

From our Pastor

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

This Wednesday marks the beginning of October, a month filled with beautiful feasts that remind us of God's closeness and the communion of saints.

Why We Celebrate the Saints

When we celebrate the saints, we are reminded of the countless ways God's grace works in human lives. The saints encourage us by their example, pray for us from heaven, and show us that holiness is possible for everyone—not just a few. By honoring them, we give glory to God who made them holy, and we find strength for our own journey of faith.

October 1 – St. Thérèse of the Child Jesus

Known as the “Little Flower,” St. Thérèse entered the Carmelite convent at a young age and died at just 24. In her “little way,” she teaches us that holiness is found not in great deeds, but in doing ordinary things with great love. She reminds us that each moment is an opportunity to walk in the loving embrace of our Heavenly Father.

October 2 – The Guardian Angels

This day is especially meaningful in our Diocese of Gary, since our cathedral is dedicated to the Holy Angels. Each of us has a guardian angel to guide and protect us on our journey to heaven. It's a wonderful time to renew our trust in their help and to pray the simple, timeless prayer many of us learned as children:

Angel of God, my guardian dear, to whom God's love commits me here, ever this day be at my side, to light and guard, to rule and guide. Amen.

October 4 – St. Francis of Assisi

St. Francis is remembered for his love of creation, his devotion to poverty, and his deep reverence for the Eucharist. He saw God's presence in all creation and especially in his neighbor. His example calls us to live with detachment, gratitude, and love, setting our hearts on heaven.

October 7 – Our Lady of the Rosary

This feast gives October its title as the “Month of the Rosary.” The Rosary is a powerful, scriptural prayer that leads us to Christ through His Blessed Mother. When prayed with faith and love, it brings peace, strengthens virtue, and sows seeds of forgiveness. I encourage you to make time for this prayer during the month and to discover its beauty and power in your daily life.

October 15 – St. Teresa of Jesus (Avila)

St. Teresa of Jesus, also a Carmelite, was a great mystic and reformer of her order. She teaches us about prayer, trust in God, and perseverance in the spiritual life. Her writings encourage us to deepen our relationship with Christ and to seek Him above all else. On her feast, we can ask her guidance in living a life of prayer, courage, and faithfulness to God's will.

These feasts remind us that we are never alone. The saints and angels intercede for us, cheering us on in faith as members of the mystical Body of Christ. They show us what it looks like to live the Gospel fully and encourage us to persevere, even when life feels ordinary or difficult. Their prayers strengthen us, their example inspires us, and their friendship reminds us that holiness is not beyond our reach. As we honor them, we grow closer to Christ Himself, who is the source of all holiness and the crown of every saint.

Peace,
Fr. Dave