

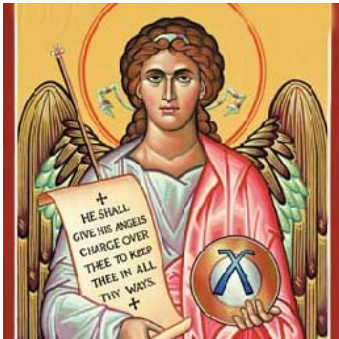
OCTOBER 2008 FEAST DAYS

Wednesday, October 1 — Saint Thérèse of the Child Jesus



Thérèse entered the Carmel of Lisieux at age 15. Because of tuberculosis, her activities were limited. She pioneered the ideal of the “little way,” fidelity in the small things, trust and complete self-surrender to God. Her autobiography, *The Story of a Soul*, is a modern spiritual classic. Though her life spanned only 24 years, her faith and simplicity were remarkable. She was canonized in 1925 and named a Doctor of the Church in 1997.

Thursday, October 2 — Memorial of the Guardian Angels



We commemorate the anniversary of October 2, 1817, when the “first meeting” of those who had decided to embrace religious life in a new Institute gathered at Chaminade’s residence at Villa St. Laurent.

Saturday, October 4 — Saint Francis of Assisi



Sculpture of St. Francis by Bro. Joe Aspell

Francis is noted for his charismatic personality, deep compassion for all, and love for God’s creation. He remained a deacon all his life and his visionary leadership inspired thousands to lead lives of poverty, simplicity and humble service, delighting in creation and consumed with love for Christ. Francis died at Assisi on Oct. 3, 1226, and was canonized two years later. One of his best known sayings is: *Preach the gospel at all times — if necessary, use words.*

Monday, October 6—Blessed Marie-Rose Durocher



A native of Quebec, Marie-Rose established the first Canadian sodality for young women. The Bishop of Montreal invited her to found a new congregation dedicated to religious education, the Sisters of the Holy Names of Jesus and Mary. Today the outreach of the congregation is worldwide. She was beatified in 1982.

Tuesday, October 7 — Memorial of Our Lady of the Rosary



This feast was established in 1573 by Pope Pius V in gratitude for the victory of the Christians over the Turks at Lepanto. It was extended to the universal church in 1716.

Sunday, October 12 — Feast of Our Lady of the Pillar



(The celebration of the feast is transferred to Saturday or Monday.)

This is a feast celebrated in memory of the graces received by Father Chaminade at the shrine of Our Lady of the Pillar during his exile in Spain (1797-1800), especially that of the inspiration to create the Marianist Family and to found the Society of Mary and the Marianist Sisters. On this Sunday, the entire Marianist Family joins in prayer on the **Marianist World Day of Prayer**. We unite with the Marianist Family of Brazil, praying to their patron, Our Lady of Aparecida.

Wednesday, October 15 — Saint Teresa of Jesus



Of the many women who have exercised leadership roles in the Church, Teresa must be considered among the greatest. With Peter of Alcantara and John of the Cross, she founded the reformed (Discalced) Carmelite orders of nuns and friars. Several of her written works are considered classics of spiritual literature. A great mystic and a strong, intelligent and active leader, Teresa was canonized in 1622. In 1970 she became the first woman to be declared a Doctor of the Church.

Saturday, October 18 — Saint Luke



All historical sources are unanimous in stating that the author of the third Gospel and the Acts of the Apostles was a physician named Luke. He was undoubtedly a Gentile Christian and he wrote for other Gentiles who did not have the background of the Old Testament in which to root their faith. His writings show him to be an educated man with considerable literary skill. He is a patron of the medical profession.

Tuesday, October 28 — Saints Simon and Jude



The names of Simon and Jude appear in New Testament lists of the apostles, but little else is known about either one. Traditionally, both apostles suffered martyrdom. In a later tradition, Jude became a patron saint of “hopeless cases.”