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a community of life and love

# family

SEPTEMBER

2021

Labor Day. September 6th.  
A Tribute to American Workers



Labor Day is the final summer holiday. We bid farewell to splashing in the waves and catching fireflies or waiting for the fireworks to light up the skies. Labor Day is also a day when we pay our respect to those who work to make our country great. This holiday became official in 1894. (from [The Pioneer Woman](#))

But did you know our Church has a great deal to say about the worker and worker's rights? One of our most admirable teachings promotes "Catholic Social Justice."

"Work is more than a way to make a living; it is a form of continuing participation in God's creation. If the dignity of work is to be protected, then the basic rights of workers must be respected--the right to productive work, to decent and fair wages, to the organization and joining of unions, to private property, and to economic initiative."

[Seven Principles of Catholic Social Teaching](#)

"Work should be the setting for personal growth, where many aspects of life enter into play: creativity, planning for the future, developing our talents, living out our values, relating to others, giving glory to God... We were created with a vocation to work. . . Work is a necessity, part of the meaning of life on this earth, a path to growth, human development and personal fulfillment. Helping the poor financially must always be a solution in the face of pressing needs. The broader objective should always be to allow them a dignified life through work. (Pope Francis, *On Care for Our Common Home [Laudato Si']*, nos. 127-28)

Enjoy the day! Rest from your good labors!

## PLAN ON IT!

ALL YOU WHO ARE BLESSED TO HAVE YOUR GRANDPARENTS WITH YOU—OR HAVE BLESSED MEMORIES OF THEM.. SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 12TH IS GRANDPARENTS DAY.

- REMEMBER THEM IN YOUR PRAYERS.
- SEND THEM WORDS OF LOVE AND APPRECIATION
- CALL THEM ON THE PHONE
- VISIT WITH THEM IN PERSON OR ELECTRONICALLY
- DRAW THEM A PICTURE
- TEXT THEM A MESSAGE
- SEND THEM PICTURES—A FAMILY COLLAGE

WHEN I WAS A LITTLE GIRL OF FIVE YEARS, MY GRANDMOTHER TAUGHT ME A PRAYER THAT ENABLED ME TO GIVE MY WHOLE DAY TO GOD.

"GOOD MORNING SWEET JESUS. MY DAY IS FOR YOU. I OFFER TO YOU ALL I THINK SAY AND DO."

THANK YOU GRAMMA.

EDITOR

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY  
BLESSED MOTHER**

**SEPTEMBER 8**



On September 8 we celebrate the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary. This feast has been celebrated since the 6th Century!

Anne (Mary's mother) and Joachim (Mary's father) prayed for a child. They were promised a child who would advance the salvation of the world. God was present in Mary's life from the very moment of her conception.

St. Augustine tells the earth to rejoice and shine forth in the light of her birth. "She is the flower of the field from whom bloomed the precious lily of the valley. Through her birth the nature inherited from our first parents is changed."

If Jesus is the perfect expression of God's love, Mary is the foreshadowing of that love. If Jesus has brought the fullness of salvation, Mary is its dawning. Birthday celebrations bring happiness to the celebrant as well as to family and friends. Next to the birth of Jesus, Mary's birth offers the greatest possible happiness to the world. Each time we celebrate her birth, we can confidently hope for an increase of peace in our hearts and in the world at large.

[Franciscan Media - Nativity of Mary](#)

**Patriot Day**

**September 11, 2001**

**September 11, 2021**

**Remembering...20 years**

[Catholic Charities: Remembrance 9/11](#)

**Anniversary Prayer for 9/11**

Holy God,  
Creator of all people and all nations,  
It is with sorrow and apprehension we  
remember the tragic events  
That occurred on this day.

We lift to You in prayer all those who  
died  
In the Twin Towers, at the Pentagon,  
and on United Airlines Flight 93  
In Shankesville, Pennsylvania.

We entrust them to Your loving care.  
Console their families, friends, and all  
who mourn this loss  
In the hope that all who trust in You  
find peace and rest in Your Kingdom.

We pray for those who courageously  
responded to provide aid and comfort  
to the afflicted.  
May their painful memories of that day  
Be healed and transformed into  
strength and positive resolution.

We also pray for ourselves as we seek  
Your strength and guidance.  
We live in the aftermath of this tragedy  
and under the shadow of future acts of  
aggression;  
We stand in need of Your assistance.

Enable us, Dear God, to put an end to  
fear:

By resolving to live lives that are based  
on respect for one another;  
By resolving to abide in a peaceful man-  
ner  
and never settle disagreements in our  
lives in a violent way;  
By resolving not to fall into the trap of  
blaming entire ethnic groups, races, or  
religions  
in response to acts of hostility;  
By resolving that justice, not revenge,  
prevail in our world.

Let us resolve that in the face of hatred,  
we will show love;  
That in times of despair, we will be  
voices of hope  
And creators of new dreams;  
That in times of darkness, we will be  
sources of light.

Let us resolve that we never regard  
forgiveness as weakness,  
But rather as a source of strength in our  
lives and in our world.

And, let us honor the memory of nearly  
3,000 individuals who died on Septem-  
ber 11, 2001 by resolving, with Your  
help Almighty God,  
To truly live this way so You may be  
glorified and Your love made known to  
others through us.

Amen. *Bro. Darrell Burns, S.J.*

[Xavier.edu/Jesuit resource. Patriot Day Prayer](#)

**OUR LADY OF SORROWS**  
**SEPTEMBER 15TH**  
**HOW CAN WE COMFORT OUR BLESSED MOTHER**

The Feast of Our Lady of Sorrows focuses on the life of Mary and the suffering she endured as the Mother of our Redeemer. We focus on seven sorrowful experiences (the Seven Dolors of Mary) that caused her great grief, beginning with the prophecy of Simeon—"and a sword shall pierce your heart." (Luke 2:22-35) There are many wonderful devotions to Our Lady of Sorrows. We can accompany our Blessed Mother in her times of sadness and suffering and thank her for her great sacrifices for the sake of her Son, out of love for the Father and in cooperation with the work of our redemption.

Read: [Catholic Education-Our Lady of Sorrows](#)

Watch and pray:

[Seven Sorrows Prayer](#)

[The Seven Sorrows of the Virgin Mary Devotion - promises to St. Bridget](#)

[Seven Sorrows Rosary](#)

Teaching Kids About Our Lady of Sorrows: [Catholic Icing](#)



**“ I Believe in all that is seen...and unseen.”**

**The Feast of the Archangels—September 29**

The three Archangels which the Church honors by name are St. Michael, St. Gabriel and St. Raphael. They are also the only three angels mentioned by name in Scripture. The Catechism of the Catholic Church teaches us that, "The existence of the spiritual, non-corporeal beings that Sacred Scripture usually calls "angels" is a truth of faith. Angels are pure, created spirits. The name angel means servant or messenger of God. Angels are celestial or heavenly beings, on a higher order than human beings. Angels have no bodies and do not depend on matter for their existence or activity. They are distinct from saints, which men can become. Angels have intellect and will, and are immortal.

The name of the archangel **Michael** means, in Hebrew, *who is like unto God?* and he is also known as "the prince of the heavenly host." He is usually pictured as a strong warrior, dressed in armor and wearing sandals. From Revelation we learn of the battle in heaven, with St. Michael and his angels combating Lucifer and the other fallen angels (or devils). We invoke St. Michael to help us in our fight against Satan; to rescue souls from Satan, especially at the hour of death.

**Gabriel's** name means "God is my strength". Biblically he appears three times as a messenger. St. Gabriel is most known as the angel chosen by God to be the messenger of the Annunciation, to announce to mankind the mystery of the Incarnation.

Our knowledge of Archangel **Raphael** comes from the book of Tobit. His mission as a wonderful healer and fellow traveler with the youthful Tobias has caused him to be invoked for journeys and at critical moments of life. Tradition also holds that Raphael is the angel who stirred the waters at the healing sheep pool in Bethesda. His name means "God has healed."

[Passionist Nuns-feast of the Archangels](#)

Watch: [The Word Exposed: Archangels](#)

## LIFE AS A CATHOLIC PRACTICES

## CATHOLIC HOUSEHOLD BLESSINGS AND PRAYERS

### What is a Novena? Why do we pray in this way?

The word novena is taken from “novem,” the Latin word for nine.

Novena is a spiritual devotion consisting of the recitation of a set form of prayer for nine consecutive days, in petition for a divine favor or in preparation for a liturgical feast. For example, in anticipation of the feast of Pentecost.

**Why 9 days?** Over time, the faithful began to associate a novena with the nine months Jesus spent in the womb, the giving up of His spirit at the ninth hour, and the nine days of waiting in the Upper Room as the Twelve Apostles and the Blessed Virgin Mary prayed for the coming of “gift” - the promised Holy Spirit.

Read: [How to Pray a Novena](#)

Watch and Pray: [Novena to Mary Our Lady of Sorrows](#)

Sign up to participate in Novenas: [Pray More Novenas](#)



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St. Louis of France gave this powerful blessing to his son that can be a model for all fathers.

Fathers are called by God to set a spiritual example for their families encouraging and leading family prayer and leading a life of virtue.

Existence of this type of blessing runs through the Bible and can be found especially in the Old Testament. See Genesis 27.

*May the three Persons of the Holy Trinity and all the saints protect you from every evil. And may the Lord give you the grace to do his will so that he may be served and honored through you, that in the next life we may together come to see him, love him and praise him unceasingly. Amen.* Aletea

[Two Biblical Prayers to Bless Your Children](#)



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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)

**Movie of the month:**

**“Mary, the Mother of God”**

**In the Footprints of God Series**

**Pilgrimage to the Land of Mary Narrated by Stephen Ray**

**Watch on Formed!**