



Prayers for the Sick

Let us pray for the sick, especially our Associates, Sisters of Mercy, family members, friends and caregivers. May God touch them with comfort, healing and strength.

We pray for people who are on our list this week – Jaxon McKinney (grandnephew of Sister Maureen O'Keefe), Diane Hickey (sister-in-law of Cathy Hickey), Theresa Lacey (sister of Annie Brown), Marilyn Thurston, Patricia King, Sylvia Flood, Kevin Drover (husband of Geraldine Drover), Marion Bonia (sister of Anne Marie Davis), Sister Theresa Boland, George Bradbury (husband of Barbara Bradbury), Jim Wakeford (nephew of Sister Maureen O'Keefe), Mike Kelly (husband of Anna Kelly), Anne Walsh, Sister Maureen O'Keefe, Michelle Furlong, and Mona Dwyer (sister of Geraldine Drover).

(If you wish to have your name or another person's name added to or removed from this list please let

Sharon Drover know @ drover.sharon@yahoo.ca.)



Prayer for the Sick

Through the Intercession of
Catherine McAuley

God of Love and Mercy,
You inspired Catherine McAuley,
To serve your Son by responding

To the needs of her time.
Moved by her care for the Sick,
We ask that through Her Prayers
You reach out with Your Healing
Love

And restore them to full health
We ask this in complete
Confidence through Jesus Christ,
Your Son
Amen.
Catherine McAuley, Pray For Us
Amen.

***Happy
Birthday
Wishes to***

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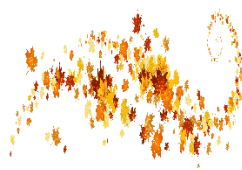


Michelle Furlong - October 2nd
Catherine Penney Ryan - October 16th

Light a Candle



Let us continue, in solidarity with Mercy Sisters, Associates and Colleagues around the world, to light a candle and pray for justice and peace. (Image-Jody Featherston Blog)



Notes from the Associates/Sisters

ITEMS OF INTEREST

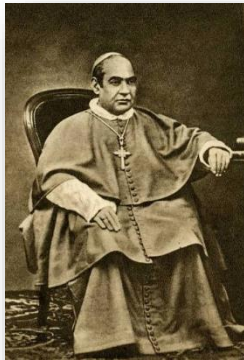


Mercy Wellsprings

We need constantly to
contemplate the
mystery of mercy.
It is a wellspring of joy,
Serenity, and peace ...
From the heart of
the Trinity, from the depths of the
mystery
of God, the great river of mercy
wells up
and overflows unceasingly. It is
a spring that will never run dry,
no matter how many people draw
from it.

Misericordiae vultus #2, #25

St. Anthony Mary Claret



Feast Day October 24th

On Oct 24th, the Church turns its attention to a missionary preacher in Spain who eventually led a revival of the faith and founded the Missionary Sons of the Immaculate Heart of Mary.

St. Anthony Mary Claret was born on Dec. 23, 1807, in Bages county in the Province of Barcelona. The fifth of 11 children, he received his early education before becoming a weaver at 12. He then furthered his trade, studying in Barcelona when he was 18, continuing until he was 20. Along with learning to weave, he became fluent in Latin and French and learned to engrave as well.

Later he felt a call to the religious life. He entered a diocesan seminary in the province of

Barcelona, Spain, in 1829, and was ordained a priest on June 13, 1835. After four years of parish duties and continued theological study, he began to feel a pull toward missionary work. Although illness delayed him, he was eventually sent by his superiors to Catalonia as an apostolic missionary to serve those who had suffered from French invasions.

When he returned, on July 16, 1849, he established the Congregation of the Missionary Sons of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, also known as The Claretians.

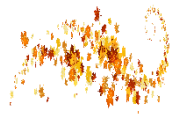
By this time, he was also serving as Archbishop of Santiago de Cuba. He was known as an exceptional preacher and was even called upon to be the confessor of Queen Isabella II in Spain in 1857.

When his health began to fail in the late 1860s, he retired from active ministry.

St. Anthony Mary Claret died on Oct. 24, 1870, at Cistercian abbey at Fontfroide, Narbonne in southern France. He was 62. He was canonized by Pope Pius XII on May 7, 1950.

Patron Saint of: Weavers, textile merchants, the Catholic press,

savings banks, and the Claretian religious order.



The Archival Moment

*The Archival Moment is contributed by
Sister Charlotte Fitzpatrick.*

An Archival Moment – Sister M. Madeline Bernard Stephenson

Lucretia Mary Stephenson was one of seven children born to Kate (Meehan) and John Stephenson. The Stephenson family hailed from Poole, England, but in 1804 Lucretia's grandfather, a naval doctor, left England for Newfoundland. He went to Burin where he was appointed Justice of the Peace. He decided to settle there and shortly after, brought his whole family to Burin and set

up a successful medical practice there.

After his death, all his family except for Lucretia's father John moved back to England. John eventually settled in Ferryland where he became Sheriff of the Southern District, a position he held until his death in 1872.

The actual date of Lucretia's birth is unknown, although it probably occurred in the mid or late 1840s. Nothing is known of her early life prior to her entrance to the Sisters of Mercy in March of 1874. She was received into the novitiate at Mercy Convent on September 7, 1874 as Sister Mary Madeline Bernard, and made profession of vows on September 25, 1876.

Sister M. Madeline lived and ministered at Mercy Convent from the time of her entrance until 1885. For some of those years she taught at Guardian Angels School, a pre-school for boys and girls which operated at Mercy Convent from 1881 until 1896. A congratulatory letter sent to the Sisters on the centenary of their arrival in St. John's from John Fitzhenry, a former student of Guardian Angels School, speaks of

Sister M. Madeline as one of his teachers and a girlhood friend of his mother.

In 1885 Sister M. Madeline went to St. Anne's Convent in Burin, where she died little more than a year later in November of 1886. According to her obituary in the *Daily Columnist* of November 27, 1886 "her health had never been robust and she frequently suffered from illness ...For nearly two months before her death she was confined to bed, a victim of extreme suffering."

Sister M. Madeline is one of the six Sisters of Mercy buried in Burin.



German Potato Salad

Ingredients:

2 lb. baby potatoes, halved

6 slices bacon

1 red onion, finely chopped

6 Tbsp. apple cider vinegar

3 Tbsp. water

2 Tbsp. extra-virgin olive oil

2 Tbsp. whole grain Dijon mustard

1 tsp. granulated sugar

salt and pepper to taste

4 green onions, sliced

Directions

Step 1

In a large pot, cover potatoes with water and season generously with salt. Bring water to a boil and cook until potatoes are easily pierced with a knife, 15 to 20 minutes. Drain and let cool slightly before transferring to a large serving bowl.

Step 2

In a large skillet over medium heat, cook bacon until crispy, about 8 minutes. Reserve about 2 Tbsp. fat in pan, and transfer bacon to a paper towel-lined plate to drain.

Step 3

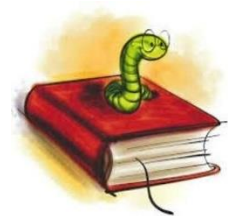
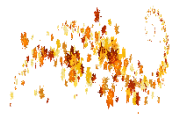
Add a finely diced red onion and cook over medium heat until starting to soften, about 3 minutes. Whisk in in apple cider vinegar, water, olive oil, Dijon mustard, and sugar. Bring mixture to a simmer, then remove from heat; season with salt and pepper.

Step 4

Stir in green onions and gradually pour mixture over potatoes. Crumble bacon over potatoes.

Step 5

Toss to combine and serve warm.



From Kitty's
Library

A Good Read...

Windswept, - a novel –
by Karen Lundy



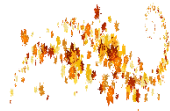
When a plane ticket arrives from Newfoundland, Terri Withers is forced to confront the past she's spent ten years running from. Her grandfather is dying. The place she swore she'd never return to is calling her home.

Withers Cove is not just a town – it's a fault line of betrayal, devotion, and buried truths. It's where Terry's mother was rejected, where her father stayed behind, and where a family fracture has festered for decades. As Terri steps into her grandfather's care and reclaims her childhood name, Tara, she is drawn into stories of wartime love, sacrifice, and choices that reshaped generations.

But the version of the past Tara has always believed begins to unravel. Tara realizes the story of her parents' escape was not an act of weakness, but survival. And the truth carries a cost.

In a land as unforgiving as it is beautiful, grief becomes reckoning. Love becomes dangerous. And when a single misstep leaves Tara fighting for her life, she must decide whether she's ready to claim not just her inheritance, but her future.

Windswept is a story about family legacies, devastating secrets, and the courage it takes to choose who you become – when the past refuses to stay buried.



We strongly encourage you to go to our mercy website: www.sistersofmercynf.org and have a look at the ASSOCIATE section. There are many new additions, lots of photos and some videos. Should you have any issues getting onto the website, please let us know and we will provide assistance.

We hope that you will enjoy and be encouraged to keep working for the growth of our Mercy Associate relationship.

Poetry Pause For Thanksgiving

Good To Set Aside

Poet Unknown

It is good
To set aside a day when we
remember
That the beauty about us —
The land, the sea, the sky,
And all that is,
Is not as a result of our power,
But really, truly
Because of the Divine love
And providence of God
Who cares.

Father, instill in us
A right spirit,
So that what we see
Is not so much
The many things we have
For our own,
But what others do not have
To call their own.
Thus — in this light
Let us be thankful.

Thanksgiving — quite
inexpressible in words
Yet adequately expressed
In little deeds or silent gifts
That arise spontaneously
Almost sympathetically
When the chord of love is struck.

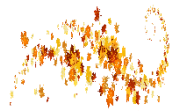
Thus, in the touch of a moment
We express something almost
inexpressible
And we give thanks.



Meditation

“Prayer, for me, is simply a raising of the heart, a simple glance towards Heaven, an expression of love and gratitude in the midst of trial, as well as in times of joy; in a word, it is something noble and supernatural expanding my soul and uniting it to God. Whenever my soul is so dry that I am incapable of a single good thought, I always say an Our Father or a Hail Mary very slowly, and these prayers alone cheer me up and nourish my soul with divine food.”

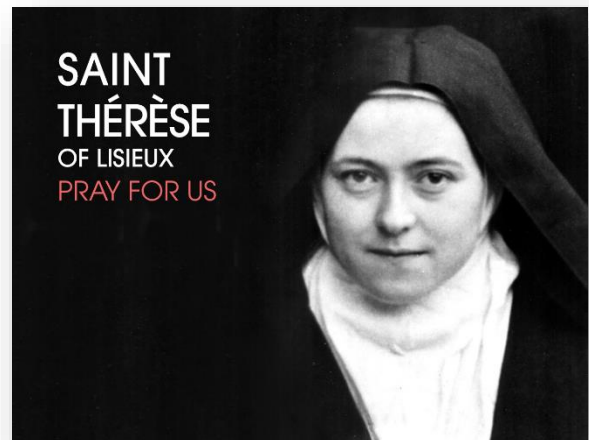
- St. Therese of Lisieux



Today's Quote

“A word or a smile is often enough to put fresh life in a despondent soul.”

- St. Therese of Lisieux



St. Therese of Lisieux - Feast Day October 1st

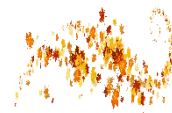
St. Therese of Lisieux (1873-1897) was the last of nine children born to Saints Louis and Zélie Martin in Alençon, France. Her family was devoutly religious, and all five surviving siblings, all daughters, entered the convent. From an early age Therese desired to give herself totally to Jesus. Her happy childhood gave way to trial

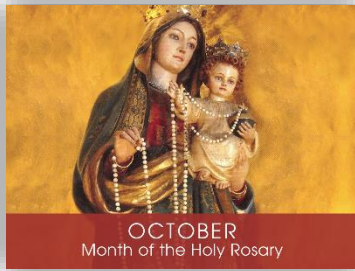
following the death of her mother when she was four years old. This event changed her personality from merry and bright to withdrawn and sensitive. She also suffered a strange illness that brought her near death. Her sisters prayed for her recovery, and Therese was completely healed after she saw the Virgin Mary statue in her room smile down on her. Just before her 14th birthday, on Christmas Eve, Therese had a mystical experience of the Child Jesus. Her sensitiveness disappeared and her faith was greatly fortified. She attended daily Mass with her father and cultivated her strong desire for the salvation of souls. At the age of 15 she obtained special permission to enter the Carmelite convent in Lisieux where two of her sisters were professed. Recognizing her youth and weakness, and unable to do the great things for God in the world that her heart desired, she determined that she would follow the path of spiritual childhood at the feet of Jesus, as his "Little Flower", and instead focus on small acts of kindness for love of Jesus and interior acts of self-denial, a spirituality called "The Little Way." Therese died of

Tuberculosis at the age of 24, and her high degree of holiness was discovered through her autobiography, *Story of a Soul*.

Her "Little Way" became profoundly influential around the world, and although she was not a learned scholar, her deep theological life caused Pope St. John Paul II to declare her a Doctor of the Church.

She is the patron against sickness, tuberculosis, and loss of parents, as well as of pilots, air crews, florists, missionaries, and the sick. St. Therese of Lisieux's feast day is October 1st.





- Morning Offering

Prayer for the Month of the Rosary:

O Virgin Mary, grant that the recitation of your Rosary may be for me each day, in the midst of my many duties, a bond of unity in my actions, a tribute of filial piety, a sweet refreshment, an encouragement to walk joyfully along the path of duty. Grant, above all, O Virgin Mary, that the study of your mysteries may form in my soul, little by little, a luminous atmosphere, pure, strengthening, and fragrant, which may penetrate my understanding, my will, my heart, my memory, my imagination, my whole being. So shall I acquire the habit of praying while I work, without the aid of formal prayers, by interior acts of admiration and of supplication, or by aspirations of love. I ask this of you, O Queen of the holy Rosary, through Saint Dominic, your son

of predilection, the renowned preacher of your mysteries, and the faithful imitator of your virtues. Amen.



OTHER NEWS...

Sister Joanne O'Regan (Sister of St. Martha) and Sister Mary Rowell (Sister of St. Joseph) were meeting in St. John's this past week with Vocations Canada board members.



Enjoying a lunch at the Rooms

Left to Right: Sr. Joanne O'Regan, Sr. Eileen Penney, Anne Walsh, Sr. Diane Smyth
Sr. Mary Rowsell, Sr. Marcella Grant and Sr. Maureen O'Keefe

On September 21, 2026 the YWCA St. John's Circle of Distinction Awards were announced.

Filmmaker Mary Sexton and community leader Lorraine Michael shared the prestigious Lifetime Achievement Award.

*Mary is the daughter of Sarah Sexton



MARY SEXTON

Mary Sexton (she/her) is an award-winning producer, writer, director, and mentor. She has worked in the film and television industry for over 35 years, and the running theme of her work is stories that promote conversation, understanding, inclusion, and acceptance.



Her most recent productions are award-winning feature film *Skeet*, and documentary *A Newfound Home - Safaa's Kitchen*.

She is a proud member of the Directors' Guild of Canada, is NL board representative for the Canadian Media Producers' Association, has served as a mentor to upcoming BIPOC filmmakers with Picture NL, and was named Industry Trailblazer by St. John's International Women's Film Festival in 2024.





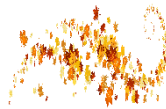
2026 Circle of Distinction

LORRAINE MICHAEL

Lorraine Michael (she/her) is a former nun, educator, feminist and social activist who was a political trailblazer in NL. Lorraine led the NL NDP from 2006 to 2015 and was an MHA until 2019. As well, she served as Executive Director of Women in Resource Development Corporation, championing women's participation in trades and technology in the resource sector.



She was a founding member of the Coalition for Equality and St. John's Oxfam, and involved with Newfoundland Association for Full Employment and Ten Days for World Development. Currently, Lorraine actively supports the Ocean Ranger Legacy Foundation, work to preserve the history of the Lebanese community in NL, and Solidarity for Palestine.



On Saturday Sept 26th at The Lantern, The Presentation sisters hosted a gathering as part of their 250th Celebratory Year. Grainne Doherty, a Scripture Scholar from County Donegal, Ireland was the guest speaker and her topic was "Women in the Bible".

Here are a few pictures of the day we had together. Associates from Presentation, Mercy and Redemptorists, along with lay and religious were in attendance.



Grainne Doherty, guest speaker – "Women in the Bible"







the
LAST WORD

*”My God,
I am Yours
for time and eternity.
Teach me to cast myself entirely
into the arms of
Your loving Providence
with the most lively unlimited
confidence in Your
compassionate, tender pity.
Grant me,
O most merciful Redeemer,
that whatever
You ordain or permit
may be acceptable to me.
Take from my heart all painful anxiety;
suffer nothing to sadden me, but sin,*

*nothing to delight me but the hope
of coming to the possession of You,
my God and my all,
in Your everlasting Kingdom.*

Amen.”

- Catherine McAuley

