



October Month of the Holy Rosary

October falls during the liturgical season known as Tempus per Annum or [Ordinary Time](#) (formerly Time After Pentecost), which is represented by the liturgical color green. Green is a symbol of hope, as it is the color of the sprouting seed and arouses in the faithful the hope of reaping the eternal harvest of heaven, especially the hope of a glorious resurrection. The liturgical color green is worn during the praying of Offices and celebration of Masses of Ordinary Time.

The Holy Father's Intentions for the Month of October 2026

For mental health ministry: Let us pray that the mental health ministry be established throughout the Church, helping to overcome the stigma and discrimination of persons with mental illnesses. (See also <http://www.popesprayerusa.net/>)

Feasts for October 2026

1. [Thérèse of the Child Jesus](#), *Memorial*
2. [Holy Guardian Angels](#), *Memorial*
4. [TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME](#), *Sunday*
5. [Bl. Francis Xavier Seelos \(USA\); St. Faustina Kowalska](#), *Opt. Mem.*
6. [Bruno; Bl. Marie Rose Durocher \(USA and CAN\)](#), *Opt. Mem.*
7. [Our Lady of the Rosary](#), *Memorial*
11. [TWENTY-EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME](#), *Sunday*
14. [Callistus I](#), *Opt. Mem.*
15. [Teresa of Jesus](#), *Memorial*

16. *Hedwig; Margaret Mary Alacoque, Opt. Mem.*
 17. *Ignatius of Antioch, Memorial*
 18. *TWENTY-NINTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, Sunday*
 19. *John de Brebeuf, Isaac Jogues and Companions (USA), Memorial*
 20. *Paul of the Cross, Opt. Mem.*
 22. *John Paul II, Opt. Mem.*
 23. *John of Capistrano, Opt. Mem.*
 24. *Anthony Mary Claret, Opt. Mem.*
 25. *THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, Sunday*
 28. *Simon & Jude, Apostles, Feast*
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Focus of the Liturgy

The Gospels for the Sundays in October 2026 are taken from Gospel of St. Matthew for Cycle A; Weekdays follow Year II.

October 4th Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time	Cycle A: Matthew 21:33-43: He will lease his vineyard to other tenants.
October 11th Twenty-Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time	Cycle A: Matthew 22:1-14: Invite to the wedding feasts whoever you find.
October 18th Twenty-Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time	Cycle A: Matthew 22:15-21: Repay to Caesar what belongs to Caesar and to God what belongs to God.
October 25th Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time	Cycle A: Matthew 22:34-40: You shall love the Lord your God and your neighbor as yourself.

Highlights of the Month

October, as in all of *Tempus per Annum*, or Ordinary Time (formerly known as *Time After Pentecost*), the Liturgy does not focus on one particular mystery of Christ, but views the mystery of Christ in all its aspects. We follow the life of Christ through the Gospels, and focus on the teachings and parables of Jesus and what it means for each of us to be a follower of Christ.



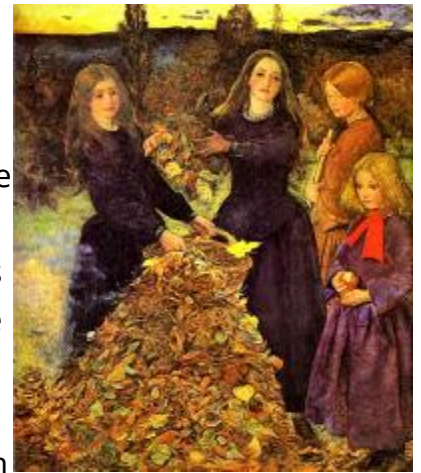
This month the main liturgical feasts are:

St. Thérèse (October 1),
Guardian Angels (October 2),
b>St. Faustina and **Bl. Francis Xavier Seelos (USA)** (October 5),
St. Bruno (October 6),
Our Lady of the Rosary (October 7),
St. Denis, St. John Leonardi and St. John Henry Newman (October 9),
St. Carlo Acutis (October 12),
St. Callistus I (October 14),
St. Teresa of Jesus (October 15),
Sts. Hedwig and Margaret Mary Alocque (October 16),
St. Ignatius of Antioch (October 17),
Sts. John de Brébeuf, Isaac Jogues, and Companions (October 19),
St. Paul of the Cross (October 20),
St. John Paul II (October 22),
St. John Capistrano (October 23),
St. Anthony Mary Claret (October 24), and
Sts. Simon and Jude (October 28).

The commemorations of **St. Francis of Assisi** (October 4), **St. John XXIII** (October 11), and the feast of **St. Luke** (October 18), fall on a Sunday so they are superseded by the Sunday Liturgy.

Autumn Festivities

The autumn season manifests itself with wonderful fall foliage in many parts of the country. The temperatures are cooler, inviting people outdoors for nature walks, apple or pumpkin picking. School routines are more established and football season is in full swing. The celebrations of the Church for the month of October are also wonderful and unique. The feasts of some of the most popular saints of the universal Church are celebrated during this month: St. Thérèse the Little Flower (France), St. Francis of Assisi (Italy) and St. Teresa of Avila (Spain). These saints come from different countries, and in honoring these saints we can include cultural dishes or activities from each country to make the feastday even more special. Read more about the lives of these saints. Perhaps members of the family can ponder one virtue that each saint practiced well and try to implement it.



The feasts in October also include two of the most popular, time-honored devotions of Catholics, the devotion to the **Holy Rosary** (October 7) and the **Guardian Angels** (October 2). In October 2002 St. John Paul II wrote the Apostolic Letter ***Rosarium Virginis Mariae (the Rosary of the Virgin Mary)***."

This letter introduced five new mysteries, called the Luminous or Mysteries of Light, which are:

1. Jesus' Baptism in the Jordan
2. Jesus' self manifestation at the wedding of Cana
3. Proclamation of the Kingdom of God, with the call to conversion
4. the Transfiguration, and
5. the Institution of the Eucharist.

Try to make a more concerted effort to pray the Rosary together as a family during the month of October, read the Apostolic Letter to understand the beauty of this devotion more deeply, and pray the Luminous mysteries.

Every person has a guardian angel assigned to them, and October 2 the Church celebrates the role of these Guardian Angels. We should show devout gratitude to God for placing these angels at our service. Having a guardian should give us confidence during all of life's difficulties. Every Catholic should know the [Angele Dei](#) (Angel of God) prayer and pray it often. The [Directory on Popular Piety](#) suggests that families pray it at morning and evening prayers or after the [Angelus](#).

All Hallows' Eve or Halloween heralds the month of November with emphasis on the Communion of Saints, especially the Church Suffering (the Poor Souls in Purgatory) and the second coming of Christ or Parousia. This last day of October on the secular calendar is second only to Christmas in commercial preparations. The Christian focus is on the Communion of Saints and the Last Things. As Christians living a "Catholic Culture", we can try to explore the Christian roots of the [Halloween](#) festivities.



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