

SEASON OF CREATION 2026

"Living Water" Ezekiel 47:9 & 12

SEPTEMBER 2026



Important Dates in September

- 1 World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation
- 1 The Season of Creation begins
- 5 St Teresa of Kolkata
- 8 International Literacy Day
- 8 Feast of the Birth of Blessed Virgin Mary
- 14 Feast of the Holy Cross
- 15 Our Lady of Sorrows
- 15 UN International Day of Democracy
- 16 UN International Day for the Preservation of the Ozone Layer
- 21 Feast of St Matthew
- 21 UN International Day of Peace
- 22 World Car Free day
- 27 Feast Day of St. Vincent de Paul
- 29 Feast of St. Michael the Archangel

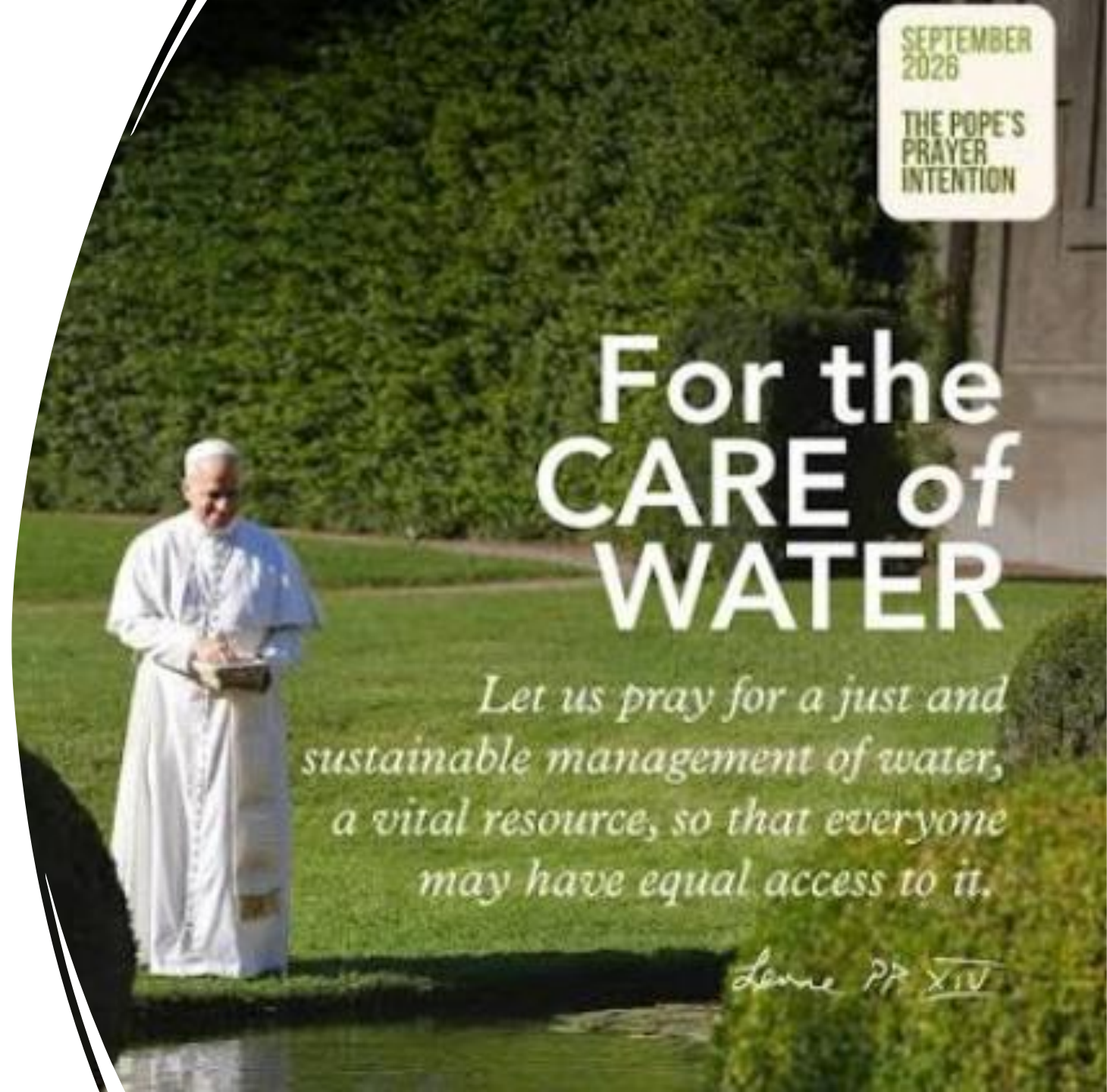
Faith leaders invite you to the 2026 Season of Creation

- <https://youtu.be/xVVZ8LSpcRk?si=IH9r-bbl8ZGjj6st>
- This year's theme, "Living Water", explores Ezekiel 47:9 and 12 as a powerful biblical vision of hope and ecological healing. Set amid exile and loss, the image of living water flowing from God's sanctuary reveals divine healing that renews land, water, biodiversity, and human responsibility towards the whole creation.



Prayer of Pope Leo XIV For the care of water - September 2026 |

- https://youtu.be/5LhsgE7-AJQ?si=hB_6NzgZy7nhchuz



In the name of the Father, and of
the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
Amén.

Lord of Life,
You have given us the gift of water,
source of fruitfulness, freshness,
and hope.
It quenches thirst, nourishes the
earth, and heals wounds.



- We thank You,
because it is also a symbol of your
grace and love
that renews us through Baptism.
Today we ask You to teach us to
safeguard it
with gratitude, justice, and
responsibility.

- Forgive us for turning it into a
commodity,
forgetting that it is a universal gift,
a right without borders, meant for all
your children.
We see with pain so many brothers
and sisters
who lack clean water,
who walk for miles to find it,
who become ill due to its scarcity.

- May your Spirit make us pilgrims of the essential, able to live with simplicity, denouncing waste and pollution, defending the right of every brother and sister to drink without fear and without inequality.



- May our care for water be a sign of love for the Creator and a commitment to the lives of the poor, educating new generations to value and protect the Earth's resources.
- Amen.





IMMERSION IN LIVING WATER

Living Water

Season of Creation 2026

LIVING WATER
Resources for
Season of Creation 2026

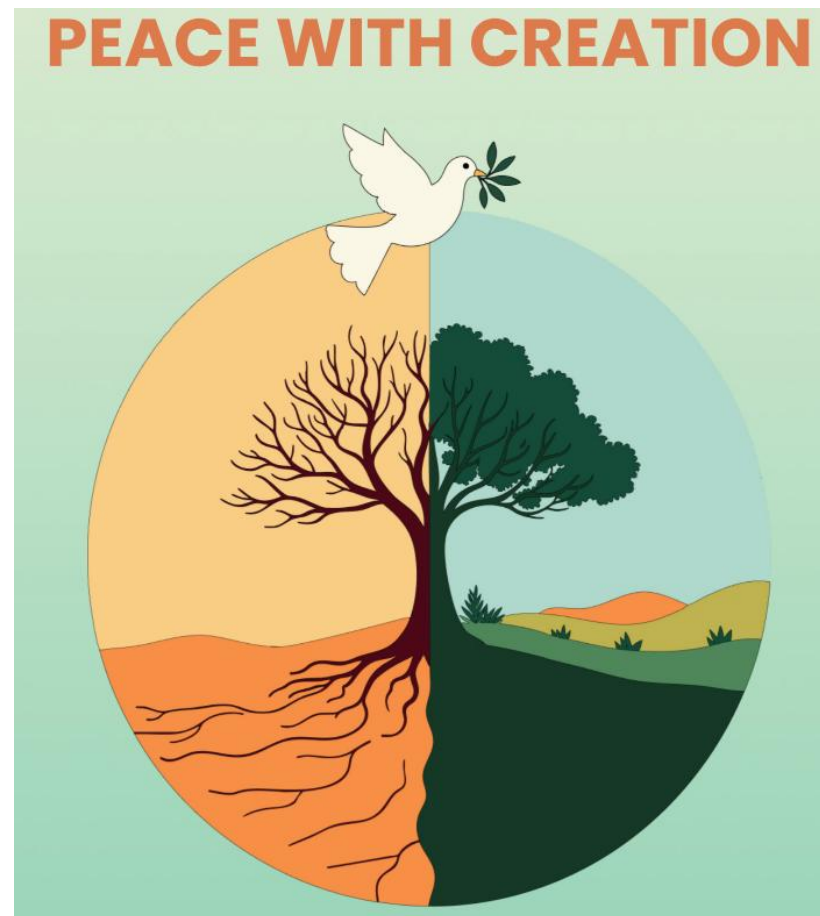
- <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1I7hwrkIFnXLnFrefagojgcHa5MBy4zVg/view>

MESSAGE OF POPE LEO XIV FOR THE 11th WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR THE CARE OF CREATION 2026 1st September

“The true tools for building peace are not weapons of destruction, instead they are truth, dialogue, patience, goodness, justice, mercy, understanding, care and love. These flow from hearts shaped by the Gospel and sustained by God’s grace. Only these qualities possess the power to transform individuals, renew communities and heal the wounds of our world.”

***They shall beat their swords into
plowshares
and their spears into pruning hooks (Isaiah
2:4)***

<https://www.vatican.va/content/leo-xiv/en/messages/creation/documents/20260815-messaggio-giornata-curacreato.html>



Let There Be Peace on Earth...

- [https://youtu.be/fH2FekyDKdw?
si=vZTC3vcPD5djgBMV](https://youtu.be/fH2FekyDKdw?si=vZTC3vcPD5djgBMV)



- Let us imagine a world in which the energies currently invested in war are directed toward integral human development, to overcoming poverty, protecting human dignity and reconciling divided peoples. Such a vision reflects faith in the coming of God's Kingdom. (MESSAGE OF POPE LEO XIV FOR THE 11th WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR THE CARE OF CREATION 2026)





Our hope: Creation will find peace when justice is restored.
There is still hope and the expectation for a peaceful Earth.

To hope in a biblical context does not mean to stand still and quiet, but to act, pray, change, and reconcile with Creation and the Creator in unity, metanoia (repentance), and solidarity.



Jeremiah 29:11

I know the plans
I have for you ...
plans to give
you a future full
of hope

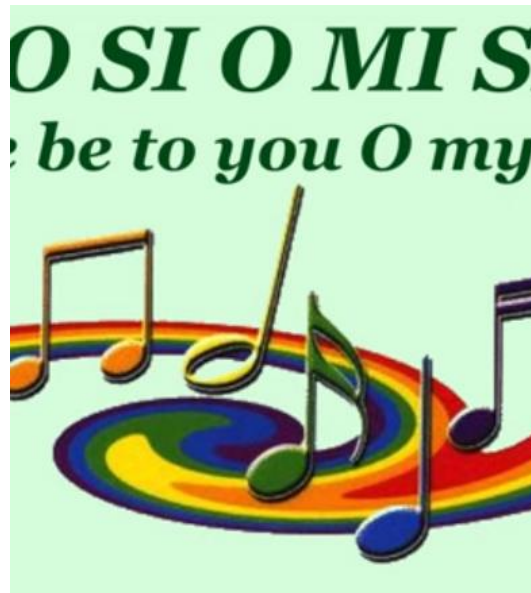


What a Wonderful World

I see trees of green, red roses too
I see them bloom for me and you
And I think to myself
What a wonderful world
I see skies of blue and clouds of white
The bright blessed days, the dark
sacred nights
And I think to myself
What a wonderful world.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=K_E4q_pHlxc





- **LAUDATO SI O MI SIGNORE**

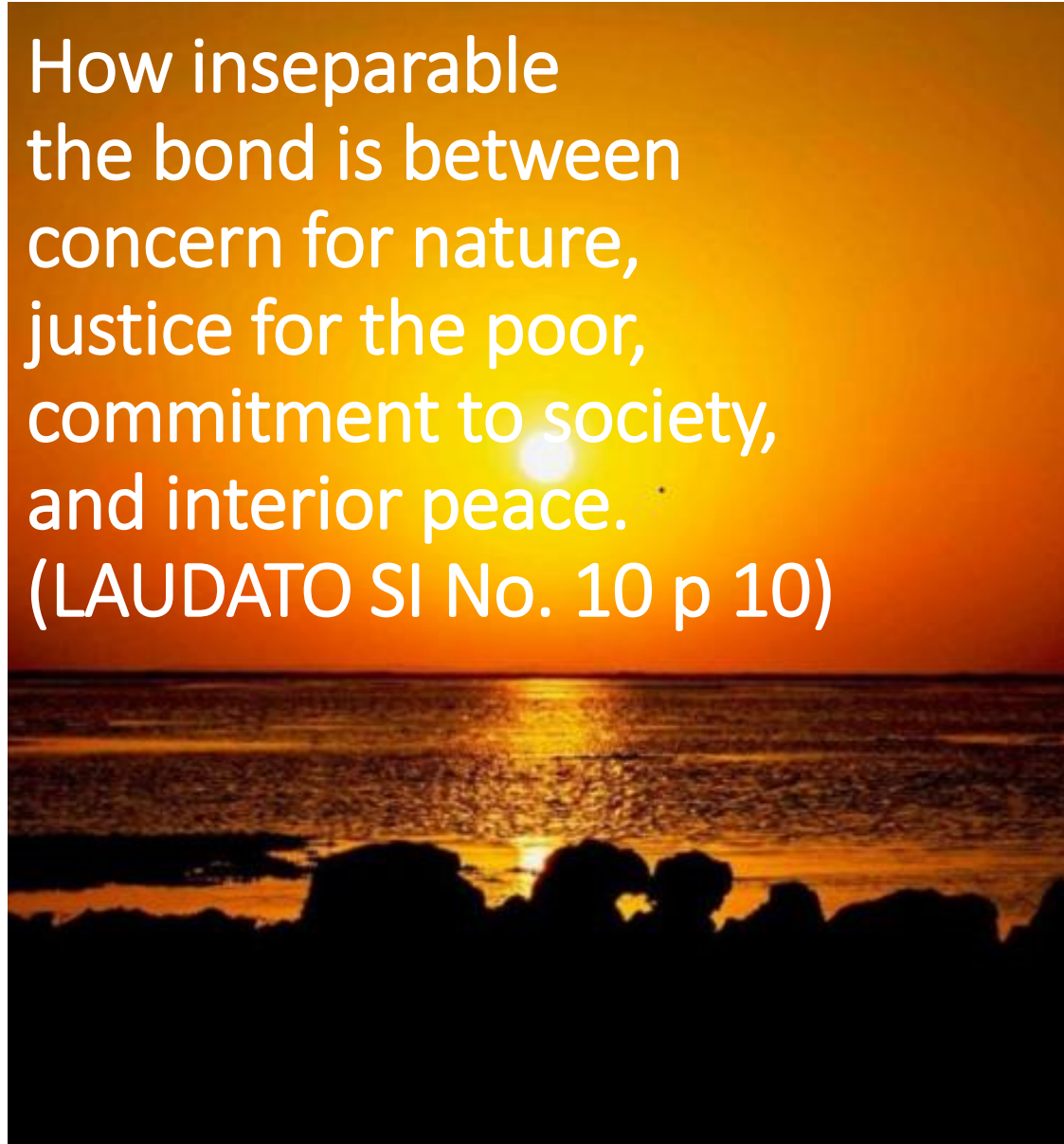
In Thanksgiving for Pope Francis' Encyclical

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0tCkCfyg5bU>





How inseparable
the bond is between
concern for nature,
justice for the poor,
commitment to society,
and interior peace.
(LAUDATO SI No. 10 p 10)



A prayer for our Earth (Pope Francis)

All-powerful God, you are present in the whole universe
and in the smallest of your creatures.

You embrace with your tenderness all that exists.

Pour out upon us the power of your love,
that we may protect life and beauty.

Fill us with peace, that we may live
as brothers and sisters, harming no one.

O God of the poor,
help us to rescue the abandoned and forgotten of this
earth,

so precious in your eyes.

Bring healing to our lives,
that we may protect the world and not prey on it,
that we may sow beauty, not pollution and destruction.





A prayer for our Earth (Pope Francis)

(continued)

Touch the hearts
of those who look only for gain
at the expense of the poor and the earth.
Teach us to discover the worth of each
thing,
to be filled with awe and contemplation,
to recognize that we are profoundly united
with every creature
as we journey towards your infinite light.
We thank you for being with us each day.
Encourage us, we pray, in our struggle
for justice, love and peace.



St Teresa of Kolkata

5 September

"By blood and origin I am all Albanian.

My citizenship is Indian. I am a Catholic nun.

As to my calling, I belong to the whole world.

As to my heart, I belong entirely to the Heart of Jesus."

St Teresa of Kolkata

- For more information, see
- <https://missionariesofcharity.org/about-us/mother-teresa/>

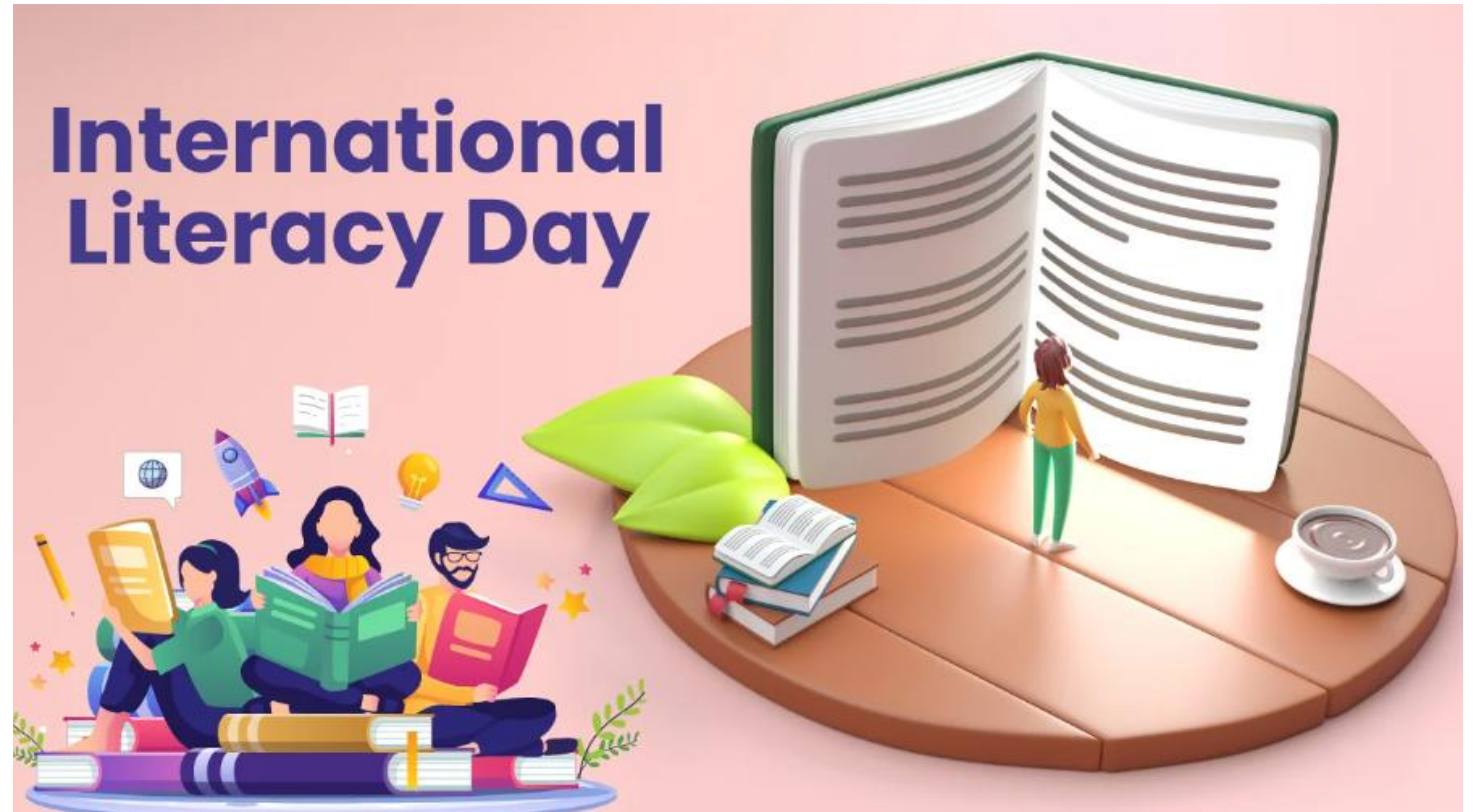


8 September Feast of the Birth of Our Lady

- Hail, Mary, full of grace,
the Lord is with thee.
Blessed art thou amongst women
and blessed is the fruit of thy womb,
Jesus.
Holy Mary, Mother of God,
pray for us sinners,
now and at the hour of our death.
Amen.
- We listen to the beautiful music of
- Ave Maria (Liam Lawton) - Roisin O'Reilly,
Liam Lawton & Joseph McManners at
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DXPlhamm-uY>

8 September: International Literacy Day

- See Celebration of the International Literacy Day in UNESCO Headquarters:
- Promoting multilingual education: Literacy for mutual understanding and peace.



September 14

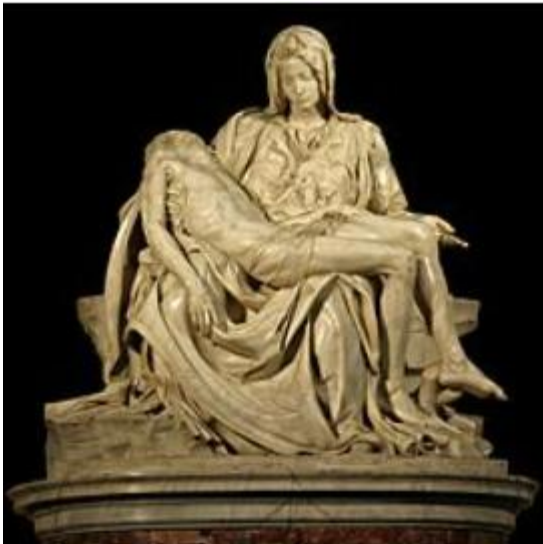
Feast of the Exaltation of the Cross

- The Feast of the Universal Exaltation of the Precious and Life-Giving Cross is celebrated each year on September 14. The Feast commemorates the finding of the True Cross of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ by Saint Helen, the mother of the Emperor Constantine. See: [Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross - Vatican News](#)
- See also Exploring the Feasts of the Orthodox Christian Church:
- <https://www.goarch.org/exaltation>



15 September: Our Lady of Sorrows

See Pietà (Michelangelo)



The title, *Our Lady of Sorrows*, focuses on her grief during the passion and death of Jesus.

For reflections on this feast, see:

<https://www.jesuits.org/stories/spirit-verse-our-lady-of-sorrows/>

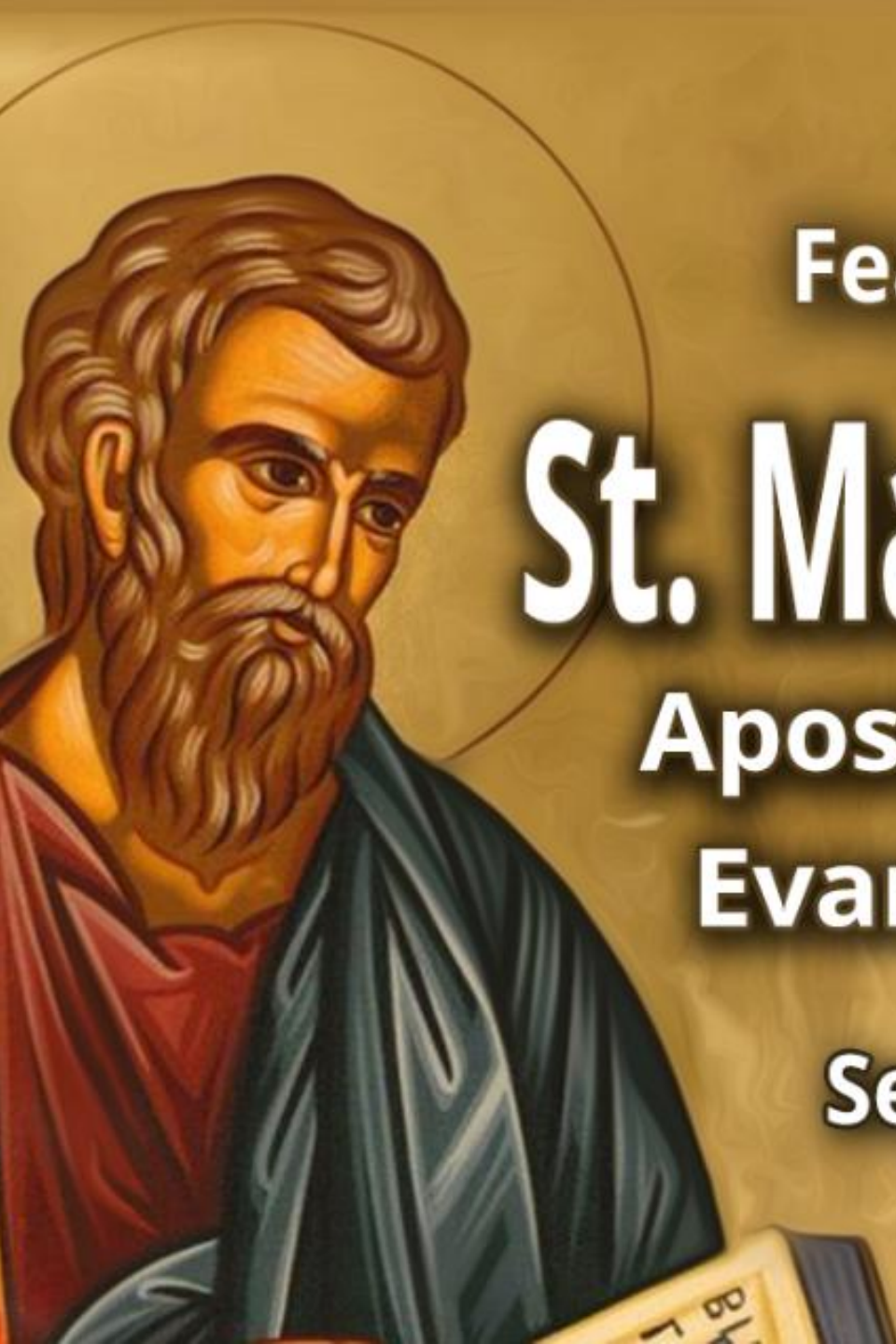
and listen to *Stabat Mater* (Gandrille)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XbdXXzhVKJc>

15 September: UN International Day of Democracy

- Democracy is as much a process as a goal, and only with the full participation of and support by the international community, national governing bodies, civil society and individuals, can the ideal of democracy be made into a reality to be enjoyed by everyone, everywhere.
- See also [About the United Nations | Resources - Institute of the Blessed Virgin Mary – Loreto \(ibvmunngo.org\)](https://www.ibvmunngo.org/resources)





Feast of

St. Matthew

Apostle and
Evangelist

Sept 21

21 September: St
Matthew

- <https://www.loyolapress.com/catholic-resources/saints/saints-stories-for-all-ages/saint-matthew/>

21 September: UN International Day of Peace

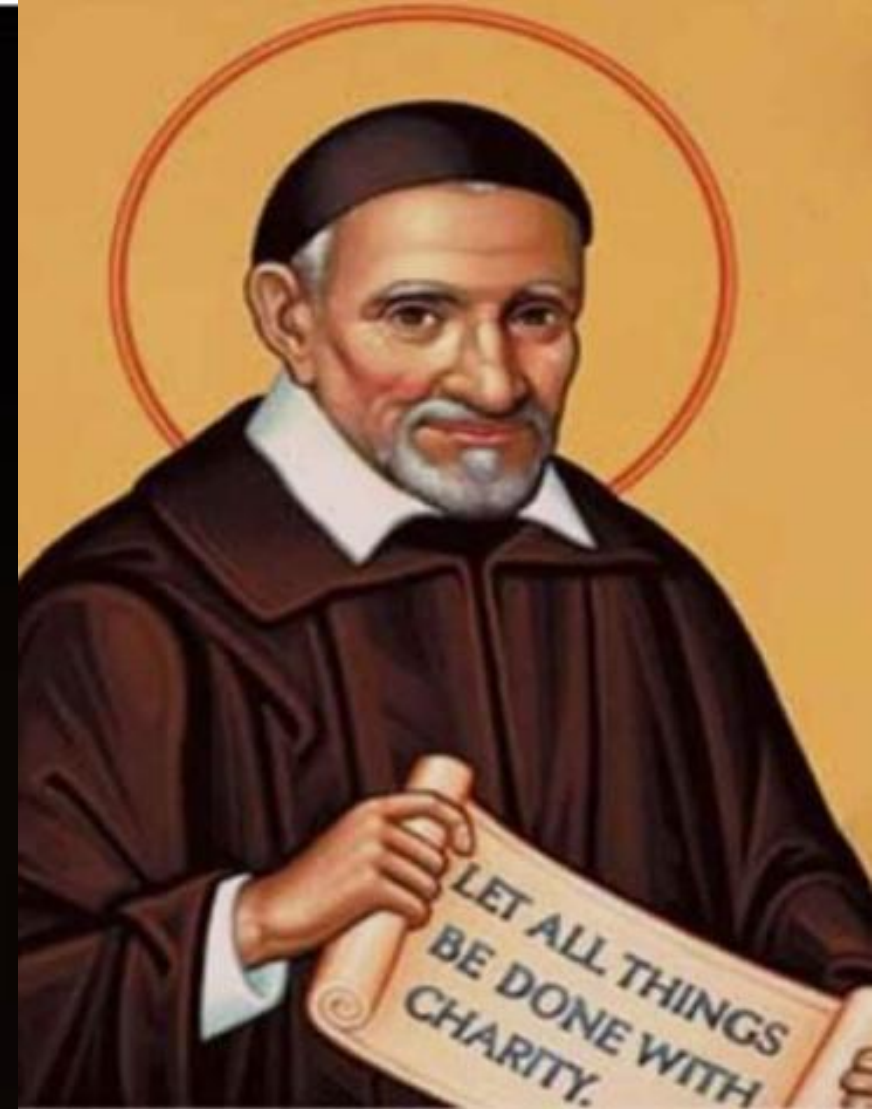
- Listen to the music of
- *Peace is the gift of Christ the Lord*
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zwjCDg90q5E>
- Universal Peace prayers:
- <https://devonfaiths.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/Universal-Peace-Prayers-DFBF-April-2020.pdf>





Faith Leadership Teams: Ember Training September 2026

- Loreto Schools in Dublin – Training together in Ovoca Manor
22 – 23 September
- Loreto schools outside Dublin – Training in their local area.



27 September:
Feast Day of St. Vincent de Paul
Read his life-story and his legacy of caring for others:

<https://catholicreadings.org/saint-vincent-de-paul/>
<https://www.svp.ie>

SOCIETY OF ST VINCENT DE PAUL

- <https://www.svp.ie/>



29 September: Feast of St. Michael the Archangel

- The Feast of St Michael is on 29 Sept. On this Feast, in some schools (Mary Ward schools, Loreto), a picture or a statue of St. Michael is carried to a sacred space by the youngest pupil in the school. Today, we pray for protection for all.
- This practice stems from a story of an attack in 1695 on the Bar Convent in York founded by Mary Ward. The sisters prayed to the archangel St Michael to protect them. When a vision of St Michael on a white horse appeared over the house, the mob fled in terror. An engraving of St Michael now hangs over the front door of the Bar Convent to commemorate this story.
- See <http://www.historyofyork.org.uk/themes/tudor-stuart/the-bar-convent>





Art Competition – St. Michael the Archangel

- Pupils from both primary and secondary schools are invited to take part in an art competition later this term.
- Details of this activity will be sent to the schools by email.
- The closing date will be 23 October 2026.

Prayer to St
Michael
Loreto
Primary
School,
Grange Road

St Michael, the Archangel,
protect us from all harm.
Wrap your wings of peace
around each one of us.
Sing softly to us from heaven
and guard us and our families
with love.
Thank you for watching over
us
at home and here at school.
Help us to spread God's love
everywhere we go.
Amen.



Save the Date!

10 May 2027

Faith and Music Day

- Loreto Network Event
- Faith and Music (Secondary Schools)
- St Patrick's College, Maynooth
- Online planning meetings with representatives from the schools will begin later this month.



A Vision for Catholic Schools in Ireland

- We look forward to reflecting together on this document which will be launched in October 2026.

The Catholic School:

INVITES ...

SHINES ...

NURTURES ...

DIGNIFIES ...

BUILDS ...

WEAVES ...

NAVIGATES ...

A vibrant field of sunflowers with bright yellow petals and dark brown centers, set against a clear blue sky. The sunflowers are in various stages of bloom, and the background is softly blurred.

Best wishes to all!

As we continue to celebrate the
Season of Creation

until 4 October, we end with
For the Beauty of the Earth

by John Rutter.

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xIBkpAm3fhw>