



A PRAYER CALENDAR IN AUGUST

- 1 St Alphonsus Liguori, founder of the Redemptorists. Pray for all women and men of that rule
2. EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY of the YEAR
Bountiful and compassionate God,
you place in the hand of your disciples the food of life.
Nourish us at your holy table, that we may bear Christ to others
and share with them the gifts we have so rightly received.*
- 4 St John Vianney, Curé d’Ars. Patron of parish priests. Pray for them, those moving, those retiring.
- 6 **TRANSFIGURATION of the LORD**
God of glory, it is good for us to be here.
Reveal your Son to us now in the message of the prophets and the witness of the apostles,
that we may heed his voice and receive him in faith.*
The anniversary of the nuclear bomb dropped on Hiroshima, 1945. Pray for world peace
- 8 St Dominic, founder of the Dominican order. Pray for all women and men who follow his rule
- 9 NINETEENTH SUNDAY of the YEAR
God of all power, your sovereign word comes to us in Christ.
When your Church is in danger, make firm our trust;
when your people falter, steady our faith.
Show us in Jesus your power to save, that we may always acclaim him as Lord.*
*As the feast of St Teresa Benedicta of the Cross [Edith Stein]
it is also the day of prayer for Jewish-Christian relations*
- 10 St Lawrence, Deacon and Martyr
- 11 St Clare. Pray for all women who belong to the Poor Clares, Sisters of St Clare
- 16 **ASSUMPTION of the BLESSED VIRGIN MARY - how will you bless herbs and plants? see overleaf**
Faithful to your promise, O God,
you have lifted up the lowly, clothing with heavenly splendour
the woman who bore Christ, our life and resurrection.
Grant that the Church, prefigured in Mary,
may bear Christ to the world and come to share his triumph.*
- 20 St Bernard, Abbot and Theologian. Pray for the Cistercian family, the Bernadine sisters
- 22 *The Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary – see her Litany overleaf*
- 23 TWENTY FIRST SUNDAY of the YEAR
Living God,
you sent your Son among us to reveal your wisdom and make known your ways.
Increase our faith, that we may confess Jesus as your Son,
take up his work on earth and trust his promise to sustain the Church.*
- 24 St Bartholomew, apostle
- 26 Blessed Dominic of the Mother of God [Barberi]. *He received St John Henry Newman into the Catholic Church at Littlemore, Oxford on 9 October 1845*
- 27 St Monica, mother of St Augustine
- 28 St Augustine, bishop and theologian.
- 29 The Beheading of John the Baptist
- 30 TWENTY SECOND SUNDAY of the YEAR
O God, whose words burn like a fire within us, grant us a bold and faithful spirit,
that in your strength we may be unafraid to speak your word and follow where you lead.*
- 31 St Aidan and the Saints of Lindisfarne. *A day to remember the great tradition of faith in these islands*

* Sunday Collects from OPENING PRAYERS ICEL Canterbury Press

The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary (15 August) is deeply imbedded in popular piety. In many places the feast is synonymous with the person of Our Lady, and is simply referred to as "Our Lady's Day" or as the "Immacolata" in Spain and Latin America.

In the Germanic countries, the custom of blessing herbs is associated with 15 August. This custom, received into the *Rituale Romanum*, represents a clear example of the genuine evangelization of pre-Christian rites and beliefs: one must turn to God, through whose word "the earth produced vegetation: plants bearing seeds in their several kinds, and trees bearing fruit with their seed inside in their several kinds"(Gen 1, 12) in order to obtain what was formerly obtained by magic rites; to stem the damages deriving from poisonous herbs, and benefit from the efficacy of curative herbs.

This ancient use came to be associated with the Blessed Virgin Mary, in part because of the biblical images applied to her such as vine, lavender, cypress and lily, partly from seeing her in terms of a sweet smelling flower because of her virtue, and most of all because of Isaiah 11, 1, and his reference to the "shoot springing from the side of Jesse", which would bear the blessed fruit of Jesus.

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August is dedicated to Immaculate Heart of Mary. *This Litany was composed St John Henry Newman soon after his reception into the Catholic Church in 1845 by Blessed Dominic Barberi, whose feast we celebrate on August 26*

Lord, have mercy on us.
Christ, have mercy on us.
Lord, have mercy on us.
Christ, hear us.
Christ, graciously hear us.

God, the Father of Heaven, *Have mercy on us.*
God, the Son, Redeemer of the world, *Have mercy on us.*
God, the Holy Spirit, *Have mercy on us.*
Holy Trinity, One God, *Have mercy on us.*

Heart of Mary, *Pray for us.*
Heart of Mary, according to the heart of God, *Pray for us.*
Heart of Mary, united to the Heart of Jesus, *Pray for us.*
Heart of Mary, organ of the Holy Spirit, *Pray for us.*
Heart of Mary, sanctuary of the Divine Trinity, *Pray for us.*
Heart of Mary, tabernacle of God Incarnate, *Pray for us.*
Heart of Mary, immaculate from thy creation, *Pray for us.*
Heart of Mary, full of grace, *Pray for us.*
Heart of Mary, blessed among all hearts, *Pray for us.*
Heart of Mary, throne of glory, *Pray for us.*
Heart of Mary, most humble, *Pray for us.*
Heart of Mary, holocaust of Divine Love, *Pray for us.*
Heart of Mary, fastened to the Cross with Jesus Crucified, *Pray for us.*
Heart of Mary, comfort of the afflicted, *Pray for us.*
Heart of Mary, refuge of sinners, *Pray for us.*
Heart of Mary, hope of the agonising, *Pray for us.*
Heart of Mary, seat of mercy, *Pray for us.*

Lamb of God, Who takes away the sins of the world: *Spare us, O Lord.*
Lamb of God, Who takes away the sins of the world: *Graciously hear us, O Lord.*
Lamb of God, Who takes away the sins of the world: *Have mercy on us.*
Christ, hear us. *Christ, graciously hear us.*

V/. Immaculate Mary, meek and humble of heart:
R/. *Make our hearts according to the Heart of Jesus.*

Let us pray. O most merciful God, Who, for the salvation of sinners and the refuge of the miserable, wast pleased that the Most Pure Heart of Mary should be most like in charity and pity to the Divine Heart of Thy Son, Jesus Christ: grant that we who commemorate this sweet and loving Heart may, by the merits and intercession of the same Blessed Virgin, merit to be found according to the Heart of Jesus. Through the same Christ, Our Lord. Amen.

Immaculate Heart of Mary, pray for us.