



The Centenary of the Apparition of Our Lady of Divine Vocations

From May 11, 2025, to May 11, 2026, the Vocationist Fathers have declared a Marian Year to mark the centenary of the apparition of Our Lady to St. Justin Russolillo. Inspired by Pope Pius XII's 1953 Marian Year, it seeks to deepen devotion to the Virgin Mary. Fr. Justin's life was closely guided by Mary. Before his birth on January 18, 1891, Fr. Salvatore Di Fusco received a vision of the Blessed Virgin, who foretold the birth of a child destined for greatness in the Church. After recovering, he recognized Justin as that child and marked the date as the beginning of his mission.

Fr. Justin taught that union with God requires union with Mary, who leads souls to Christ. He described this as a "union with the Virgin Mary," reflecting her unique closeness to the Trinity.

On May 11, 1926, he experienced a profound revelation that Mary was the "immediate Superior" of the Vocationist community.

Since then, May 11 has been celebrated as the feast of Our Lady of Divine Vocations. The Marian Year invites renewal in Marian

devotion and commitment to fostering vocations through Mary's guidance.

Let us pray with St Justin Russolillo: *"O Mary, I would like to unite myself entirely to you with all the relationships with which are connected every work, every Saint, every Angel, every grace, and St Joseph, in order to unite myself to the Divine Relationships that exist between You and the Divine Persons."*