



Blessed Mother and the Saints of the Month of October

By Marge Loenser:

October gets its name from the Roman word “octavus” which means eight. In the early Roman calendar, October was the eighth month of the year. We have many powerful saint days in October; for instance, to name a few: On the first, Saint Therese (The Little flower) on the fourth, Saint Francis of Assisi, on the fifth, Saint Faustina, on the seventh, Our Lady of the Rosary, on the 11th, St. Damien of Molokai, on the 15th, Saint Teresa of Avila, 18th Saint Luke, on the 22nd Saint Pope John Paul II and on the 28th, Saints Simon and Saint Jude.

Saint Therese was named doctor of the church by Pope John Paul the second. She’s the patron saint of missionaries and florists. She pursued holiness by living an ordinary life. Little flower please pray for us.

Saint Francis of Assisi embraced poverty to follow Jesus and rebuild his church. We love his prayer, “Make me a channel of your peace, where there is hatred let me bring your love, where there is injury—pardon, where there is doubt—faith, where there is despair—hope, where there is darkness—light, and where there is sadness—joy. Oh, divine master grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled as to console. To be understood as to understand, to be loved as to love, for it is in giving that we receive, it is in pardoning that we are pardoned, and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.” Saint Francis, please pray for us.

St. Luke of course wrote one of the four gospels and the Acts of the Apostles. We are all familiar with his infancy narrative. Also, Saint Luke recorded the canticle of Mary, known as the Magnificat, the Canticle of Zachariah, and the Canticle of Simeon at the presentation of the Child Jesus. St. Luke, please pray for us.

Saints Simon and Jude Thaddeus were of the 12 apostles and were murdered in Persia. Dear Saint Jude and Simon please pray for us. A novena to Saint Jude for desperate cases is very powerful. May God bless you all this beautiful month of October with all the mercy and grace your heart can hold. Love, Marge



Marge Loenser is a member of Saint Mark's Church in Sea Girt where she is Lector and Eucharistic Minister. She has retired from teaching CCD at Saint Mark's. She has been a member of Catholic Women of Zion for about 30 years and is also a member of Mary Queen of Peace Prayer Community for about the same length of time. She writes for a monthly column for Saint Mark's Church Bulletin.