



Some Thoughts for September, 2022

By Marge Loenser:

Welcome September! We say goodbye to summer fun and hello to a new school year. (Not so easy to do, if you're a kid) Goodbye to summer and hello to autumn. September gets its name from the early Roman calendar; way back then it was the seventh month of the year. It comes from the Latin word "septem" meaning seven. I'd like to say they should have changed it to the Latin word for number 9, being that September is the 9th month, but, (are you ready?) -- the Latin word for 9 is "novem" I'm confused.

We celebrate our Blessed Mother's birthday on the 8th. As your children, Mother Mary, we can never thank you enough for your "fiat" and for becoming the mother of our Lord Jesus Christ. From the cross Jesus gave you to us, so you are our mother forever. Always keep us under the mantle of your love. Happy Birthday!

On the 11th, which is "Patriot's Day" we remember and honor our many fellow countrymen who died during those horrific attacks on our country. We remember and pray for those that were killed and for those that mourn their loss.

Of the many saints we celebrate this month, St. Pius or St. Padre Pio stands out. This humble priest suffered the stigmata for 50 years. He was known to read hearts, and if you went to him for confession, there was no hiding your sins, from what I read, he could tell the one confessing that he left something out, if indeed he did. He was known to bi-locate. One of my favorite stories about him was when he appeared to a lost airman way up in the clouds, during WWII and showed him the way to his base. St. Padre Pio, please pray for us.

This month we celebrate St. Matthew, author of the first of the gospels. He was a hated tax collector when Jesus called him to follow. It must have been hard for the other apostles to learn to trust him, but in time I'm sure they did. His gospel gives us the account of the visit of the Magi to Bethlehem. St. Matthew was killed by the King of Ethiopia while celebrating Mass. St. Matthew please pray for us.

We celebrate the Archangels on the 29th. St. Michael, St. Gabriel and St. Raphael. St. Michael it was you and your angels that drove Lucifer and the other fallen angels out of heaven. St. Gabriel, you had the awesome task of making the Annunciation to our Blessed Mother, and it is said that you will blow your horn to announce Judgment Day. St. Raphael, in the Book of Tobit you are a healer and a guide.

We need the protection of the three of you and all the angels every day. We pray that you continue to protect us and our church. My brothers and sisters in Christ, let us continue to keep each other in prayer. These times are very challenging, and we need God in our lives more than ever. Amen.



Marge Loenser is a member of Saint Mark's Church in Sea Girt where she is Lector and Eucharistic Minister. She has retired from teaching CCD at Saint Mark's. She has been a member of Catholic Women of Zion for about 30 years and is also a member of Mary Queen of Peace Prayer Community for about the same length of time. She writes for a monthly column for Saint Mark's Church Bulletin.