion of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. Popular devotion began in the 17th century, but the feast was instituted in the church in 1944.

Sunday, June 20 — Father's Day



On this 12th Sunday in Ordinary Time, let us pray for our fathers, both living and deceased.

Monday, June 21 — Saint Aloysius Gonzaga



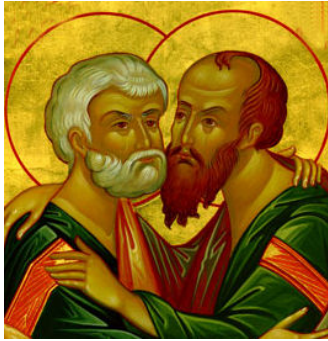
Aloysius Gonzaga was born in Lombardy in 1568 of royal ancestry. In 1585, against great resistance, he gave up his rights as eldest son and joined the Jesuits. When the plague broke out in Rome in 1591, he offered himself to serve the sick and dying in the hospital. He caught the plague, recovered but weakened, and died three months later. He was just 23 years old, but his zeal for God remained an inspiration and example for all. He was canonized in 1726 and designated the patron of youth.

Thursday, June 24 — Nativity of John the Baptist



The birth of John the Baptist was one of the earliest feasts to be named to a particular day on the church calendar. The date of June 24 was chosen because it is six months before the birth of Christ. With its proximity to the summer solstice, it signifies the waning of light, while the birth of Jesus near the winter solstice marks the coming of the light.

Tuesday, June 29 — Peter & Paul, Apostles



The two apostles, both martyred in Rome according to tradition, have been honored from the earliest days. Peter became the “Prince of the Apostles” and Paul the “Apostle to the Gentiles.” On this date we also remember the anniversary of the approval of the *Rule of Life* of the Society of Mary on June 29, 1983.

The Eucharist is offered for the intention of the Holy Father. A special remembrance of deceased popes occurs during a Eucharist the following week.