OCTOBER 2012 FEAST DAYS

Monday, 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.

Tuesday, October 2 — Memorial of the Guardian Angels

We commemorate the anniversary of Oct. 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.

Thursday, October 4 — Saint Francis of Assisi

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.
Friday, October 12 — Feast of Our Lady of the Pillar

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.

Sunday, October 14 — Marianist World Day of Prayer

On this Sunday the Marianist Family throughout the world joins in prayer with the Marianist Family in Togoville, Togo. This year commemorates 50 years of Marianist presence in this country with the arrival of the first three Marianists from Switzerland. We pray for all the Marianist Family who live and share in the Marianist charism left to us by Fr. Chaminade.

Monday, October 15 — Saint Teresa of Avila

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.