

FAITH IN 5

Ordinary Time: Week 30

Ages 3-8

SAINT STUDIES for OCTOBER!

- 1. What is a religious order?** A religious order is a community of consecrated men and women (priests, nuns, religious brothers, etc.) Some orders care for the sick, teach or serve the poor where others are completely cut off from the world and live lives of intense devotion and prayer. Each religious order has a special mission! Many of these orders have helped build hospitals and schools in our country! There are many different religious orders- Franciscans, Dominicans, Benedictines, and many more. St. Bruno founded the Carthusian Order. **Who are the Carthusians?** The Carthusian order is made up of cloistered monks and nuns- which means they do not ever leave the monastery. They live solitary lives, which means they live alone and also don't speak to the outside world. Because of this, we don't know much about the Carthusians, but we know they are there and that they are praying for us! St. Bruno's feast day is celebrated on October 6th. *St. Bruno, pray for us!*
- 2. Many great Saints were martyrs. What does it mean to be a martyr?** Those who were martyred were killed instead of denying Christ. Saint Ignatius of Antioch was an early martyr in the Church. St. Ignatius is well known for his seven letters that he wrote for the Church. In several of his letters, St. Ignatius writes about the importance of avoiding heresies. **What is a heresy?** A heresy is something that people might claim to be true, but is actually against Christian teaching. He wrote a lot about remaining faithful to God and following His will, even if that means martyrdom. St. Ignatius's feast day is celebrated on October 17th. *St. Ignatius of Antioch, pray for us!*
- 3. Do you remember who founded the Franciscan order?** St. Francis of Assisi, that's right! St. John Capistrano's feast day is celebrated this week on October 23rd, and he was also a Franciscan priest! St John Capistrano lived at a very difficult time in history- in the late 1300s/early 1400s there was a lot of disease, war, and turmoil in Europe. St. John was a very talented preacher and thanks to this gift from God, he was able to bring a lot of people back to the Church after many years of sadness. St. John did not sit around and wait for things to get better in society- instead he never stopped working to change the hearts of people and do the will of God. *St. Capistrano, pray for us!*
- 4. Saint Anthony Mary Claret started a religious order!** He formed the Claretians, which are also known as the Missionary Sons of the Immaculate Heart of Mary. The

Claretians mission is centered around missionary work. **What is a missionary?** Missionaries often travel a lot, teaching others about Jesus. When St. Anthony Mary Claret was a young priest, he tried to join the Carthusian order and the Society of Jesus but neither order would take him because of his poor health at the time. As a result, he went on to travel and preach. He became one of the most well-known preachers in Spain! He traveled across Europe and even Cuba, doing missions and retreats, hearing confessions and preaching! Father Anthony had a special devotion to the Holy Eucharist and our Blessed Mother, Mary. He went on to found a Catholic publishing company, where he wrote over 200 books and pamphlets. St. Anthony's feast day is on October 24th- he is the patron Saint of weavers. *St. Anthony Mary Claret, pray for us!*

5. **Did you know there is a Patron Saint of lost causes?** It's true, St Jude is the patron Saint of lost causes! Saint Jude was one of the 12 apostles. He was also called Thaddeus. Because he had the same name as Judas Iscario though, his name was shortened to Jude so that he wasn't confused with Judas. **Do you remember what happened with Judas?** Judas Iscariot betrayed Jesus and handed him into the authorities to be crucified. It is said that St Jude is the patron saint of lost causes (or desperate situations) because no one asked him for prayers because of the confusion with Judas!! St. Jude also shares a feast day with Saint Simon on October 28th. *St Jude, pray for us!*