

Some Thoughts for May 2023 by Marge Loenser

We praise and thank you God for this beautiful month of May! May is devoted to our Blessed Mother Mary and to all mothers. On May first we celebrate St. Joseph the Worker. I like to picture St. Joseph with the child Jesus in Joseph's workshop. I can see Baby Jesus playing with wood shavings and trying in His child-like way to copy Joseph as he works. St. Joseph pray for all workers and our families.

On the third we celebrate the apostles, St. James the Less and St. Philip. St. James was brother to the apostle Jude and came from Cana, Galilee. After the dispersion of the apostles, he was made the bishop of Jerusalem. He lived to an old age and was martyred for his faith by being thrown from the pinnacle of the temple and bludgeoned to death. St. Philip was a fisherman from Bethsaida and is remembered for his bringing Nathaniel to meet Jesus. (It was Nathaniel who said "Can anything good come from Nazareth?")

On the 21st we celebrate the Ascension of our Blessed Lord into heaven. His last words before He ascended were: "You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and all Judea and Samaria and to the ends of the earth "(Acts 17-8).

On the 22nd we celebrate St. Rita of Cascia, Italy. Born in 1381, she wanted to remain a virgin for Christ. Her parents insisted she marry. She did, and she and her husband had two sons. Her husband was killed for political reasons and her sons vowed to take revenge. Rita prayed very hard that God would prevent her sons from murdering their father's killer and both sons died of natural causes before they could take vengeance for their father. I claim St Rita as my spiritual godmother as I was baptized on this day a long, long time ago. Also, we share the same name, Rita being a derivative of Margarita. St. Rita, patron of impossible causes, pray for us.

On the 28th we celebrate the feast of Pentecost. We pray, come Holy Spirit, and fill us with Your precious gifts of wisdom, understanding, counsel, fortitude, knowledge, piety, and fear of the Lord.

May God continue to bless the United States of America, heal her many wounds, and bring her back to what our founding fathers, with Your help, created! God bless us all.

Love,
Marge



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