

PRAYERS IN THE PEW™ MONTHLY

FAITH IN ACTION CALENDAR / HIGHLIGHTS

MON OCT 2	Feast of the Holy Guardian Angels
THU OCT 19	North American Martyrs, Priests and Martyrs
MON OCT 23	St. John of Capistrano, Priest

Faith Formation Companion to Prayers in the Pew™

→ MONTHLY SYNOPSIS ←

October 2023 – October is completely filled with spiritual blessings! We celebrate Respect Life Month, the Holy Rosary, the Holy Angels, and an incredible array of saints (see calendar below). We are reminded this month to give thanks to God for all things, but especially for His gift of our Catholic Faith, which enriches our souls at every turn.

THE ANGELUS

A beloved but lesser-known prayer of our Catholic faith is the “Angelus”, a Latin word which means “angel”. The prayer is in the form of three verses and responses which repeat the dialogue of the Archangel Gabriel with the Blessed Virgin Mary at the Annunciation (Luke 1). Each verse and response is followed by the *Hail Mary*.

The custom of praying the Angelus three times during the day (at 6 am, noon, and 6 pm) included the ringing of the Angelus Bell which called people to take time out of their busy workdays to pray. This custom has its roots in the great monastic traditions of the Benedictines and the piety of the Franciscans dating back at least to the 11th century. The prayer especially reminds us of the Incarnation of our Lord and the roles of the angels and Our Lady in the work of salvation.

This prayer is meant to be prayed in groups of two or more with a leader reciting the verse and the others offering the response, however it may be prayed individually with great spiritual benefit to the one who prays.

The US Bishops are inviting all Catholics to join them in the National Eucharistic Revival. From now until July of 2024 (when the National Eucharistic Congress takes place) we are endeavoring to strengthen our Eucharistic devotion and faith practice. As an aid to devotion, please download our Eucharistic Revival Supplement to this newsletter at our website (www.SitStandKneel.com).

THE ANGELUS

V. The Angel of the Lord declared unto Mary,

R. *And she conceived of the Holy Spirit.*

(Hail Mary...)

V. Behold the handmaid of the LORD.

R. *Be it done unto me according to thy word.*

(Hail Mary...)

V. And the Word was made flesh.

R. *And dwelt among us.*

(Hail Mary...)

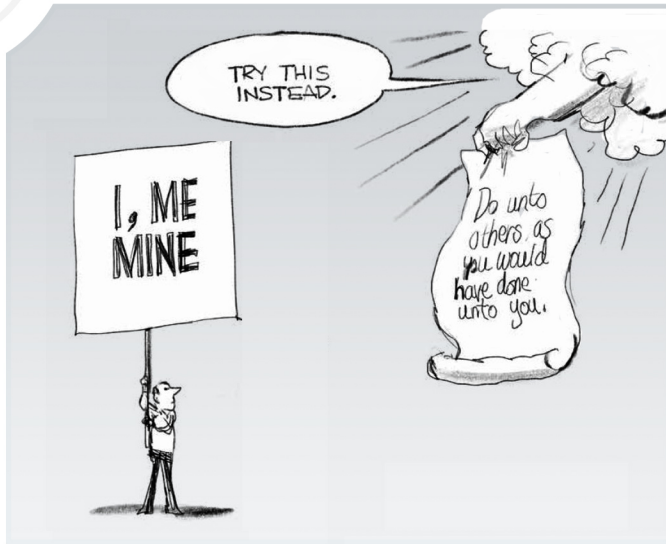
V. Pray for us, O Holy Mother of God.

R. *That we might be made worthy of the promises of Christ.*

Let us pray: Pour forth, we beseech Thee, O Lord, Thy grace into our hearts; that we to whom the Incarnation of Christ, Thy Son, was made known by the message of an angel, may by His Passion and Cross be brought to the glory of His Resurrection. Through the same Christ, Our Lord. Amen.

SPIRITUAL CHALLENGE

Let's take the opportunity during this month of October to renew our devotion to the Holy Rosary. The challenge is to learn all the mysteries (Joyful, Sorrowful, Glorious, and Luminous) and to pray the Rosary both individually and in the family. Our Lady of Fatima asked the shepherd children to pray the Rosary daily, and we should too!



— FAITH FUNDAMENTALS —



The Golden Rule

We're accustomed to thinking about "rules" as limitations on what we want to do. But when we talk about *the Golden Rule* we must think, instead, of a "ruler" – a yardstick that measures our own behavior.

In the Old Testament, behavior towards a neighbor was stated in the negative way: "Do not do to others what you yourself dislike" (Tobit 4:15). The teaching outlined a minimum type of justice: just don't hurt others. The Lord's words in the New Testament, however, raise the standard much higher. We are to evaluate and do what is positively good for our neighbor, the way we would want them to do good to us.

"Do to others whatever you would have them do to you. This is the law and the prophets." ~ Matthew 7:12

In other words, we are to measure "good" and "bad" in our relationships by our own basic human need to be treated fairly. If it's good for me... it's probably also good for thee.

— CATECHISM CONNECTION —



1776 Deep within his conscience man discovers a law which he has not laid upon himself but which he must obey. Its voice, ever calling him to love and to do what is good and to avoid evil, sounds in his heart at the right moment.

1970 The Law of the Gospel requires us to... put into practice the words of the Lord. It is summed up in the Golden Rule, "Whatever you wish that men would do to you, do so to them; this is the law and the prophets." The entire Law of the Gospel is contained in the "new commandment" of Jesus, to love one another as he has loved us.

CALENDAR OF FAITH | October

OCT 1 Sun	St. Therese of the Child Jesus, Virgin and Dr.
OCT 2 Mon	Feast of the Guardian Angels
OCT 5 Thu	Blessed Francis Xavier Seelos, Priest
OCT 6 Fri	Blessed Marie-Rose Durocher, Virgin
OCT 7 Sat	Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary
OCT 9 Mon	Sts. Denis, companions, Bishop and Martyrs
OCT 14 Sat	St. Callistus I, Pope and Martyr
OCT 15 Sun	St. Teresa of Jesus, Virgin and Doctor
OCT 16 Mon	St. Margaret Mary Alcoque, Virgin
OCT 17 Tue	St. Ignatius of Antioch, Bishop and Martyr
OCT 19 Thu	Sts. John de Brébuf and Isaac Jogues and companions (the North American Martyrs), Priests and Martyrs
OCT 20 Fri	St. Paul of the Cross, Priest
OCT 22 Sun	St. John Paul II, Pope
OCT 23 Mon	St. John of Capistrano, Priest
OCT 24 Tue	St. Anthony Mary Claret, Bishop
OCT 29 Sun	Sts. Simon and Jude, Apostles
OCT 30 Mon	Vigil of the Solemnity of All Saints

— BIBLE BASICS —



Colossians 3:12-13 Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, heartfelt compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience, bearing with one another and forgiving one another, if one has a grievance against another; as the Lord has forgiven you, so must you also do.

— THE SCHOOL OF SAINTS —



At the end of life we will not be judged by how many diplomas we have received, how much money we have made, how many great things we have done. We will be judged by "I was hungry, and you gave me something to eat, I was naked and you clothed me. I was homeless, and you took me in." ~ **Mother Teresa of Calcutta**

Praying with the National Eucharistic Revival

The Golden Arrow Prayer – May the most holy, most sacred, most adorable, most incomprehensible and unutterable Name of God be always praised, blessed, loved, adored and glorified in Heaven, on earth, and under the earth, by all the creatures of God, and by the Sacred Heart of Our Lord Jesus Christ, in the Most Holy Sacrament of the Altar. Amen.