

October/December 2017

# Missionary of the **HOLY FACE** BLESSSED MARIA PIERINA DE MICHELLI

Quarterly magazine of the Daughters of the Immaculate Conception of Buenos Aires

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YEAR XXIII – New series

**131**



**2018**

A year  
dedicated to  
youthful to  
holiness

Missionary of the  
**HOLY FACE**  
BLESSED MARIA PIERINA DE MICHELI

# calendar

# 131

October-December 2017



With the approval of the Vicariate of Rome

Director: Aldo Morandin

To request the life, images, as well as to report graces and favours received through the intercession of Blessed Maria Pierina, please contact: Daughters of the Immaculate Conception of Buenos Aires – Via Ásimio Pollicone, 5 – 00153 Rome – Email: madrepierina@gmail.co

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# the calendar

*A year dedicated to youthful holiness*

# 2018

The 2018 calendar of Mother Maria Pierina De Micheli is dedicated to models of youthful holiness. It seemed to us to be an interesting way of coming to know life, reflecting on the virtues and praying to these witnesses of the Gospel. Each one will accompany us for a month, illuminating us with their example and faith in Christ.

The aim of presenting such models of holiness is to walk together with the Church, who in October 2018, will celebrate the XV Ordinary General Assembly of the Synod of Bishops on the theme: "Youth, Faith and Vocational Discernment". In this choice we are reminded of the words of Pope Francis addressed to the new generations during the prayer vigil in preparation for World Youth Day, which took place in the Roman Basilica of Santa Maria Maggiore, on 8 April 2017: "Life holds out a mission to young people today; the Church holds out a mission, and I would like to entrust you with this mission. It is to go back and talk to your grandparents. Today more than ever we need this bridge, this dialogue, between grandparents and grandchildren, between the young and the elderly". The Pope insists greatly on establishing dialogue between younger and older people, in order to foster a reciprocal enrichment.

Among the multitude of children, girls, boys, adolescents and youth spread throughout the history of the Church, we have chosen those who, having already received canonical recognition of heroic virtue and at least one miracle or martyrdom, have consequently been elevated to the honours of the altars as Blessed or Saints.

Why have we made this choice? In order to invite the faithful to reflect upon the call to holiness as universal and not bestowed upon one particular age over another. Such reflection demonstrates the possibility of reaching evangelical perfection in whatever state and situation one finds oneself in, because divine grace makes no distinctions. Among our chosen blessed or saints there are some who might already be known to the faithful; we are aware that in such limited space it was necessary to make a choice.

This calendar will also help us to remember how much the blessed Maria Pierina of Micheli had the destiny of the new generations in her heart, protecting and helping them, while proclaiming Jesus Christ and his Gospel. Here we particularly recall Mother Maria Pierina's activities in the Oratory of the Milanese Parish of Saint Peter in Sala, or her attention given to the girls who attended the school ran by the sisters.

Through everything, we allow ourselves to be guided by these young people who preceded us on this earth and were faithful disciples of the Teacher, glorifying Him with their lives and witnesses of faith.

*Editorial staff*



Missionary of the  
HOLY FACE  
BLESSED MARIA PIERINA DE MICHELI

131

# MOTHER MARIA PIERINA DE MICHELI

## DAUGHTERS OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF BUENOS AIRES

Blessed Maria Pierina was born in Milan on 11 September 1890. She grew up in charity, purity and sacrifice, and consecrated herself to God as a member of the "Daughters of the Immaculate Conception".

She remained faithful to her purpose "to give to Jesus, to give everything, always". She was an apostle of the devotion to the Holy Face of Jesus.

Mother Maria Pierina De Micheli is the first daughter of the Immaculate Conception of Buenos Aires to be rise to the altars.

She was beatified on 30 May 2010, in the Basilica of Saint Mary Major in Rome.

She lived a life of service of God and neighbour and in the consecration to the Virgin Mary. She worked daily to make known to everyone the Good News of the Gospel. She experienced an intense mystical life and received by Jesus visions and spiritual graces. Thus she became an apostle of the devotion to the Holy Face and gave all of herself in favour of priests and sinners.

The Virgin Mary appeared to her asking her to spread the scapular of the Holy Face which, with the permission of her confessor, was replaced by a coin. This medal has on the front the image of the Holy Face with the words, "Illumina Domine Vultum tuum super nos" and on the back a Host surrounded by rays with the words: "Mane nobiscum Domine".

Mother Maria Pierina died in Centonara of Artò (Novara) 26 July 1945.

To report graces and favours received through the intercession of the Blessed Maria Pierina please write to:

Istituto Spirito Santo - Via Asinio Pollione, 5-00153 Rome - Tel / Fax: 06/57302430  
email: madrepierina@gmail.com





Laura del Carmen Vicuña was born in Santiago, Chile in 1891. At two years of age her father died and she moved to Argentina with her mother. In 1900 she entered the college of the Daughters of Mary Help of Christians in Junín de los Andes, situated in the province of Neuquén. The following year she received her First Holy Communion and she made the promise to love God with her whole being, to mortify herself and die that she might not sin, to make Jesus known and to atone for offenses. After realising that her mother was living in a state of sin, she offered herself up to the Lord for her conversion. Laura intensified her asceticism, to the approval of her confessor, she radiated the evangelical counsels with a private vow. The night before her death, she confided: "Mum, I am dying! I have been asking Jesus for a while, offering Him my life for you, in order to secure your return to God... Mum, before my death will I not have the joy of seeing you penitent?" On the day of her funeral, her mother converted and began a new life. She died on 22 January 1904. She was beatified by John Paul II on 3 September 1988. Her mortal remains are venerated in the chapel of the Daughters of Mary Help of Christians in Bahía Blanca in Argentina.



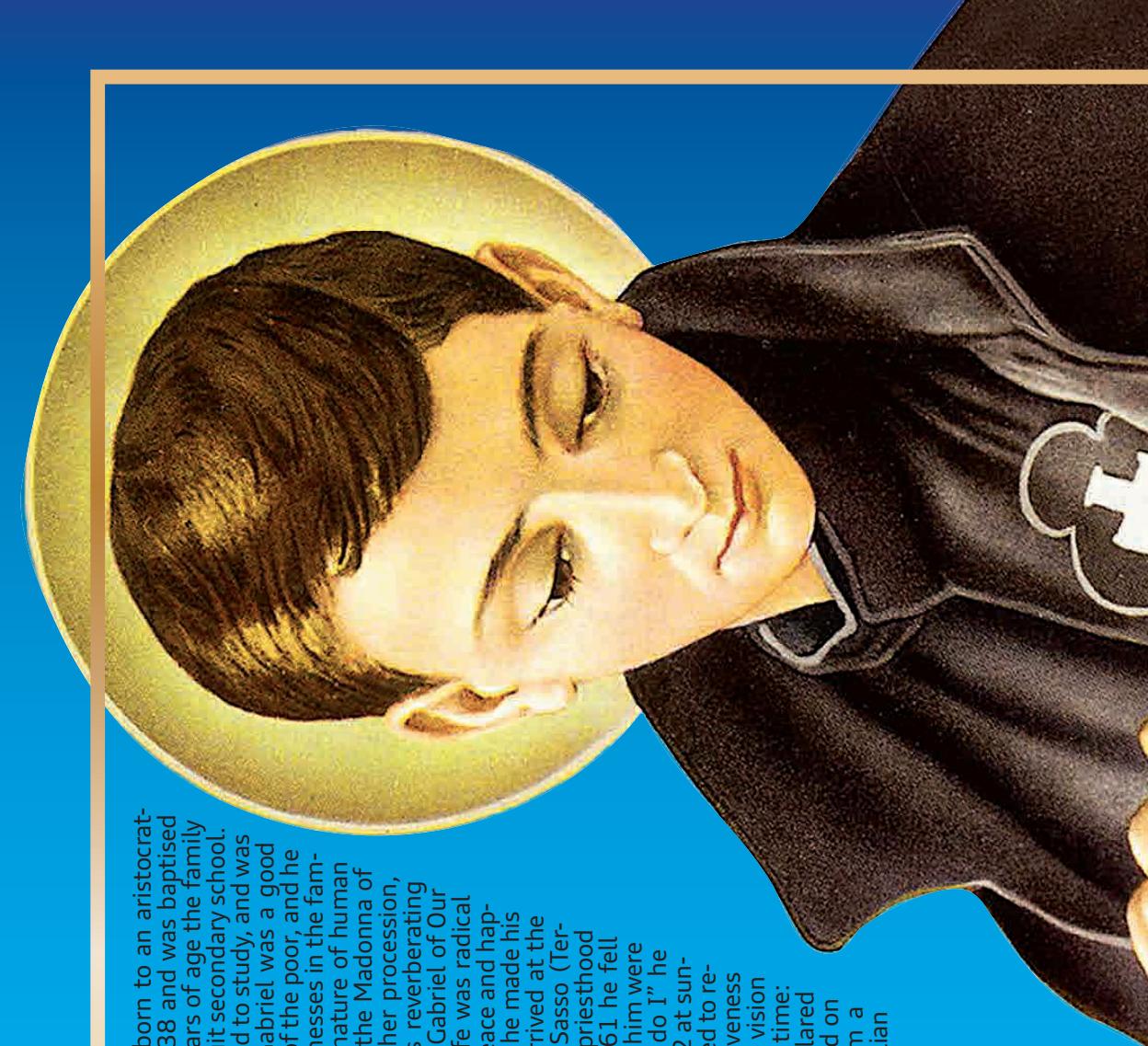
## BLESSED LAURA DEL CARMEN VICUÑA (1891-1904) - 22 January

### JANUARY

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 Mary Mother of God Maria Madre di Dio	2 Saints Basil & Gregory	3 Most Holy Name of Jesus	4 Saint Angela of Foligno	5 Saint Angela of Foligno	6 Epiphany	
7 Baptism of the Lord	8 Saint Thorfinn	9 Saint Adrian of Canterbury	10 Servant of God Vico Necchi	11 Blessed William Carter	12 Saint Marguerite Bourgeoys	13 Saint Hilary of Poitiers
14 I.O.T. Saint Felix of Nola	15 Saint Paul the Hermit	16 Saint Berard and Companions	17 Saint Anthony of Egypt	18 Saint Charles of Seze	19 Saint Filian	20 Saint Fabian
21 III.O.T. Saint Agnes	22 Blessed Laura del Carmen Vicuña	23 Saint Marianne Cope	24 Saint Francis de Sales	25 Conversion of Saint Paul	26 Saints Timothy and Titus	27 Saint Angela Merici
28 IV.O.T. Saint Thomas Aquinas	29 Saints Sarbelius & Barbea	30 Saint Hyacintha of Manscotti	31 Saint John Bosco	O		

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Saint Gabriel of Our Lady of Sorrows was born to an aristocratic family in Assisi (Perugia) on 1 March 1838 and was baptised with the name Francis. When he was 13 years of age the family moved to Spoleto, where he attended a Jesuit secondary school. He was intelligent, exuberant, lively, he liked to study, and was particularly advanced in literary studies. Gabriel was a good soul, generous, sensitive to the sufferings of the poor, and he loved prayer. Various deaths and terrible illnesses in the family unveiled for him the brief and fleeting nature of human joys. On 22 August 1856, as the image of the Madonna of the Duomo passed in front of him during her procession, he heard with clarity the following words reverberating in his heart: "Francis change your name to Gabriel of Our Lady of Sorrows". His choice of religious life was radical from the beginning, but he finally found peace and happiness in his heart. On 22 September 1857 he made his religious profession. On 10 July 1859 he arrived at the little Passionist convent at Isola del Gran Sasso (Teramo) in order to prepare himself for the priesthood with studies in theology. At the end of 1861 he fell ill with tuberculosis; all attempts at curing him were in vain. "God wants it so, and as such, so do I" he wrote. On the morning of 27 February 1862 at sunrise, Gabriel bade farewell to all, he promised to remember them in Heaven and asked for forgiveness and prayers. He then died, comforted by the vision of Mary whom he had invoked for the last time: "Mary, my mother, hurry". Gabriel was declared blessed by Saint Pius X on 31 May 1908 and on 13 May 1920 Benedict XV proclaimed him a saint. In 1926 he became co-patron of Italian Catholic youth.



## SAIN'T GABRIEL OF OUR LADY OF SORROWS (1838-1862) - 27 February

# FEBRUARY 2018

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
4 Saint Joan of Valois V.O.T. B. V. of Lourdes B. V. di Lourdes	5 Saint Agatha	6 Saint Paul Miki and Companions	7 Saint Colette Holy Face of Jesus	8 Saint Jerome Emiliani	9 Saint Apollonia	10 Presentation of the Lord Saint Scholastica
11 I of Lent Blessed John of Fiesole	12 Saint Bonifatius Monaldo	13 Saint Conrad of Piacenza	14 Holy Face of Jesus Santo Volto di Gesù	15 Ash Wednesday Saint Claude la Colombière	16 Saint Daniel Saint Daria	17 Blessed Luke Beltrudi
18 II of Lent Blessed Sebastian of Aparicio	19 Saint Jacinta Marto	20 Saint Gabriel of Our Lady of Sorrows	21 Saint Peter Damian	22 Chair of Saint Peter	23 Saint Polydore, bishop and martyr	24 Saint John Thiersfus
25 Blessed Maria Pierina de Michelini	26 Saint Porphyry of Gaza	27 Saint Oswald	28 Saint Oswald	29 O	30 Saint Oswald	1 Saint Blaise

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Dominic Savio was born in Riva, in Chieri (Turin) on 2 April 1842, to Carlo Savio and Brigid Gaiato. He spent his childhood within his family, surrounded by the loving care of his blacksmith father and seamstress mother.

On 2 October 1854 he met Don Bosco, who straight away "recognised in that youngster a soul according to the spirit of the Lord and was left more than a little astonished, contemplating the works that divine grace had already carried out in such a tender age". Dominic established some rules for his life:

"1. I will confess frequently and I will take communion as often as my confessor allows.  
2. I wish to sanctify the feast days.  
3. My friends shall be Jesus and Mary.  
4. Death, rather than sin".

Dominic died in Mondovì on 9 March 1857 at only 15 years of age. With his eyes fixed in a sweet vision, he exclaimed: "What wonderful things I see!" He was proclaimed blessed on 5 March 1950 and on 12 June 1954, he was declared a saint. In 1914 his mortal remains were taken to Turin to the Basilica of Our Lady Help of Christians.



SAIN'T DOMINIC SAVIO (1842-1857) - 9 March

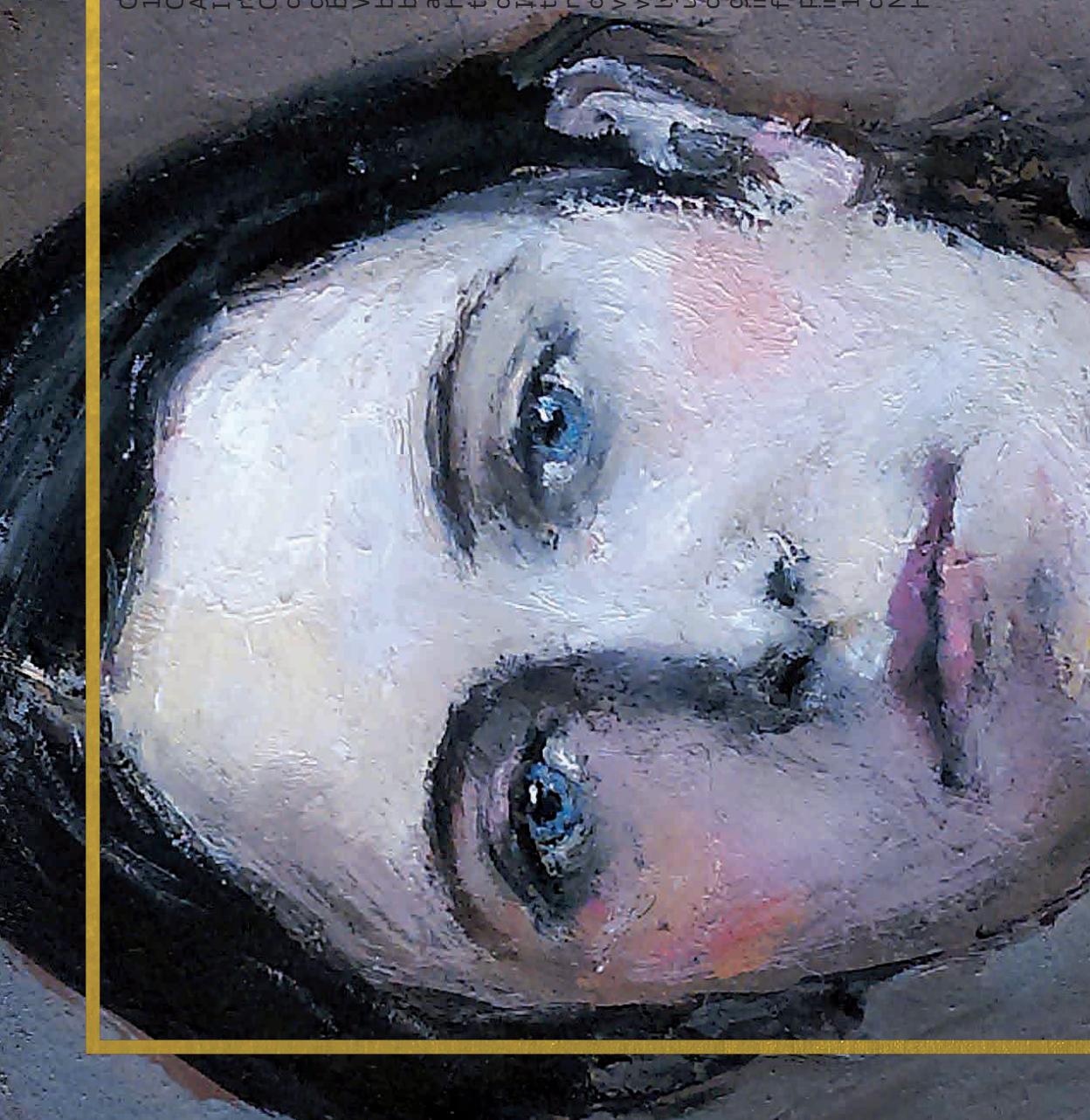
# MARCH

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
4 III of Lent Saint Casimir	5 Saint John Joseph of the Cross	6 Saint Colette	7 Saints Perpetua and Felicity, martyrs	8 Saint John of God, religious	9 Saint Dominic Savio	10 Saint John Ogilvie
11 IV of Lent Saint Constantine	12 Saint Maximilian	13 Saint Leander of Seville	14 Saint Matilda	15 Saint Louise de Marillac	16 Saint Abban	17 Saint Patrick, bishop
18 V of Lent Saint Cyril, bishop of Jerusalem, and doctor	19 Saint Joseph Husband of the Blessed Virgin Mary	20 Blessed John of Parma	21 Saint Enda	22 Saint Nicholas Owen	23 Saint Turibius of Mogrovejo, bishop	24 Saint Catherine of Genoa
25 Palm Sunday	26 Holy Monday Saint Margaret Clitherow	27 Holy Tuesday Blessed Francis Fa di Bruno	28 Holy Wednesday Saint Hesychius of Jerusalem	29 Holy Thursday Saint Berthold	30 Holy Friday Saint Peter Regalata	31 Holy Saturday Saint Stephen of Mar Saba

Missionary of the  
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Gemma Galgani was born on 12 March 1878 in Borgonuovo, Camigliano (Lucca). Her mother Aurelia died in September 1886. In 1895 Gemma received inspiration to follow the way of the Cross with commitment and decision. She also had visions of her guardian angel. On 11 November 1897, her father Enrico died. While sick herself, she read the biography of Passionist Saint Gabriel of Our Lady of Sorrows, who appeared to her and comforted her. Meanwhile, Gemma came to a decision and on the evening of 8 December, the Feast of the Immaculate Conception, she took a vow of virginity. Despite medical treatment her illness, osteitis of the lumbar vertebrae with abscesses in the groin, worsened until she was paralysed in her legs, but later miraculously healed. Gemma's visions continued and she received the grace of sharing in the suffering of Christ. In May 1902 she fell ill again, after which she improved, but regressed once more in October. She died on 11 April 1903. On 14 May 1933 Pius XI declared her Blessed and on 2 May 1940, Pius XII proclaimed her a Saint.





# APRIL

SAIN T GEMMA GALGANI (1878-1903) - 11 April

# 2018

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 Easter	2 Easter Monday	3 Saint Benedict the African	4 Saint Isidore, bishop and doctor of the Church Saint Francis Marto	5 Saint Vincent Ferrer	6 Saint Crescentia Hoess	7 Saint John Baptist de la Salle, priest
8 Divine Mercy	9 Annunciation of the Lord Annunciazione del Signore	10 Blessed James Oido	11 Saint Gemma Galgani	12 Saint Teresa of Los Andes	13 Saint Martin I, pope and martyr	14 Blessed Peter González
15 III of Easter	16 Saint Lambert	17 Saint Kateri Tekakwitha	18 Saint Apollonius the Apologist	19 Saint Alphege	20 Saint Marian	21 Saint Anselm of Canterbury, bishop and doctor of the Church
22 IV of Easter	23 Saint George, martyr	24 Saint Fidelis of Sigmaringen	25 Saint Mark the Evangelist	26 Saint Cletus	27 Saint Simeon	28 Saint Peter Chanel
29 V of Easter	30 ○ Saint Pius V, pope					

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Francis Marto was born on 11 June 1908 in Ajustrel, a district of Fatima in Portugal. He was the tenth child of Manuel Pietro Marto and Olimpia de Jesus. Along with his younger sister Jacinta and his cousin Lucia, he was one of the visionaries of the Marian apparitions in Fatima. He liked to retreat and pray, in order to 'console Jesus', as he put it. He fell ill with Spanish flu in 1918 and died on 4 April, after having received his first and last Holy Communion.

Jacinta Marto was born on 11 March 1910 in Ajustrel. She was the eleventh and youngest child of Manuel Pietro Marto and Olimpia de Jesus. Along with her brother Francis and her cousin Lucia, she was one of the visionaries of the Marian apparition of Fatima, which occurred between May and October 1917. A dynamic girl, she learned to accept suffering, carrying out little sacrifices in love of God and the Madonna. She fell ill during a violent epidemic of Spanish Flu in 1918 and she died on 20 February 1920, in the 'Dona Estefânia' hospital in Lisbon, at nine years and eleven months old.

Francis and Jacinta were beatified by Saint John Paul II on 13 May 2000 and canonised by Pope Francis on 13 May 2017. Their mortal remains are venerated in the Basilica of Our Lord of the Rosary of Fatima.





SAINT FRANCIS MARTO (1908-1919) - 4 April and SAINT JACINTA MARTO (1910-1920) - 20 February

## MAY

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1 Saint Joseph the Worker	2 Saint Athanasius, bishop and doctor	3 Saint Philip and James, Apostles	4 Blessed Michael Giedroczy	5 Saint Hilary of Arles
6 VI of Easter Blessed Gerard of Lune	7 Saint Rose Venerini	8 Our Lady of Lujan N.S. di Lujan	9 Saint Catharine of Bologna	10 Saint Damien de Veuster, priest	11 Saint Ignatius of Laconi	12 Saint Pancras
13 Ascension Our Lady of Fatima	14 Saint Matthias the Apostle	15 Saint Isidore the Farmer	16 Saint Peregrine Laziosi	17 Saint Paschal Baylon	18 Saint John I, pope and martyr	19 Saint Theophilus of Corte
20 Pentecost	21 Saint Eugene de Mazenod	22 Blessed Joachima	23 Saint John Baptist Rossi	24 Saint David I of Scotland	25 Saint Gregory VII	26 Saint Philo Neri, priest
27 Holy Trinity	28 Saint Mary Ann of Jesus of Paredes	29 Saint Maximinus of Trier	30 Saint Joan of Arc	31 the Blessed Virgin of Vistaž, Beata Maria Vergine		

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Son of the Marquis Ferrante Gonzaga and born on 19 March 1568, Aloysius was educated in weapons by his father since infancy, so much so that at 5 years of age he already wore a mini armour and helmet and risked being hit by firing a shot with a cannon. At 10 years of age Aloysius decided to follow Christ humbly, taking a vow of chastity and dedicating himself to others. When he was 12 years old he received his First Holy Communion from Saint Charles Borromeo, who was visiting from Brescia. Having decided to enter the Society of Jesus, he had to battle with his father for two years. Finally free to follow Christ, he renounced his title and inheritance and entered the Roman College of Jesuits, where he dedicated himself to the lowly and sick. He particularly excelled during the plague epidemic that hit Rome in 1590, and it was here, when transporting a dying man on his shoulders, that he contracted the illness himself and died in 1591 when he was only 23 years old. He is buried in Rome in the Church of Saint Ignatius at Campo Marzio. In 1726 Benedict XIII declared him a saint.





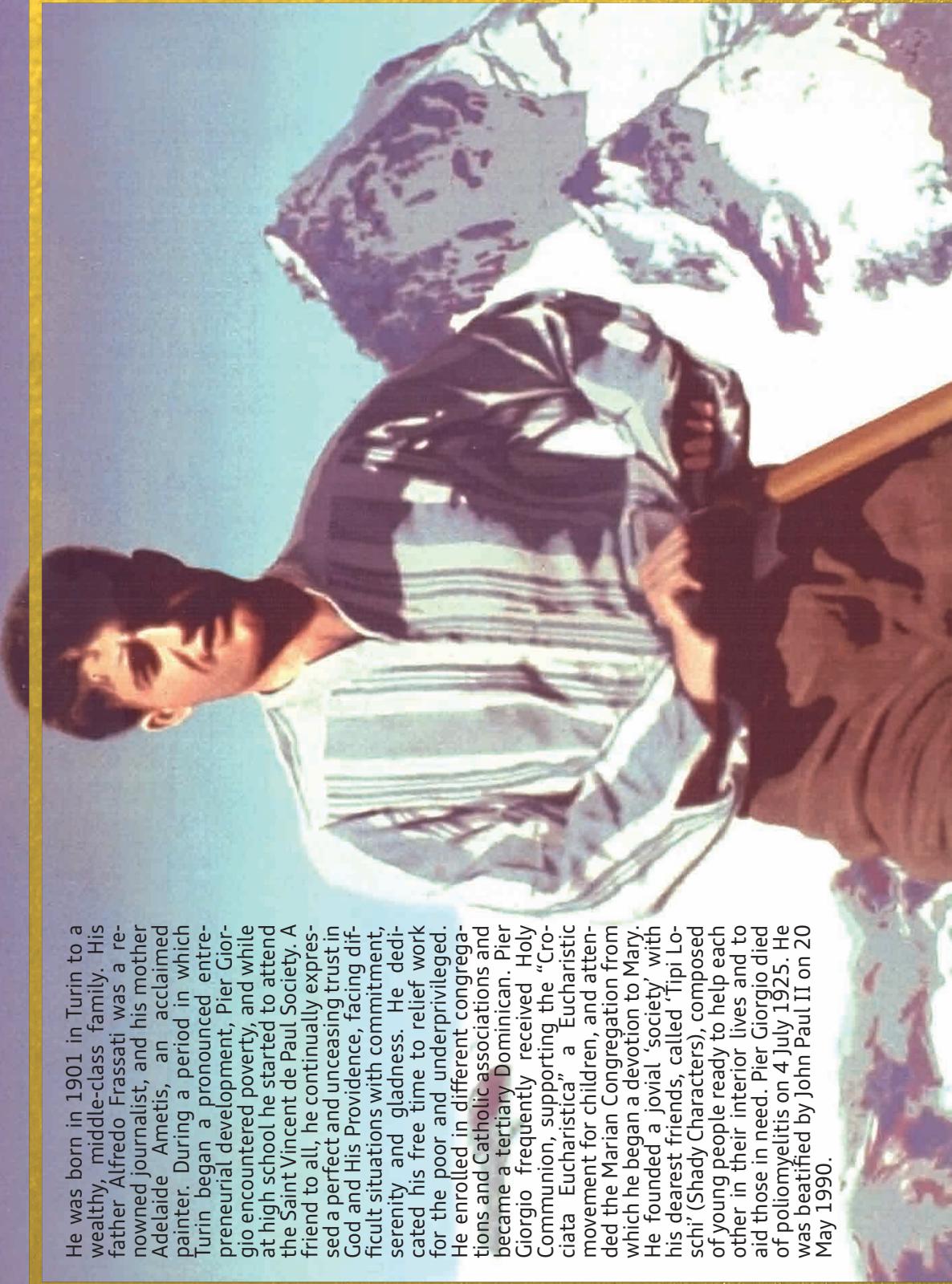
## SAIN<sup>T</sup> ALOYSIUS GONZAGA (1568-1591) - 21 June

# JUNE

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
3 Corpus Domini Blessed John XXIII	4 Saint Francis Caracciolo	5 Saint Boniface, bishop and martyr	6 Saint Norbert, bishop	7 Servant of God Joseph Perez	8 Sacred Heart of Jesus <i>Sacro Cuore di Gesù</i>	9 Immaculate Heart of Mary <i>Cuore Immacolato di Maria</i>
10 XI.O.T. Saint Albert Chmielowski	11 Saint Barnabas the Apostle	12 Saint John of Sahagun	13 Saint Anthony of Padua	14 Saint Methodius I	15 Servant of God Orlando Catanii	16 Saint John Francis Regis
17 XI.O.T. Birth of Saint John the Baptist	18 Saint Gregory Barbarigo	19 Saint Romuald, abbot	20 Saint Vincent Kaun	21 Saint Aloysius Gonzaga, religious	22 S. Paolino da Nola	23 Saint Joseph Cafasso
24	25 Saint William of Vercelli	26 Saint Josemaria Escrivá de Balaguer	27 Saint Cyril of Alexandria	28 Saint Ireneaus	29 ○ Saints Peter and Paul, Apostles	30 Blessed Raymond Lull

Missionary of the  
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He was born in 1901 in Turin to a wealthy, middle-class family. His father Alfredo Frassati was a renowned journalist, and his mother Adelaide Ametis, an acclaimed painter. During a period in which Turin began a pronounced entrepreneurial development, Pier Giorgio encountered poverty, and while at high school he started to attend the Saint Vincent de Paul Society. A friend to all, he continually expressed a perfect and unceasing trust in God and His Providence, facing difficult situations with commitment, serenity, and gladness. He dedicated his free time to relief work for the poor and underprivileged. He enrolled in different congregations and Catholic associations and became a tertiary Dominican. Pier Giorgio frequently received "Holy Communion, supporting the "Crocia Eucaristica" a Eucharistic movement for children, and attended the Marian Congregation from which he began a devotion to Mary. He founded a jovial 'society' with his dearest friends, called 'Tipi Loschi' (Shady Characters), composed of young people ready to help each other in their interior lives and to aid those in need. Pier Giorgio died of poliomyelitis on 4 July 1925. He was beatified by John Paul II on 20 May 1990.



## BLESSED PIER GIORGIO FRASSATI (1901-1925) - 4 July

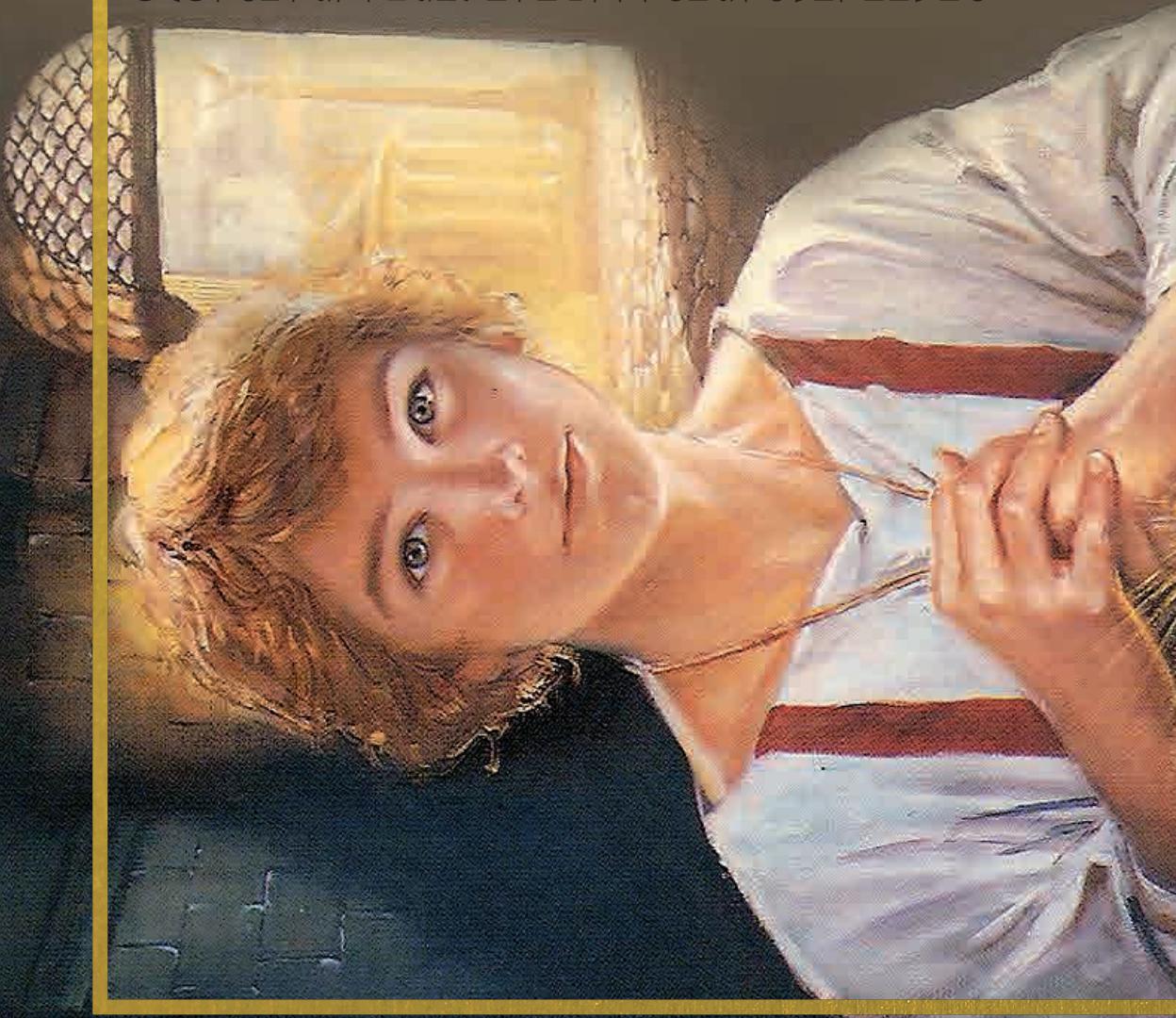
# JULY

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 XIII O.T. Bl. Juniper Serra	2 Saint Oliver Plunkett	3 Saint Thomas the Apostle	4 Blessed Pier Giorgio Frassati	5 Saint Anthony Zaccaria, priest	6 Saint Maria Goretti, virgin and martyr	7 Bl. Ralph Milner
8 XIV O.T. Saint Gregory Grassi and Companions	9 Saint Nicholas Pick and Companions	10 Saint Veronica Giuliani	11 Saint Benedict, abbot	12 Saints John Jones and John Wall	13 Saint Henry	14 Saint Camillus de Lellis, priest
15 XV O.T. Saint Bonaventure, bishop and doctor	16 N.S. del Carmelo	17 Servant of God Francis Garces and Companions	18 Saint Frederick	19 Saint Arsenius the Great	20 Saint Apollinaris of Ravenna	21 Saint Lawrence of Brindisi
22 XVI O.T. Saint Mary Magdalene	23 Saint Bridget	24 Saint Kunigunde	25 Saint James apostle	26 Blessed William Ward	27 Saint Pantaleon	28 Saint Innocent I
29 XVII O.T. Saint Martha	30 Saint Leopold Mandic	31 Saint Ignatius of Loyola, priest				

Missionary of the  
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On the same day as the solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Church remembers Tarcisius. One day, after having consecrated the host, the priest of the Catacombs where the boy visited, looked for someone to take the Eucharist to the Christians in prison. "Father, send me" said Tarcisius offering himself voluntarily. The priest protested, insisting that he was too young, to which the boy replied: "My Father, my youthfulness will be my surest safeguard. Do not deny me this honour I beg of you!" Thus the priest said to him: "Tarcisius, remember that a treasure is being entrusted to your fragile care. Avoid the populated roads and do not forget that holy things must not be thrown to the dogs nor gems to the pigs. Will you guard with faithfulness and security the Sacred Mysteries?" "I would rather die than surrender them", Tarcisius replied. In the street he came across a group of boys who saw that he hid something under his clothes. Tarcisius tightened his hands while they sought to tear them off him. While he fought, an older person arrived who realised that he was a Christian. From that moment they began to beat him and he died a martyr. The Roman Martyrology fixes the date of his death at 15 August 257. His body was buried together with Pope Stephen on the Via Appia. In 767 Pope Paul I transposed his remains to the Basilica of Saint Sylvestr the First together with other martyrs.





## SAINT TARCISIUS MARTYR (+ 257) - 15 August

AUGUST 2018						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
5 XVIII O.T. Dedication of Saint Mary Major Basilica	6 Transfiguration of the Lord Saints Pontian and Hippolytus	7 Saint Cajetan	1 Saint Alphonsus Maria de Liguori	2 Saint Peter Julian Eymard	3 Saint Lydia Purpuraria C ● Saint John Vianney	4 Saint Clare D ● Saint John Vianney
12 XIX O.T. Saint Michael My Saint John Eudes	13 Saint Bernard of Clairvaux	14 Saint Maximilian Mary Kolbe	15 Assumption of the B.V.M. Assunzione Maria Vergine	16 Saint Stephen of Hungary	17 Saint John of the Cross D ● Saint Helen	18 Saint Bartholomew the Apostle D ● Saint Louis of France
19 XX O.T. Saint John Eudes	20 Saint Pius X	21 Saint Bernard of Clairvaux	22 Queenship of Mary	23 Saint Rose of Lima	24 Saint Bartholomew the Apostle D ● Saint Louis of France	25 Saint Aristid Martyr D ● Saint Jeanne Jugan
26 O Saint Teresa of Jesus Jornet Ibars	27 Saint Monica	28 Saint Augustine of Hippo, bishop and doctor of the Church	29 The Beheading of Saint John the Baptist, martyr	30 Saint Jeanne Jugan	31 S. Aristid Martyr D ● Saint Jeanne Jugan	Missionary of the <b>HOLY FACE</b> BLESSED MARIA PIERINA DE MICHELI



Clare Badano was born in Sassello on 29 October 1971. At nine years of age she encountered the Focarini movement of Clare Lubich and entered the 'Gens'. After finishing middle school in Sassello she transferred to Savona where she attended high school. At sixteen years of age, during a tennis match, she felt terrible pains in her shoulder. She was later diagnosed with osteosarcoma, a type of bone cancer. She submitted to operations on her dorsal spine and chemotherapy sessions, but the only result was that she became paralysed in her legs. Despite such sufferings, she refused morphine which would have suppressed her lucidity. She continued to love life, informing herself about everything, never losing her constant smile. Some doctors, who were not practicing their faith, came back to God. Her bedroom became a little church, a place of encounter and apostolate: "The important thing is to do the will of God... to stay in His game... another world awaits me... I feel enveloped in a splendid design, which little by little is revealed to me..." During her last days Clare could barely talk, but she wanted to prepare herself for her encounter with "the Groom" and she chose a simple white dress with a pink sash. Her last words were: "Mum, be happy, because I am. Cheerio!" She died on 7 October 1990. She was declared venerable on 3 July 2008 and was beatified on 25 September 2010 by Benedict XVI.





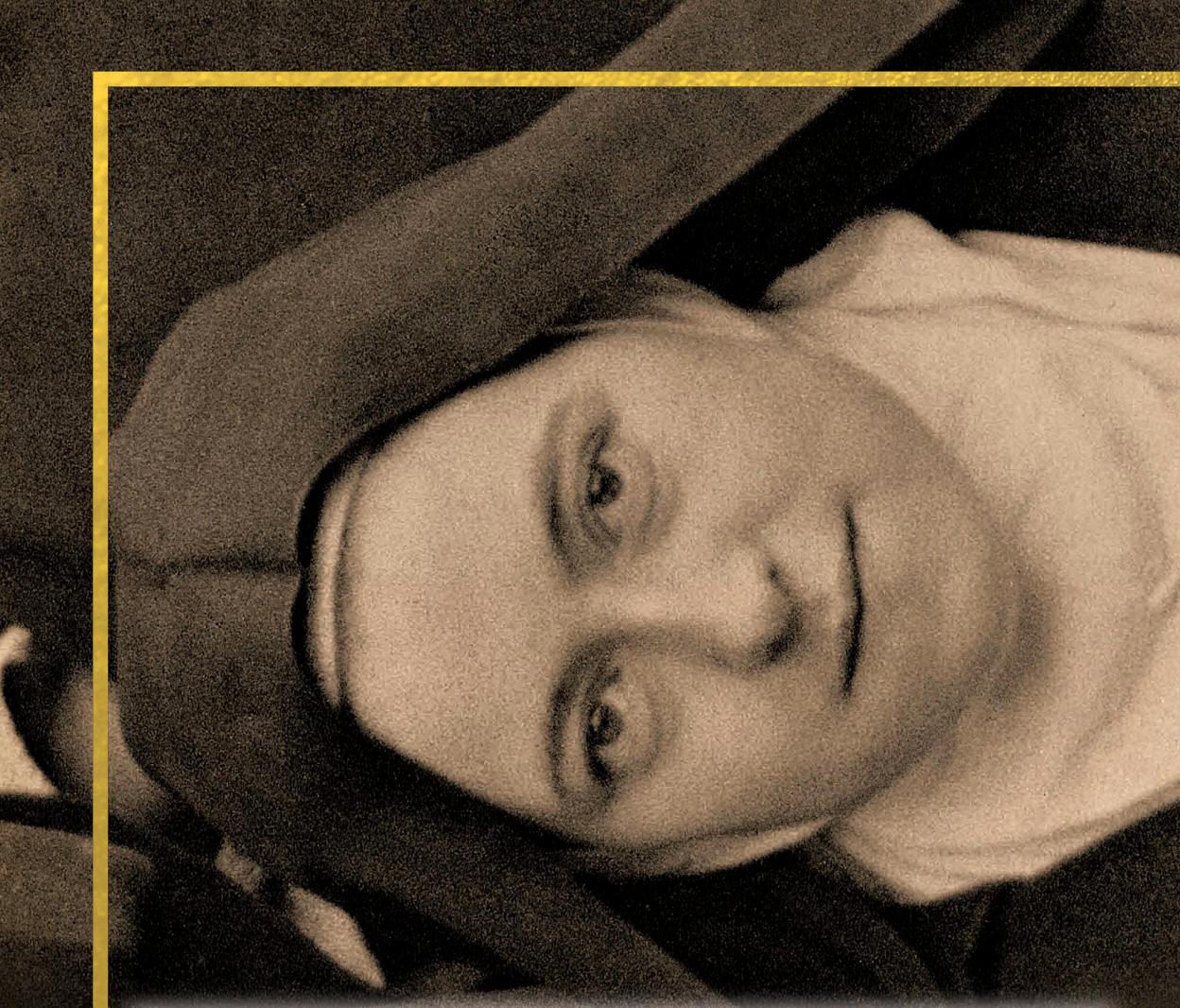
# SEPTEMBER

BLESSED CLARE BADANO (1971-1990) - 29 October

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
XXII O.T. Blessed John Francis Buré and Companions	3 Saint Gregory the Great, pope and doctor	4 Saint Rose of Viterbo	5 Blessed Teresa of Kolkata	6 Saint Eleutherius	7 Blessed Frédéric Ozanam	1 Saint Giles, Abbot C
						Nativity of the B.V.M., Nativité de la Vierge Marie
9 Saint Peter Claver	10 Pedro de Corpus and Companions	11 Pierina de Micheli	12 <sup>ss.</sup> Blessed Mary Beata Maria Pierina de Micheli	13 Holy Name of the B.V.M., Nome di Maria	14 Saint John Chrysostom, bishop and doctor	15 Exaltation of the Holy Cross
						Our Lady of Sorrows, Beata Virgine Addolorata
16 Saint Cyprian	17 <sup>D</sup> Saint Robert Bellarmine, bishop and doctor	18 Saint Joseph of Cupertino	19 Saint Januarius	20 Andrew Kim Taegon, Paul Chong Hasang and Companions	21 Saint Matthew the Evangelist	22 Saint Thomas of Villanova
						Saints Michael, Gabriel and Raphael, Archangels
23 <sup>O</sup> Saint Pio of Pietrelcina	24 <sup>H</sup> Saint Pacifico of San Severino	25 Saint Finbar	26 Saints Cosmas and Damian	27 Saint Vincent de Paul	28 Saint Wenceslaus	29 BLESSED MARIA PIERINA DE MICHELI
						Missionary of the HOLY FACE
30 Saint Jerome						



BLESSED MARIA PIERINA DE MICHELI



Thérèse Martin was born in Alençon in France on 2 January 1873. After the death of her mother on 28 August 1877, she moved with her family to the city of Lisieux. Towards the end of the year 1879 she took the Sacrament of Confession for the first time. On the day of Pentecost in 1883 she was healed of a serious illness through the intercession of Our Lord of Victories. Educated by the Benedictines of Lisieux, she received her First Holy Communion on 8 May 1884. A few weeks later, on 14 June of the same year, she received the Sacrament of Confirmation. Thérèse desired to embrace the contemplative life, like her sisters Pauline and Marie, and on 9 April 1888 she entered Carmel of Lisieux. On 10 January 1889 she received the habit and on 8 September 1890, she made her religious profession.

On 9 June 1895, on the feast of the Holy Trinity, she offered herself as a sacrificial victim to the merciful Love of God. Meanwhile, she wrote her first autobiographical manuscript, which she entrusted to Mother Agnes of Jesus on the day of her feast, 21 January 1896. She was to write a further two manuscripts.

A few months later, on 3 April, during the nights of Holy Thursday and Good Friday, Thérèse displayed preliminary signs of the illness that would lead to her death, which she welcomed as the mysterious visit of the Divine Groom. At the same time, she entered a test of faith which was to last until her death, about which she offered a moving testimony in her writings. Her last words "My God, I love you" were the hallmark of her life. On 30 September 1897 she died at 24 years of age. From Heaven an outpouring of roses cascaded on the world. She was canonised by Pius XI on 17 May 1925 and by the same Pope she was proclaimed the universal Patron of missions, together with Saint Francis Saverio, on 14 December 1927.

# SAINT THÉRÈSE OF THE CHILD JESUS AND THE HOLY FACE

(1873-1897) - 1 October

# OCTOBER

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 Saint Thérèse of the Child Jesus and the Holy Face	2 Saint Leger	3 Theodora Guérin	4 Saint Francis of Assisi	5 Blessed Francis Xavier Seelos	6 Saint Bruno
7 XXVII O.T. Our Lady N.S. del Rosario	8 Saint Pelagia	9 Saint John Leonardi	10 Saint Francis Borgia	11 Saint Damien of Molokai	12 Saint Seraphin of Montegranaro Virginie del Pilar	13 Saint Edward the Confessor
14 XXVIII O.T. Saint Callistus I, pope and martyr	15 Saint Teresa of Avila	16 Saint José Sánchez of Rio	17 Saint Ignatius of Antioch, bishop and martyr	18 Saint Luke the Evangelist	19 Isaac Jogues/ Jean de Brebeuf and Companions	20 Blessed James of Strepar
21 XXIX O.T. Saint Hilarion	22 Blessed Pope John Paul II	23 Saint John of Capistrano, priest	24 Saint Anthony Mary Claret, bishop	25 Saint Antonio de Sant'Anna Galvão	26 Saint Bean	27 Saint Frumentius
28 XXX O.T. Saint Simon and Saint Jude, apostles	29 Blessed Clare Badano	30 Saint Alphonsus Rodriguez	31 Blessed Thomas of Florence			

Missionary of the  
**HOLY FACE**  
BLESSÉD MARIA PIERINA DE MICHELI





José Sánchez del Río was born in Sahuayo in Mexico on 28 March 1913 to a firmly Christian family. When he was little he moved to Guadalajara, where he received his First Holy Communion and distinguished himself by his love for Mary. Following the anticlerical laws promulgated by president Plutarco Elías Calles, the People's Army of the 'Cristeros' was formed, which his two brothers joined. José, however, was still too young to participate. Visiting the tomb of the lawyer González Flores, he asked God to be able to die defending the faith like he did. He then became a standard bearer for the Cristeros army, was captured and imprisoned, then locked in the baptistery of his parish church of St. James the Apostle in Sahuayo. Rejecting proposals for liberation he was sure to offer his life. Tortured almost to death, he was then killed in Sahuayo cemetery on February 10, 1928. He was beatified on 20 November 2005, along with 12 other Mexican martyrs. Pope Francis canonised him on Sunday 16 October 2016. His mortal remains have been venerated since 1996 under the side altar of Saint James Church in Sahuayo.



# NOVEMBER

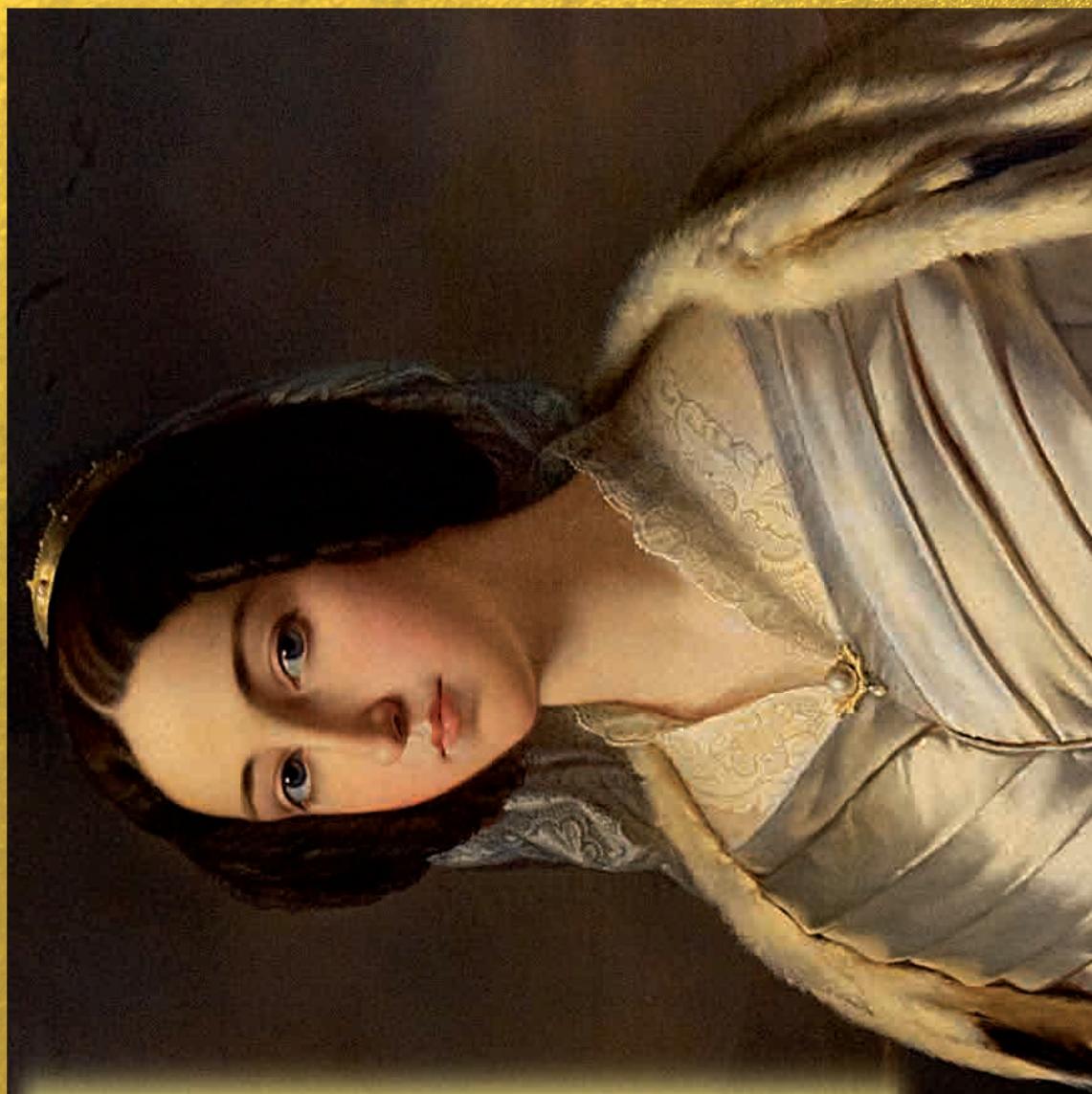
SAINT JOSÉ SÁNCHEZ OF RÍO (1913-1928) - 16 October

# 2018

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>4<sup>o</sup></b> Saint Charles Borromeo, bishop	<b>5</b> Saint Donnino	<b>6</b> Saint Felice La Calle	<b>7</b> Saint Didacus	<b>8</b> Blessed John Duns Scotus	<b>9</b> Dedication of the Lateran basilica	<b>10</b> Saint Leo the Great
XXXI O.T. Saint Martin of Tours, bishop				Saint Nicholas the Tolentino and Companions	<b>15</b> Saint Albert the Great, bishop and doctor	<b>16</b> Saint Margaret of Scotland
<b>11</b> Saint Rose Philippine Duchesne	<b>12</b> Saint Josaphat	<b>13</b> Saint Frances Xavier Cabrini	<b>14</b> Saint Agnes of Assisi	<b>20</b> Saint Edmund Rich	<b>21</b> Presentation of the B.V.M.	<b>22</b> Saint Cecilia
XXXII O.T. Christ the King				Saint Leonard of Port Maurice		
<b>18</b> Saint James of the Marche	<b>19</b> Saint Agnes of Assisi	<b>20</b> Saint Edmund Rich	<b>21</b> Presentation of the B.V.M.	<b>27</b> Saint Francesco Antonio Fasani	<b>28</b> Saint James of the Marche	<b>29</b> Saint Saturninus
<b>25<sup>d</sup></b> Saint Andrew the Apostle	<b>26</b> Saint Maurice					<b>30</b> Saint Andrew the Apostle

Missionary of the  
**HOLY FACE**  
BLESSED MARIA PIERINA DE MICHELI





Maria Cristina of Savoy was born on 14 November 1812 in Cagliari. Daughter to King Victor Emmanuel I and Maria Teresa of Austria-Este, who at that time were exiles in Sardinia, she received a solid Christian formation within her family. In 1832 she married Ferdinand II, king of the Two Sicilies, and in her twofold state as wife and queen she was a model of virtue.

In agreement with the king, she used part of the money destined to her for her nuptial festivities as dowries for 240 young brides, while releasing a good number of pledges registered at the pawn-brokers, as well as other charitable initiatives (it was her idea to found a dormitory for families in need, at the convent of Saint Dominic Soriano). She led her life at court based on the daily readings of sacred works and on devotional practices. A true mother of the poor, she took on the weight of the people's suffering. She died very young, after giving birth to her firstborn son Francis, to the unanimous grief of the royal family and the Neapolitan people. She was beatified on 25 January 2014 in Naples, in the Basilica of Saint Clare, where her body is buried.



# BLESSED MARIA CRISTINA OF SAVOY (1812-1836) - 22 December

# DECEMBER 2018

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
2 I of Advent Blessed Rafal Chylinski	3 Saint Francis Xavier, priest	4 Saint John of Damascus	5 Saint Sabas	6 Saint Nicholas	7 Saint Ambrose	1 ● Saint Eligius
9 II of Advent Saint Juan Diego	10 Servant of God Bernard of Quintavalle Madonna di Loreto	11 Saint Damasus I, pope	12 Our Lady of Guadalupe N. S. de Guadalupe	13 Saint Lucy of Syracuse, virgin and martyr	14 Saint John of the Cross	15 ○ Blessed Mary Frances Schervier
16 III of Advent Blessed Honoratus Kozminski	17 Saint Lazarus	18 Saint Rufus	19 Blessed Pope Urban V	20 Saint Dominic of Silos	21 Saint Peter Canisius, priest and doctor	22 O Blessed Maria Christina of Savoy
23 IV of Advent Saint John Kanty	24 Christmas at Greccio San Delfino	25 Birth of Our Lord Jesus Christ Natale del Signore	26 Saint Stephen, the first martyr	27 Saint John the Apostle and evangelist	28 Holy Innocents	29 C Saint Thomas Becker
30 Holy Family	31 Saint Sylvester I, pope					Missionary of the HOLY FACE BLESSED MARIA PIERINA DE MICHELI



