



Prayers for the Week

WEEK BEGINNING 18TH AU

Monday 18th August



St. Helena

St. Helena was the mother of Emperor Constantine, the first Christian Emperor of the Roman Empire. She was born in Syria, but it is believed she is from the island of Cyprus. She was a minor and born into a poor family. She lived until the day of her death. St. Ambrose described her as a woman of great piety and charity.

Constantine was forever loyal to her. He loved her very much. As he grew and became Emperor, he remained on Helena's side. Following his death, he became Emperor and summoned her to his imperial court. Helena received a great deal of honor and respect.

St. Helena was renowned for her charity and her work for the poor and destitute. She would give them food and clothing. She would also give them money. St. Helena was a woman of great faith and devotion. She was a woman who would easily believe her own words. Through her influence, she brought Christianity throughout the known world.

Tuesday 19th August



St. John Eudes

St. John Eudes was a French priest of the Congregation of Our Lady, who was known for his devotion to the liturgical worship of the

St. John was born at Ri, France. At the age of fourteen he took a vow of chastity. As a child he tried to live in poverty. He was ordained a priest in 1625, and was thrust into the service of the poor, at great risk to his own life. He was known as the greatest preacher of his time all over France, especially in the

Prayer:

Lord, help me today to act with charity to all and to find moment

Wednesday 20th August



St. Bernard of Clairvaux

Bernard was born of noble parents at Fontaines near Dijon. Under the influence of his mother he was sent at an early age to a college at Chatillon, where he acquired a deep intellect and a strong spirit of recollection. When he was twenty he became a monk. He also persuaded his brother William to become a monk. In 1113, St. Bernard, with thirty monks, joined the Cistercian Order. He became Abbot, St. Stephen, at Cîteaux. He composed a number of works on the life of God. Several Bishops were converted by the reputation of St. Bernard spread by his advice. He was commissioned to preach the Crusade.

Prayer:

Saint Bernard of Clairvaux, you have inspired countless others to love God and the world. Please pray that I will believe that profound holiness is the life of the Church, that we will love Mary through the darkness we encounter.

Thursday 21st August



Saint Pope Pius X

Pope Pius X is perhaps best remembered for his opposition to the use of the Eucharist as a means of Communion, especially by children. He was more politically involved. One of his first papal acts was to interfere by veto in papal elections—a practice that had elected him.

In 1905, when France renounced its agreement to return property if governmental control of Church was demanded.

While he did not author a famous social encyclical on the treatment of indigenous peoples on the plains of the earthquake, and sheltered refugees at his court.

On the 11th anniversary of his election as pope, he died, but it killed him. "This is the last affliction that I have seen poor children from this ghastly scourge." He died in 1954.

Reflection

His humble background was no obstacle in his life. He was genuinely. Pius X gained his strength, his grace, from the Spirit of Jesus. In contrast, we often feel empty. We remain aloof from people whom we perceive as different. We often ignore simpler people. Yet we, too, are wounded people of God.

Our Father ...



Today we take some time to re
heaven together with her Son.
equal to God but because she
privileges come from her willin
God and make our redemption

Prayer

Hail Mary,
Full of Grace,
The Lord is with thee.
Blessed art thou among women
and blessed is the fruit
of thy womb, Jesus.
Holy Mary,
Mother of God,
pray for us sinners now,
and at the hour of our death.
Amen.

*Saturday 23rd
August*



St. Rose of Lima

St. Rose was born in Lima, in Peru, and was devoted to prayer and devotion from an early age. She became a tertiary at the age of 20. Her ascetic experiences excited the criticism and suspicion of the Church authorities.

She cared for marginalised, was canonised, and is a patron saint of Peru.

Prayer to St. Rose

God our Father, for love of You, she gave herself to a life of penance.

By the help of her prayers may we be purified and enjoy the fullness of Your blessing.

Grant this through our Lord Jesus Christ with You and the Holy Spirit, one God.

Amen