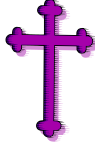




# The Messenger

October, 2019

## Morsels of Faith from Mr. Kuhar



I was speaking with a group of students recently and talking about the importance of our faith. I was sharing how it can be difficult to grow in our faith and understand it as the relationship with God seems different than our relationship with one another. When I speak to another person, I hear them respond. If I am visiting a friend they are physically present and I can see them. In my relationship with God, He is always present but I do not always see or hear Him. This does not mean He is not present or listening, or speaking, but rather that I have not seen, spoken to, or heard Him. I encouraged the students to look for and recognize God throughout the day. It can be something as simple as a sunrise or sunset that catches your eye and you give thanks to God for the beauty. A kindness shown to you by another human being that brightens your day is another way of seeing and recognizing God. A special treat, favorite meal, or unexpected phone call from a friend are moments where I recognize and thank God for the little blessings of life. It could be when a verse from scripture or a prayer really speaks to your heart. These are just a few examples of God's presence being made known.

As I was thinking about God's presence being made known, my thoughts turned to Mary and when the Angel Gabriel came to her and announced that she was to be the Mother of Jesus. God became man. He walked the earth becoming one like us in all things. Mary was the person chosen by God to bring forth Jesus into the world. She said yes to the will of God to become the Mother of Jesus. We have been given the great gift of Mary in our lives as a way to come to know Jesus better. Jesus came to earth through Mary and then on the cross He gave Mary to us to be our mother. When we ask Mary's intercession by requesting her prayers for our needs, she brings them to her Son and helps us to come to know Him better. The month of October (as well as May) are months set aside to honor Mary and her role in both giving birth to Jesus but also in interceding for us and helping us along the journey to heaven.

I want to encourage you to take time as a family to pray a rosary once a week together during the month of October. It only takes 15-20 minutes so no more time than watching an episode of your favorite show. We used to pray a rosary in the car to or from whatever activities we had on the calendar. If you are not familiar with the rosary prayers it is very simple and consists primarily of a few Our Fathers, a number of Hail Marys, and Glory Be's with an Apostles Creed at the beginning.



Here is where you can find the prayers of the rosary and a guide how to pray it. <http://uscgb.org/prayer-and-worship/prayers-and-devotions/rosaries/index.cfm>



## PRAYER FOR FALL

For the fall harvest which brings us gratitude for the bounty of our lands, for the change of seasons that reveal the circle of life. God of all seasons, as you transform the earth, transform us by your Spirit.

## Cindy's Corner



“Reflecting back on my summer break I have come to the conclusion that it has been a summer where I have relied on my friends, the Saints. I recall years ago while I was at Mass the celebrant asked us to all name our Guardian Angels. The name Amelia quickly came to mind. I thought I would also learn about the patronage of St. Amelia, you know to have a saint and an angel that has my back. St. Amelia is the patron Saint of arm injuries. I wasn't too excited to discover this; I wanted something more applicative, useful in my everyday life. O ye of little faith.

Flash forward to today, Saint Amelia had become one of my main prayer support saints this summer. Mainly because of my husband's recent shoulder surgery and this lump I have in my arm. It was assumed the lump was scar tissue caused by an IV needle when I had surgery a couple years ago. It seemed to be doing no harm so my doc and I decided to let it be. Well, over this past summer another mass grew on top of it-still wasn't a bother, just unsightly. Then, eventually the pain set in and I was sent to a couple specialists. The morning that I was headed to a surgeon to check on it, I received a message from my friend that her elderly, but previously very active mother, had fallen and shattered her shoulder. Not a coincidence that we should be dealing with these arm challenges at the same moment. St. Amelia, pray for us. My Guardian Angel Amelia, watch over us. Well, the new lump turned out to be an abscessed infection which needed to be incised (twice!), packed (eww) and bandaged for weeks (great). Resulting in no backyard volleyball, no swimming, might need surgery, not sure, etc. etc. Ugh.

Not really a big deal in the grand scheme of things but St. Amelia had become a support. My friend's mom had surgery and is currently recovering. That is simply, yet spectacularly, what it is for me praying with the saints. Not a magic wand to solve my problems but still magical in that it transforms me and draws me closer to the awesome power of our Lord. It transforms me by improving my prayer life, bringing the gifts of peace, patience and strength to deal with life's challenges, encouraging me to pray for others and to share my faith. This prayer time with the saints also moves me to be more compassionate towards others who all have their own “scars” to deal with.

So who else was on my Saint A-list this summer?:

### Saint Cajetan Patron Saint of Job Seekers

My daughter was distressed looking for work and having to deal with rejection or no answers at all. My friend led me to St. Cajetan and we prayed together his novena. By focusing on this prayer I stilled myself and became aware of ways I could help my daughter in her search. My prayer also led me to find peace in the process. I just had to trust in God and my daughter to try and try again. She has found something in her field that she is enjoying and that is close to home. Praise God.

### Saint Gemma “The Gem of Christ”

One of her patronages is for those suffering with back injury. My husband, who had recently returned back to work after 5 months off for shoulder surgery, had thrown out his back. I regret that initially I was more irritated then sympathetic. However, after clothing myself in prayer and in the armor of our Lord, I could be more like the woman God had intended me to be. My husband missed a week of work, but has returned, still a little sore but on the mend. Alleluia!

### Saint Christopher

As my children travelled with friends up north, there was a difficulty they had in that their car got submerged in a “puddle” that they could not get out of. As the car filled with water they grabbed their things and climbed out the passenger side. In the middle of nowhere, with no cell reception and in the heat of summer, it was a desperate time. Some Good Samaritans eventually came to their aide. The kids are okay, the car is repaired. Thank you Jesus!

Lastly,

### Blessed Mother Mary Queen of All Saints

As all these difficulties were colliding, my friend thankfully reminded me to simply go to our Mother and the powerful prayer of the Memorare (Latin for *Remember*). I will leave you with that and invite you to discover your own company of saints that pertain to your needs during this season of your life. What a blessing we have in them.

### Memorare

**REMEMBER, O most gracious Virgin Mary, that never was it known that anyone who fled to thy protection, implored thy help, or sought thy intercession was left unaided. Inspired with this confidence, I fly to thee, O Virgin of virgins, my Mother; to thee do I come; before thee I stand, sinful and sorrowful. O Mother of the Word Incarnate, despise not my petitions, but in thy mercy hear and answer me. Amen.**