

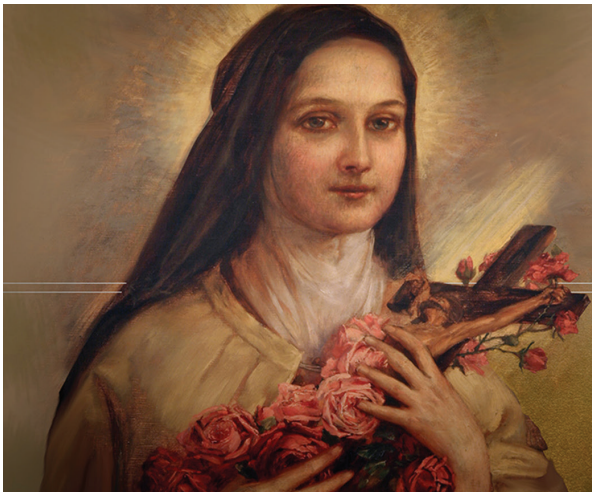


A Newsletter from the Missions Office/Pontifical Mission Societies in the United States
Catholic Diocese of Columbus, Ohio



SEPTEMBER 2022

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Universal Missionary Patroness

St. Therese OF THE LISIEUX

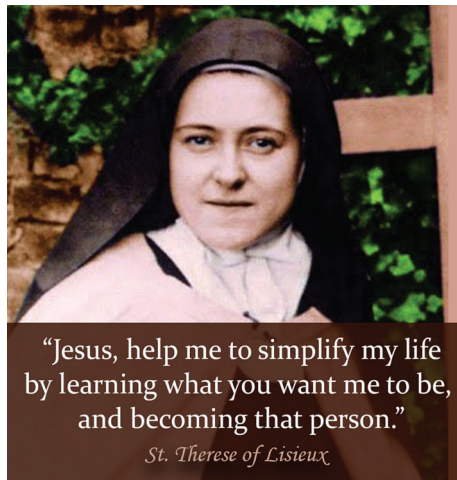


October 1st is the Feast day of St. Therese of Lisieux. She is the universal patroness of the missions, not because she ever went anywhere, but because of her special love of the missions, and the prayers and letters she gave in support of missionaries.

St. Therese of Lisieux expressed her fervent wish to serve God as a missionary. She wrote in her famous auto biography, *Story of a Soul* that, "In spite of my littleness, I would like to enlighten souls as did the Prophets and the Doctors. I have the vocation of the Apostles. I would like to travel over the whole earth to preach your Name and to plant your glorious cross on infidel soil. But...one mission alone would not be sufficient for me, I would want to preach the Gospel on all the five continents simultaneously and even to the most remote isles. I would be a missionary, not for a few years only, but from the beginning of creation until the consummation of the ages."

This is a reminder to all of us who feel we can do nothing, it is the little things that keep God's kingdom growing. She also said, "I feel in me the vocation of the

Priest. I have the vocation of the Apostle. Martyrdom was the dream of my youth and this dream has grown with me. Considering the mystical body of the Church, I desired to see myself in them all. Charity gave me the key to my vocation. I understood that the Church had a Heart and that this



Heart was burning with love. I understood that Love comprised all vocations, that Love was everything, that it embraced all times and places...in a word, that it was eternal! Then in the excess of my delirious joy, I cried out: O Jesus, my Love...my vocation, at last I have found it...My vocation is

Love!"

She said, "Our Lord's love makes itself seen quite as much in the simplest of souls as in the most highly gifted, as long as there is no resistance offered to his grace." (*Story of a Soul*, Ms. A., Knox translation).

St. Therese teaches that the uniqueness of prayer life inspire of our busy life, we can rely on her teaching and admire on her love for Jesus. Also how she earns for His love and How she unites with Him at all times. The writings of her letters evident of her union with God. "In times of aridity when I am incapable of praying, of practicing virtue, I seek little opportunities, mere trifles, to give pleasure to Jesus; for instance a smile, a pleasant word when inclined to be silent and to show weariness. If I find no opportunities, I at least tell Him again and again that I love Him; that is not difficult and it keeps alive the fire in my heart. Even though this fire of love might seem extinct I would still throw little straws upon the embers and I am certain it would rekindle" (*XVI letter to her sister Celine*).

To monthly mission donors: Thank you for your support!

On behalf of His Excellency, Most Rev. Bishop Earl K. Fernandes and Monsignor Kieran Harrington, the National Director of the Pontifical Missions in the United States, I would like to thank you for your prayers, sacrifices and financial assistance.

Quest ●●● Instead of putting others in their place try putting yourself in their place.

Quip ●●● It is better to understand little than to misunderstood a lot(France)

Quote ●●● “But to obtain these gifts, you need more than faith; you must also work hard to be good, and even that is not enough. For then you must learn to know God better and discover what he wants you to do. Next, learn to put aside your own desires so that you will become patient and godly. gladly letting God have his way with you. This will make possible the next step. Which is for you to enjoy other people and to like them, and finally you will grow to love them deeply” (2 Peter 1: 5-7).

A Moral Story

Building Bridges!

Once upon a time, two brothers who lived on adjoining farms fell into conflict. It was the first serious rift in forty years of farming side by side, sharing machinery, and trading labor and goods as needed without a hitch, Then the long collaboration fell apart.

It began with a small misunderstanding and it grew into a major difference, and finally it exploded into an exchange of bitter words followed by weeks of silence.

One morning there was a knock on John’s door. He opened it to find a man with a carpenter’s tool toolbox. “I’m looking for a few days work,” he said.

“Perhaps you could have some small jobs here and there I could help with? Could I help you?”

“Yes”, said the older brother. “I do have a job for you. Look across the creek at that farm. That’s my neighbor, in fact, its my younger brother”.

Last week there was a meadow between us and he took his bulldozer to the river levee and now there is a creek between us.

“Well, he may have done this to spite me, but I’ll do him one better. See that pile of lumber by the barn? I want you to build me a fence— an eight –foot fence – So I won’t need to see his place or his face anymore”.

The carpenter said, “I think I understand the situation. Show me the nails and the post-hole digger and I’ll be able to do a job that please you.”

The older brother had to go to town, so he helped the carpenter get the materials ready and then he was off for the day.

The carpenter worked hard all day measuring, sawing, nailing. About sun set when then farmer returned, the carpenter had just finished his job.

The farmer’s eye’s opened wide, his jaw dropped. There was no fence there at all. It was a bridge. A bridge stretching from one side of the creek to the other!

A fine piece of work, handrails and all.... And the neighbor, his younger brother was coming across, his hand outstretched. “You are quite a fellow to build this bridge after all I’ve said and done.”

The two brothers stood at each end of the bridge, and then they met in middle, taking each other’s hand.

They turned to see the carpenter hoist his tool box on his shoulder.

“No. wait! Stay a few days. I’ve a lot of other projects for you,” said the older brother.

“I’ do love to stay on,” the said, “but I have many more bridges to build.”

Saint Francis of Assisi Feast Day October 4, 2022

World Mission Day
Mass is Saturday...

October 22, 2022, 5:15 p.m.

St. Joseph Cathedral

Celebrant:

Bishop Earl Fernandes

POPE FRANCIS' PRAYER INTENTIONS:

OCTOBER - We pray for the Church; ever faithful to, and courageous in preaching the Gospel, may the Church be a community of solidarity, fraternity and welcome, always living in an atmosphere of synodality.

NOVEMBER - We pray for children who are suffering, especially those who are homeless, orphans, and victims of war; may they be guaranteed access to education and the opportunity to experience family affection.



Sr. Zephрина Mary, FIH, *Missions Director*



Kimberly S. Colston, *Program Coordinator*