

Some Thoughts for October 2024

Marge Loenser

Happy October my brothers and sisters! Some interesting facts for you about this month: It stems from the Latin, octo, "eight" because this was the eighth month of the early Roman calendar. When the Romans converted to a 12-month calendar, the name October stuck despite the fact that it's now the 10th month! AND in October 1582, Pope Gregory XIII issued a decree to correct a 10-day error in the Julian Calendar, and the Gregorian Calendar went into effect in Catholic countries.

This is the month of the Holy Rosary and on the 7th we crown Mother Mary Queen of her most Holy Rosary.

On Oct. 1 we celebrate "The Little Flower" or St. Therese of the Child Jesus. Her prayer was "My Jesus, I desire to love You and make You loved." (I have to mention that it is also the 31st birthday of my grandson, Tyler.) On the 15th we find a celebration of St. Teresa of Avila. I love the story of her falling out of a horse drawn cart into the mud, whereby she looked up to heaven and said "Lord, with friends like You, I don't need enemies." She was a powerful nun and with the help of St. John of the Cross they brought reform to the Carmelite Order.

Dear saints please pray for the reform of our church to comply with God's Holy Will.
(on the 15th my great granddaughter Shae will be 2 years old!--such a doll)

On the 16th we have St. Margaret Mary of Alacoque whom Jesus appeared to and started the devotion to His Most Sacred Heart, which includes Eucharistic devotion and attending masses for nine consecutive months. "Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, fount of love and mercy unfold to us the treasures of Thy grace, and touch our hearts so cold and so ungrateful that they may be Thine own for ever more...."

On the 18th we find mass for St. Luke, companion to both St. Paul and St. Peter. St. Luke was a doctor and author of the 3rd gospel and the Acts of the Apostles. We have him to thank for the Infant Narratives, which begin in Luke's first chapter. Dear St. Luke pray for all babies, born and unborn.

On the 22nd we celebrate St. John Paul II. Such an inspiration to the youth and such a promoter for freedom. He loved his beloved Poland and spoke out against the communist rule of the day. He and President Reagan were very instrumental for the Berlin wall being torn down. Every day we pray: Pope St. John, please pray for us and our country. Please stop the spread of communism.

On the 28th we celebrate the apostles St. Simon and St. Jude. We believe St. Jude to be a relative of Jesus and is powerful against hopeless causes. Simon was called the "Zealot" or the "Canaanite". His name suggests that he was a vigorous defender of the law. They both died as martyrs for the faith. Dear Simon and Jude, please pray for us and our families.

Once again I ask God's blessings on all of us for this month and pray that each day we draw closer and closer to that flaming Love of Jesus, which is His Heart.

Love,
Marge



Marge Loenser is a member of Saint Mark's Church in Sea Girt where she is a Lector and a Eucharistic Minister. She has retired from teaching CCD at Saint Mark's. She has been a member of Catholic Women of Zion for about 30 years and is also a member of Mary Queen of Peace Prayer Community for about the same length of time. She writes for a monthly column for Saint Mark's Church Bulletin.