

Some Thoughts for April 2024

Marge Loenser

I love the name “April.” It conjures thoughts of soft rain, early blooms, warmer weather. Welcome spring! Here come the lilacs, forsythia, tulips, daffodils and all sorts of blooms; they join in the symphony of color and joy!

We’re in the Easter season, so we hear a lot of “Alleluias,” and that’s exactly what we need to hear and feel during these uncertain present times! It’s a reminder that no matter what, Jesus is here. Jesus is our hope and refuge. My Jesus, I trust in You!

On the 8th we have the Feast of the Annunciation. “Mary, with your consent to become the Mother of God, torrents of grace poured forth upon the earth, opening up for me a path to follow.” Mary, our Mother, please pray for us.

On the 11th we celebrate St. Stanislaus Kostka, patron saint of young students and seminarians. He was born in Poland in 1550 and was known for his vigorous opposition to an unjust government. St. Stannislaus please pray for us.

On the 23rd we celebrate St. George, born in 275 A.D. He was a soldier in the Roman army, and an early church martyr. For his faith as a Christian he was tortured and beheaded under the rule of Emperor Diocletian. Several miracles have been attributed to him -- one was of him praying over a grave; having the earth quake, the grave open, and the man raised from the dead. St. George, pray for us.

On the 25th we celebrate St. Mark--writer of one of the four gospels. He was a man after my own heart--he got right to the point. He used the word “Immediately” at least 21 times. He was a disciple of both St. Paul and St. Peter. He preached the gospel in Egypt or in Alexandria and was martyred by being dragged to death. Dear St. Mark, please pray for us.

On the 29th we celebrate St. Catherine of Siena. She was a member of the third order of St. Dominic and a mystic. She had great influence in bringing the papacy back to Rome from France in the late 1300’s. She was a Doctor of the church. St. Catherine, pray for us and our church.

God bless us all and our families and may Jesus through His holy Mother, Mary, hear our prayers and grant us answers according to His Holy will.

God bless you,
Love,
Marge



Marge Loenser is a member of Saint Mark’s Church in Sea Girt where she is a Lector and a Eucharistic Minister. She has retired from teaching CCD at Saint Mark’s. She has been a member of Catholic Women of Zion for about 30 years and is also a member of Mary Queen of Peace Prayer Community for about the same length of time. She writes for a monthly column for Saint Mark’s Church Bulletin.