



Prayers for the Week Ahead

WEEK BEGINNING 26TH JANUARY



Monday 26th January

Sts. Timothy and Titus

OFFICIAL

Sts. Timothy and Titus were converted to Christianity by St. Paul, and became his companions and helpers. Paul entrusted Timothy with the care of the Christians in Ephesus, and sent Titus to Crete to look after the Christians there. He wrote them the so-called "pastoral" epistles, giving advice for pastors and people alike.

A prayer in honour of Sts. Timothy and Titus

*God our Father,
You gave Your saints Timothy and Titus
the courage and wisdom of the apostles:
may their prayers help us to live holy lives
and lead us to heaven, our true home.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Your Son,
who lives and reigns with you
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.
Amen.*

Tuesday 27th January



St. Angela Merici

OFFICIAL

Angela Merici (21 March 1474 – 27 January 1540) was an Italian religious educator, who is honoured as a saint by the Roman Catholic Church. She founded the Company of St. Ursula in 1535 in Brescia, in which women dedicated their lives to the service of the Church through the education of girls. From this organisation later sprang the monastic Order of Ursulines, whose nuns established places of prayer and learning throughout Europe and, later, worldwide, most notably in North America.

A prayer to St. Angela Merici

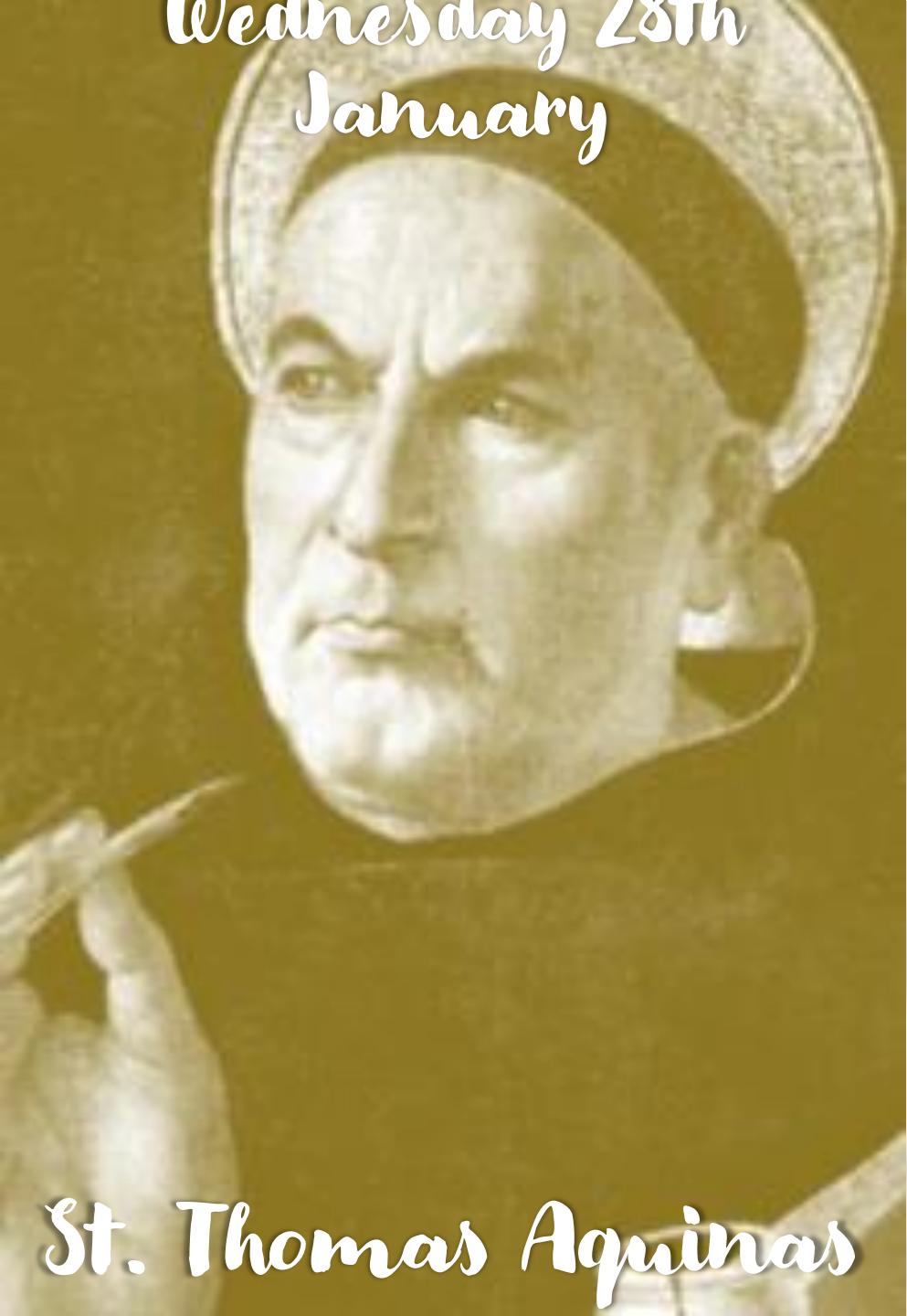
St. Angela,

*You were generous and joyful in answering God's call,
and you happily shared the gifts you had been given.*

*When you recognised the need for education,
you overcame obstacles and prejudice by your prayer and your commitment to
those living in poverty.*

*Open our eyes to the needs of others; remind us that Jesus calls us to
serve our sisters and brothers, and to bring joy to those around us.*
Amen.

Wednesday 28th
January



St. Thomas Aquinas

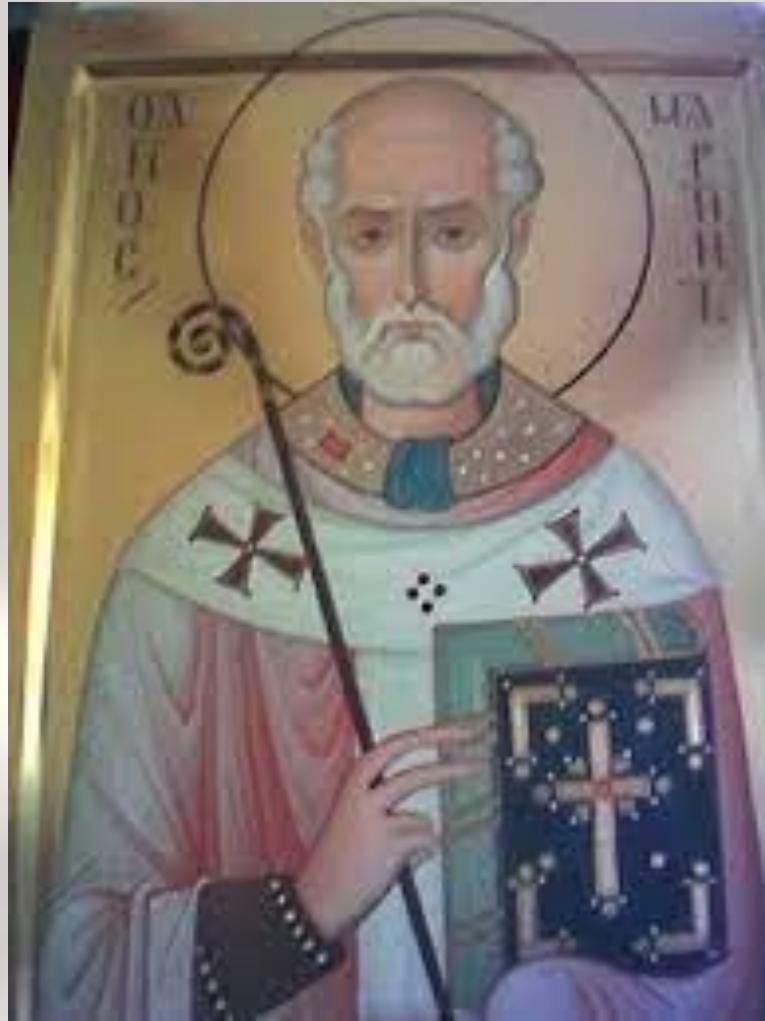
OFFICIAL

St. Thomas Aquinas - Dominican friar, philosopher, Catholic priest, and Doctor of the Church. An immensely influential philosopher, theologian, and jurist in the tradition of scholasticism. The name Aquinas identifies his ancestral origins in the county of Aquino in present-day Lazio, Italy. Among other things, he was a prominent proponent of natural theology and the father of a school of thought (encompassing both theology and philosophy) known as Thomism. He argued that God is the source of both the light of natural reason and the light of faith. His influence on Western thought is considerable, and much of modern philosophy developed or opposed his ideas, particularly in the areas of ethics, natural law, metaphysics, and political theory.

A prayer of St. Thomas Aquinas

*O merciful God, grant that I may ever perfectly do Your Will in all things.
Let it be my ambition to work only for Your honour and glory.
Let me rejoice in nothing but what leads to You,
nor grieve for anything that leads away from You.
Amen.*

Thursday 29th January



OFFICIAL

Sulpitius distinguished himself for his eloquence, the fineness of his spirit, his ability to make use of legal cavils, his rigorous judgment and the solidity of his arguments. His reputation reached far. With luck and genius, he could aspire to the highest state offices. Completely absorbed by worldly concerns, in a time when all hopes smile at the imagination, he married a consul's daughter, one equally wealthy and well-connected. Few young men could boast of better prospects at the beginning of career, for one full of honours. Sulpitius decided to consecrate himself to God and to divest himself of his countless possessions. However, as had Saint Ambrose done, so did Sulpicius refrain from selling his inheritances to distribute proceeds to the poor; he was content to surrender his possessions to the Church and to reserve to himself their usufruct. The change of life annoyed his father, and Sulpitius became the butt of his old friends' jokes.

Later generations have known Sulpitius Severus as the historian of San Martin of Tours. Though the holy prelate had the habit of not talking about himself and keeping for himself the special graces God granted him, Sulpitius claimed to have learned some of the facts related in his biography directly from St. Martin himself. Other elements, including many interesting circumstances, were revealed to him by the religious of the Church of Tours or the monks of Marmoutier.

Today we pray for those who have been made fun of or bullied because of their faith. Help us to have the courage to stand up for our beliefs and values. Our Father....

St. Sulpitius Severus

Friday 30th January

OFFICIAL



St. Adelgundis

Virgin and abess, also known as Adelgundis, Aldegonde, or Orgonne. She was a member of the royal family of the Merovingians and was raised by two saints: [St. Walbert](#) and St. Bertila, her parents. The family resided in the Hainault region of Flanders, a region of the Low Countries. Aldegundis refused offers of marriage from other nobles and received the veil from St. Amandius, the bishop of Maastricht. She followed this ceremony of acceptance into the religious life with the foundation of a convent near the Sambre River, at a desert site called Malbode. Her sister, St. Waldestrudis, had founded a convent at Mons. Aldegundis' foundation became Mauberge, a noted Benedictine monastery, later taken over by canonesses. Aldegundis is reported to have died of cancer at the age of forty-four. She is the patron Saint of cancer sufferers.

Today we pray for those who have been diagnosed with cancer. We pray that they might find comfort from those who love and care for them.

Our Father....