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a community of life and love

# family

AUGUST 2022

### Summer—a time of renewal, restoration, making memories.

Whether we enjoy the cool, green, leafy breezes of the mountains and hills, lakes and streams or digging our feet into the sand as waves crash the shore, time spent together over the summer can be a great gift to our families.

We are free from the daunting schedules of school, sports and other extra-curricular activities. Moms and dads, hopefully, get a break from work routines. Family members who live at a distance may gather and grandparents get extra cuddle time with their precious little (or bigger) grandkids.

I just spent one, entire, uninterrupted week with my three grandchildren and three of my children. I admit leaving them with a bad case of withdrawal.

Unlike during the school year when we tilt from one responsibility and activity to another, I was able to leisurely gaze upon them and drink in their unique personalities and intelligences, slowly savor their smiles, listen to the tinkling of their giggles and roars of their laughter, watch the melting ice cream drip down their fingers soon to be washed off in the salty tides.

How blessed to share this special time with them., to speak of the glories of God's creation and to thank Him, together, for His many gifts and mercies. This is the stuff winter dreams are made of. Sr. Nancy Elizabeth

Click on: [5 Things a Christian Should Do on Vacation - Aleteia](#)



### Did you know?

The Holy Father Francis issued an Apostolic Letter on June 29th. It's called "Desiderio desideravi." For those of us who have not studied Latin, the title refers to a scripture passage—Luke 22:15—"He said to them, "I have eagerly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer, for I tell you, I shall not eat it again until there is fulfillment in the kingdom of God."

This, of course, took place during the Last Supper—the Passover meal—when Jesus, himself, became the Passover lamb for the forgiveness of sins and the salvation of the world and gave us His life in the Eucharist.

Pope Francis writes clearly and without deep theological expressions so his writings are more accessible to those who do not have expanded degrees in theology.

The Letter is beautiful and enriching and so appropriate as we embark upon our three year long Eucharistic Revival!

Click on: [Pope Francis' Apostolic Letter - Desiderio desideravi](#)

## August 4th—St. John Vianney

St. John Vianney was a man of average intelligence. He passed his seminary exams with difficulty and was ordained at the age of twenty-nine. He was assigned to the tiny parish of Ars, France. “Lord, grant me the conversion of my parish; I am willing to suffer whatever you wish, for my entire life!” This was St. John Vianney’s ardent prayer. With little sleep, and less food, he catechized, preached, provided for the poor and heard confessions—up to 16 hours a day were spent reconciling sinners to God. Pope Benedict XVI described this audacious “pastoral plan” as “the complete identification of the man with his ministry.” John Vianney died in 1859 at the age of 73. (Magnificat. Aug. 2022)

[watch: St. John Vianney - Catholic online](#)

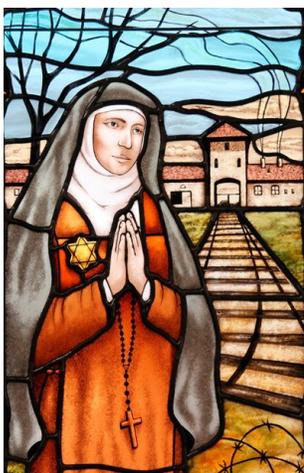
[For children: St. John Vianney](#)—Christian Kids TV

## August 14—St. Teresa Benedicta of the Cross

Jewish philosopher, teacher, atheist, convert to Catholicism, Carmelite Sister, arrested by the Nazi Gestapo, martyred in Auschwitz/Birkenau.

For older children and adults watch: [St. Teresa Benedicta of the Cross - Edith Stein](#) (Saint of the Week)

[Read: St. Teresa Benedicta of the Cross](#) (Transformed by the Cross—(Divine Mercy)



## August 6

### The Transfiguration of the Lord

Jesus took Peter, John and James and went up a mountain to pray. While he was praying his face changed in appearance and his clothing became dazzling white. And behold, two men were conversing with him, Moses and Elijah, who appeared in glory and spoke of his exodus that he was going to accomplish in Jerusalem. Peter and his companions had been overcome by sleep, but becoming fully awake, they saw his glory and the two men standing with him. As they were about to part from him, Peter said to Jesus, “Master, it is good that we are here; let us make three tents, one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.” But he did not know what he was saying. While he was still speaking, a cloud came and cast a shadow over them, and they became frightened when they entered the cloud. Then from the cloud came a voice that said, “This is my chosen Son; listen to him.” After the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. They fell silent and did not at that time tell anyone what they had seen.” Luke 9:28-36

[10 Things You Need to Know About Jesus' Transfiguration](#) (National Catholic Register)

[Explain the Transfiguration to young children](#) –Ministry to Children



Click here to: [Download Bible Coloring Pages](#)  
Free! Sunday School Works

**August 11**

## **St. Clare and her lovely hair.**

St. Clare was born in Assisi, Italy on July 16, 1194, as Chiara Offreduccio, the beautiful eldest daughter of Favorino Sciffi, Count of Sasso-Rosso and his wife Ortolana. Tradition says her father was a wealthy representative of an ancient Roman family and her mother was a very devout woman belonging to the noble family of Fiumi.

As a young girl, Clare dedicated herself to prayer. At 18-years-old, she heard St. Francis of Assisi preach during a Lenten service in the church of San Giorgio and asked him to help her live according to the Gospel. On Palm Sunday in 1212, Clare left her father's home and went to the chapel of the Porziuncula to meet with Francis. While there, Clare's hair was cut off and she was given a plain robe and veil in exchange for her rich gown.

Clare joined the convent of the Benedictine nuns of San Paulo, near Bastia, under Francis' orders. When her father found her and attempted to force her back into his home, she refused and professed that she would have no other husband than Jesus Christ.

**Watch, listen and Read more!** [St. Clare of Assisi](#)  
(Catholic online)

**For children watch:** [Clare of Assisi](#)  
(Stories of Saints)



**August 15**

## **The Assumption of our Blessed Mother into heaven.**



We believe in the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary. That means Mary was kept free from the effects of Original Sin, and so all sin, as God prepared her, if she said yes, to be the Mother of His only Son, our Savior.

One of the effects of Original Sin is death.

And so...”when the course of her earthly life was finished, Mary was taken up, body and soul, into heavenly glory. (CCC 966)

Read: [What Does the Catholic Catechism Say About the Assumption of Mary into heaven?](#)

Watch, listen, read: [The Assumption of our Blessed Mother into heaven](#)  
(Franciscan Media)

Watch for kids: [The Assumption of Mary into Heaven](#)  
(Catholic Kids Media)

[Catholic Icing - Assumption of Mary](#)  
Crafts for Kids—Assumption of Mary—Catholic Icing

## CATHOLIC PRAYERS AND PRACTICES



Say this prayer just after receiving Eucharist.

### Anima Christi (Soul of Christ)

Soul of Christ, sanctify me.  
Body of Christ, save me.  
Blood of Christ, inebriate me.  
Water from the side of Christ, wash me.  
Passion of Christ, strengthen me.  
O Good Jesus, hear me.  
Within your wounds hide me.  
Permit me not to be separated from you.  
From the wicked foe, defend me.  
At the hour of my death, call me  
and bid me come to you  
That with your saints I may praise you  
For ever and ever. Amen..

(Credited to St. Ignatius Loyola)

Click on: [The Anima Christi - line by line meditation - Franciscan Media](#)

### **St. Monica—August 27**

Saint Monica is the patron of Christian mothers. We ask her intercession!

To you, I come, for help and instruction, Saint Monica, a marvelous example of the firm prayer for the children. To your loving arms I surrender my children (mention names), so that, through your powerful intercession, they can truly find conversion in Our Lord, Jesus Christ. I also appeal to you, mother of mothers, so that you ask Our Lord to give me the same spirit of never-ending prayer He gave you. I ask this of you, through Our Lord Christ Himself. Amen.

August is “National Back to School Month.” As summer winds down and a new school year approaches, we thank God for the gift of intelligence, the capacity to know and understand the world, ourselves, and the creator of all things, visible and invisible.” We also praise him for the gift of faith, that grace which sanctifies and illuminates our mind so that we can know him intimately, as a communion of Persons (Father, Son and Holy Spirit) who desire that we share in their divine life and love. Lord, fill our minds with the light of your truth for the truth shall set us free.

(Magnificat. August 2022)

Archdiocese of New York—Youth Faith Formation



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YOUTH FAITH FORMATION  
*Catechetical*

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**For more information  
about the Saints and  
Feast Days we honor this  
month, visit:**

[www.franciscanmedia.org/  
saint-of-the-day](http://www.franciscanmedia.org/saint-of-the-day)

[www.catholic.org/saints](http://www.catholic.org/saints)

**Movies: “Presence.”  
Watch this beautiful series on  
the Eucharist on FORMED.**

Adults: Watch on YouTube  
[St Edith Stein Movie: Stations of an  
Exceptional Life\(Docudrama St Te-  
resa Benedicta of the CrossOCD\)](#)

**Books: click on:**

[What We Are Reading This Summer  
- Aletea](#)