

Autumn Blessings

October is a time of transition from summer to Fall, the earth in a sense starts her preparation for dormition. A time of rest, sleep and death, only to be reborn in the Spring bringing forth new life. Nature is a teacher of the lifecycle; into which we are all born. It is up to us to look for the beauty of each transition in the midst of the struggle each stage offers to us.

October brings with her many Saints feast days, including St. Therese of the Child Jesus, the Guardian Angels, Saint Teresa of Avila, St. Francis of Assisi, to name a few. I find it interesting that most of these saints were close to nature, understanding the love of God for all creation, in a sense seeing in all the diversity of nature a mirror or likeness of themselves, a life source, a strength, knowing they were a beloved of God.

As we approach days of shortening daylight, a cooling of the earth, and a time of resplendent autumn colors, may God's love remain burning in our hearts as a constant reminder of His presence and strength during this time of transition which inevitably will bring with it, its own struggles of transformation.

"I understood that every flower created by Him is beautiful, that the brilliance of the rose and the whiteness of the lily do not lessen the perfume of the violet or the sweet simplicity of the daisy. I understood that if all the lowly flowers wished to be roses, nature would no longer be enameled with lovely hues. And so it is in the world of souls, Our lord's living garden."

- St. Therese of the Child Jesus

"If you have men who will exclude any of God's creatures from the shelter of compassion and pity, you will have men who will deal likewise with their fellow men." - St. Francis of Assisi

"Let nothing disturb you,
Let nothing frighten you,
All things are passing away:
God never changes.
Patience obtains all things.
Whoever has God lacks nothing;
God alone suffices."

-St. Teresa of Avila