



WHAT'S
INSIDE:



Therese of the Child Jesus: Little Flower

St. Francis of Assisi—patron of ecology

Our Lady of the Rosary

Do you know which prayer we pray in a special way during October?

St. Margaret Mary Alacoque and the love in Jesus' heart.

St. Ignatius of Antioch—it was at Antioch that we were first called Christians.

Two great Popes remembered this month.

a community of life and love

family

A Walk of Thanksgiving and Praise

The glories of creation show forth this month in our part of the world. Trees are ablaze with color. Tiny creatures scurry across the lawn to find places to store what they need for the coming bare winter. Pets grow thicker coats. God has placed within his creatures the knowledge to prepare, to get ready.

In all the busyness of the fall season, settling into school, joining teams and routing for your favorites, stacking wood and stoking furnaces, we take time to savor the beauty of the autumn palette, the crisp apple/pumpkin, smokey tinged air.

Jesus, the Incarnation, became one of us in every way but sin. He, too, enjoyed the beauty of the created world. Because he was fully human, his senses were alive with pleasure at the sights, tastes and aromas of life around him. He thanked the Father.

Can you take a family walk?

What do you see? Where is the evidence of God's presence along your path? Thank God for your gift of sight.

What do you smell? Is there a different zing to the air that tells you summer has ended and fall has arrived? What aromas are unique to this time of the year? Does your sense of smell stir happy memories? Thank God for your sense of smell.

What do you hear? Is there a stillness now? Crickets have gone to sleep. Birds have quieted their summer song. Is there a breeze? Can you hear the coloring leaves rustle together? Thank God for your gift of hearing.

Decide upon a special autumn treat—perhaps juicy apples or pumpkin muffins or apple cider donuts. Enjoy these delights together. Then thank God for your ability to savor the delicious tastes of the foods he offers us.

Thank God for all that is good. Thank God for all of creation.

Sr. Nancy Elizabeth

Archdiocese of New York—Youth Faith Formation

OCTOBER 2022

Did you know?

The feast of St. Therese of the Child Jesus is on October 1st. But did you know why we call her the Little Flower?

Sometimes we must do unpleasant or difficult tasks when we would much rather be doing something fun or relaxing. St. Therese felt the same way! She decided to take all the household chores or mundane things she was told to do and turn them into something very precious and valuable. St. Therese offered all her works to the Lord in sacrifice, lifting them up to him as flowers in a bouquet.

She taught us that the simplest works done for love of God can become like a fragrant garden for His delight.

Next time you are washing the dishes or doing your homework, when you'd much rather be watching t.v. or on the computer or video games, remember Therese and increase the value of what you do a thousandfold.

Turn your works into a prayer!

October 4

Feast of St. Francis of Assisi

Perhaps one of the most famous Saints of all, Francis of Assisi, tells of a life filled with many legends about his extraordinary relationship with the creatures God created.

Read a brief profile of his life— [St. Francis of Assisi - a profile](#)

(The Humane Society of the United States)

The earliest books about Saint Francis were written by Thomas of Celano, a member of Francis' religious order who knew the saint personally. Thomas' books reveal Francis' love for animals and his conviction that religious faith and care for God's creatures go hand-in-hand. Read some of the fascinating tales about St. Francis and his interaction with birds, rabbits, fish and even crickets!

[Stories of St. Francis by Thomas of Celano](#)

(The Humane Society of the United States)



Catholic Social Teaching: One of our most beautiful teachings talks to us about the care of creation. Follow the way of St. Francis by learning how we can take better care of God's gift of our natural world.

[Care for Creation](#)

(USCCB)

St. Francis and his brother and sister Franciscans are known for their life of simplicity and caring for the poor. This article from Busted Halo helps us to adopt the simple life with energies redirected toward others. Some ideas: go outdoors for your workout; simplify your stuff; volunteer in your community. Note: Religious Education programs are always looking for good catechists!

[St. Francis: Living Simply, Simply Living](#)

October 7

Our Lady of the Rosary



What did our Blessed Mother tell us about this powerful prayer? At Fatima, these words were spoken:

"Pray the Rosary every day in honor of Our Lady of the Rosary to obtain peace in the world . . . for she alone can save it." (Our Lady, July 13, 1917)

"God has placed peace in her hands, and it is from the Immaculate Heart that men must ask it." (Jacinta, shortly before her death)

"When you pray the Rosary, say after each mystery: 'O my Jesus, forgive us our sins, save us from the fires of hell, lead all souls to Heaven, especially those who have most need of your mercy.'" (June 13, 1917)
(Rosary Center)

[How to Pray the Rosary](#)

(USCCB)

Watch: [Getting Pre Schoolers Started on the Rosary](#)

(Catholic Icing)

Watch: [Our Lady of the Rosary](#)

(Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network)

Watch for kids: [The Holy Rosary](#)

(My Little Angels)



October 17

St. Margaret Mary Alacoque

St. Margaret Mary was a 17th century French Visitation nun and was responsible for bringing us the devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. She received a series of revelations from Jesus who asked her to spread the love of His Sacred Heart. The Sacred Heart is a sign to us of God's love and compassion for humanity. She would make this known to the world. Many did not believe her at first and thought she was imagining Jesus was speaking to her heart. But eventually St. Claude La Colombiere, her confessor, embraced her story and encouraged her to continue her mission.

The feast of the Sacred Heart was established in 1856 by Pope Pius IX and Margaret Mary became a saint in 1920. A later Pope, Pius XI, affirmed the truth of her visions. (Give Us This Day. October 2022)

"The divine heart is an ocean full of all good things wherein poor souls can cast all their needs; it is an ocean full of joy to drown all our sadness...an ocean of love in which to submerge our poverty." St. Margaret Mary Alacoque

Watch for children: [The Life of St. Margaret Mary Alacoque](#) (Stories of the Saints)



St. Ignatius of Antioch

Born in Syria, Ignatius converted to Christianity and eventually became bishop of Antioch. In the year 107, Emperor Trajan visited Antioch and forced the Christians there to choose between death and their faith. Ignatius would not deny Christ and thus was condemned to be put to death in Rome. Ignatius is well known for the seven letters he wrote on the long journey from Antioch to Rome. Five of these letters are to churches in Asia Minor; they urge the Christians there to remain faithful to God and to obey their superiors. He warns them against heretical doctrines, providing them with the solid truths of the Christian faith. The final letter begs the Christians in Rome not to try to stop his martyrdom. "The only thing I ask of you is to allow me to offer the libation of my blood to God. I am the wheat of the Lord; may I be ground by the teeth of the beasts to become the immaculate bread of Christ." (Franciscan Media) For the letters of St. Ignatius see page 4 .
Adults Watch: [Who was Ignatius?](#)

October 11

St. John XXIII

October 22

St. John Paul II

How privileged we are to live in the days of these two great successors to St. Peter.

Holy Father St. John XXIII—from 1958-1963



The man who would be Pope John XXIII was born in the small village of Sotto il Monte in Italy, on November 25, 1881. He was the fourth of fourteen children born to poor parents who made their living by sharecropping. Named Angelo Giuseppe Roncalli, the baby would eventually become one of the most influential popes in recent history, changing the Church forever.

Read more: [St. John XXIII](#) (Catholic online)

Holy Father St. John Paul II—from 1978-2005



Karol J. Wojtyla, known as John Paul II since his October 1978 election to the papacy, was born in Wadowice, a small city 50 kilometres from Cracow, on May 18, 1920. He was the second of two sons born to Karol Wojtyla and Emilia Kaczorowska. Upon graduation from high school he enrolled in Cracow's Jagiellonian University in 1938 and in a school for drama. The Nazi occupation forces closed the university in 1939 and young Karol had to work in a quarry (1940-1944) and then in the Solvay chemical factory to earn his living and to avoid being deported to Germany.

Read more: [St. John Paul II](#) (Catholic online)

CATHOLIC PRAYERS AND PRACTICES



October is the month of the Holy Rosary

[The Mysteries of the Most Holy Rosary](#)
(Loyola)

Prayers to Jesus in the Eucharist

Jesus, I thank You for giving me Your Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity. In this Blessed Sacrament, I place my entire family into Your Sacred Heart, from my ancestors back to Adam and Eve to my progeny through the end of time and everyone in between. Heal and nourish us with the True Food from Heaven. (Coraevans.com)

“Sweetest Jesus, Body and Blood most Holy, be the delight and pleasure of my soul, my strength and salvation in all temptations, my joy and peace in every trial, my light and guide in every word and deed, and my final protection in death. Amen.” ~ St. Thomas Aquinas (The Mystical Humanity of Christ Publishing)

Learn more: [National Eucharistic Revival](#)

Remembering, with thanksgiving, St. Margaret Mary Alacoque, we pray:

[Litany of the Sacred Heart of Jesus](#)
(Catholic Crusade)



What is a Litany?

Litanies are a form of prayer containing a series of petitions to which people make fixed responses. They originated in the 4th century, and were later incorporated into the Mass. Today, they're used in the liturgy of the Church, and other forms of public worship. One of the most beautiful features of a litany is the combination of invocations alternating with petitions in a rhythmic, repetitive pattern. Through this inspirational chorus of voices reaching towards heaven, we hope to strengthen our faith and obtain the favors for which we're praying. There are five litanies approved for public worship: the Sacred Heart, the Precious Blood, the Saints, the Blessed Virgin, and St. Joseph. Others may be used in private devotion. (EWTN.com)



ARCHDIOCESE OF NEW YORK
YOUTH FAITH FORMATION
Catechetical

Created by the Office of Youth
Faith Formation, Family
Catechesis Advisory Committee:

Sr. Zelide Ceccagno, MSCS
Sr. Joan Curtin, CND
Sr. Nancy Elizabeth Doran, SSC,
Mrs. Maria Gallo
Mrs. Margaret Hoblin
Joseph Long
Sr. Mary Crucifix Pandullo, CSJB
Office of Youth Faith Formation
1011 First Avenue
New York, NY 10022
212-371-1000 x2867
Email:
nancy.doran@archny.org

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

Movies:

October 10th—Columbus
Day . Kids Watch:

[Columbus Adventures: to the edge
of the world.](#) On Formed.

Books: [Letters of Ignatius of Anti-
och](#) Full length Catholic audi-
obook

[5 Royal books for kids who love
princess stories \(aleteia.org\)](#)