



## ***September Thoughts***

**By Marge Loenser**

September is unique because it signifies both endings and beginnings. Vacations are ending and school is beginning. Summer season is ending and autumn season is beginning. We experience sadness and joy and accept the changes (sometimes reluctantly).

***This September 11<sup>th</sup> is the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary*** of the terrorist attack on our country. We pray for all the victims and for all those many families experiencing heart break and loss. Hear our prayers, Lord and continue to protect this beautiful country from terrorists.

On the eighth we celebrate the birth of our Blessed Mother. Mary was conceived without sin and chosen to be the ***Mother of our Savior Jesus.*** We turn to her in all things, as she is our Mother too.

Pray for us Holy Mother of God. Among the many saints we celebrate this month, we have St. Peter Claver, St. Matthew, St. Padre Pio, St. Vincent DePaul and the archangels Michael, Gabriel and Raphael.

St. Peter Claver left his native Spain in 1610 to be a missionary in the new world. He is the patron saint of those in slavery. St. Matthew, of course, was an apostle and before he left his post to follow Jesus, a much-hated tax collector. We believe his gospel was the second written after that of St. Mark. St. Matthew pray for us. We are so grateful for your account of the life of our Lord Jesus Christ.

As we reflect on the Archangels, whom we celebrate on the 29<sup>th</sup>, Michael comes to mind first. He banished Lucifer and the angels that followed him from heaven because they rebelled against God and Michael said “who is like God!!” (Which is an interpretation of his name.) Gabriel, was the guardian of Israel. The name Gabriel, translated is “strength of God.” Last but not least is St. Raphael, whose name means “God Heals.” He appears in the book of Tobit in the Old Testament and there is a guide and healer. St. Raphael, heal the wounds of our hearts and guide us safely thru each day as we follow Jesus.

Lord we lift up our sick and those that have died. We pray that they be covered in the Precious Blood of Jesus. We pray for caretakers and those in mourning. Bless us, Lord, each one, each day, one day at a time.  
Love, Marge



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