



Prayers for the Week Ahead

WEEK BEGINNING 1ST OCTOBER 2024

Tuesday 1st October

*St. Thérèse of the Child
Jesus,
Virgin, Doctor.*

St. Thérèse of Lisieux, also popularly known as The Little Flower of Jesus, The Holy Face, and St. Thérèse of the Child Jesus is a patron saint for missionaries, aviators, and florists.

On 2 January 1873, Marie Françoise-Thérèse Martin was born in France. She grew up in a loving and spiritual environment, which helped her realise her life's real purpose.

In the early years, she suffered many setbacks like her mother's death and her frail health, but she found her faith and always considered these experiences' positive things. She wanted to be cloistered at a very young age of 15, and after getting permission, she joined her sister's Carmelite community. After spending nine years there, she died on 30 September 1897 due to tuberculosis.

St. Thérèse of Lisieux's letters and article compilation 'Story of a Soul,' was published posthumously as her autobiography and are widely regarded by the Catholic community.



O Glorious St. Thérèse,

whom Almighty God has raised up to aid
and inspire the human family,

I implore your miraculous intercession.

You are so powerful in obtaining every need
of body and spirit from the Heart of God.

Holy Mother Church proclaims you "Prodigy of Miracles ...
the greatest saint of Modern Times."

Now I fervently beseech you to answer my petition

(mention in silence here)

and to carry our your promises of spending
heaven doing good on earth ...

of letting fall from Heaven a Shower of Roses.

Little Flower, give me your childlike faith

to see the Face of God

in the people and experiences of my life

and to love God with full confidence.

St Thérèse, my Carmelite Sister,

I will fulfil your plea "to be made known everywhere"

and I will continue to lead others to Jesus through you.

Amen

Wednesday 2nd October



The Holy Guardian Angels

Perhaps no aspect of Catholic piety is as comforting to parents as the belief that an angel protects their little ones from dangers real and imagined. Yet guardian angels are not only for children. Their role is to represent individuals before God, to watch over them always, to aid their prayer, and to present their souls to God at death.

The concept of an angel assigned to guide and nurture each human being is a development of Catholic doctrine and piety based on Scripture but not directly drawn from it. Jesus' words in Matthew 18:10 best support the belief:

"See that you do not despise one of these little ones, for I say to you that their angels in heaven always look upon the face of my heavenly Father."

Devotion to the angels began to develop with the birth of the monastic tradition. Saint Benedict gave it impetus and Saint Bernard of Clairvaux, the great 12th-century reformer, was such an eloquent spokesman for the guardian angels that angelic devotion assumed its current form in his day. A feast in honour of the guardian angels was first observed in the 16th century. In 1615, Pope Paul V added it to the Roman calendar.

Hail Mary...

Thursday 3rd October



St Theodore Guerin was the daughter of Laurent and Isabelle Guérin. She joined the Sisters of Providence at Ruillé-sur-Loir, France on August 18 1823 then took the name Sister Saint Theodore, and on September 5 1831, she made her final vows. After teaching for some time in Rennes and Soulaines, France, St Theodore Guerin was sent to the diocese of Vincennes, Indiana, USA on October 22 1840, together with five other sisters.

In Indiana, USA, on July 4 1841, they established the Academy of Saint Mary-of-the-Woods at Terre Haute, Indiana. This became the first Catholic women's liberal arts college in the United States.

Theodore Guerin also founded an orphanage for girls and one for boys in Vincennes, Indiana. She opened pharmacies where medicines were dispensed free to the poor at Vincennes and Saint Mary-of-the-Woods, Indiana. She oversaw the construction of a motherhouse for the Sisters of Providence and several additions to the Academy.

After she died on May 14 1856 at Saint Mary-of-the-Woods, Indiana, USA she was buried at the Church of the Immaculate Conception, Saint Mary-of-the-Woods in Indiana. She was beatified by Pope John Paul II on October 25 1998 and canonized by Pope Benedict XVI on October 15 2006 in Saint Peter's Square, Vatican City.

Hail Mary....

St Theodore Guerin

Friday 4th October



St. Francis of Assisi

The patron saint of Italy, Francis of Assisi was a poor and humble man who astounded and inspired the Church by taking the gospel literally—not in a narrow sense, but by actually following all that Jesus said and did, joyfully, without limit, and without a sense of self-importance.

Peace Prayer of St. Francis

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace:

where there is hatred, let me sow love;

where there is injury, pardon;

where there is doubt, faith;

where there is despair, hope;

where there is darkness, light;

where there is sadness, joy.

*O 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.*

Amen.