



NEWS – US LAY ASSOCIATES SISTERS OF CHARITY OF THE INCARNATE WORD SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS

September 2026 Issue 39

VATICAN NEWS Gisela Bergmann, a princess of Liechtenstein, is part of a group of experts announced by Pope Leo XIV tasked with keeping an eye on the Vatican's vast wealth. She will serve a five-year term on the Secretariat for the Economy, which manages the Vatican's finances. She is one of seven laypeople appointed to the fifteen-member council. The 36 year old woman is well qualified from her many years of study at the University of Liechtenstein and the Federal Institute of Technology in Zurich where she received qualifications in environmental engineering. Gisela serves as the CEO of Industrie-Und Finanzkontor, a wealth management business founded by the Liechtenstein princely family. (from Wikipedia)



SAINT OF THE MONTH

Mother Teresa of Calcutta
(St. Teresa of Calcutta)

Feast: September 5

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Considered one of the 20th Century's greatest humanitarians, she was canonized as St. Teresa of Calcutta in 2016.



Summing up her life in characteristically self-effacing fashion, Mother Teresa said, "By blood, I am Albanian. By citizenship, an Indian. By faith, I am a Catholic nun. As to my calling, I belong to the world. As to my heart, I belong entirely to the Heart of Jesus."

Quotes from St. Teresa of Calcutta

"It is easy to love the people far away. It is not always easy to love those close to us. It is easier to give a cup of rice to relieve hunger than to relieve the loneliness and pain of someone unloved in our own home. Bring love into your home for this is where our love for each other must start."

"Life is an opportunity, benefit from it.

Life is beauty, admire it.

Life is a dream, realize it.

Life is a challenge, meet it.

Life is a duty, complete it.

Life is a game, play it.

Life is a song, sing it.

Life is a struggle, accept it."

From...[Do Something Beautiful for God: The Essential Teachings of Mother Teresa, 365 Daily Reflections](#)



Incarnate Word, you called me to serve as your disciple. Help me discern how I can best live the call to go out to all the world and preach the Gospel. You have gifted me and now I am listening for You to enlighten me and send me to make your love real and tangible in the world today.

If I am ready to serve as Coordinator, send me. If I can identify qualities in others to lead, help me to speak to them so that they may give of themselves to the Incarnate Word Associates.

Prayer asking God's help in the election of Coordinator or US Lay Associates

SEASON OF CREATION:

On September 1, Pope Leo celebrated the opening of five weeks of prayers especially focusing on creation. This was the beginning of prayer for the care of creation and the beginning of the Season of Creation which ends on October 1.

We have all seen our world destroyed by man-made instruments of death and destruction and creation altered by natural happenings – rainstorms, fires, landslides, earthquakes – which in some cases we can also attribute to man looking on how to use and misuse God's creation. Pope Leo, in addressing this topic, stated that what has been used for destruction can be redirected toward life, toward the care of the poor, the nourishment of the hungry and the safeguarding of creation.

Pope Leo tells us that it is “not too late to turn destruction into life” adding that “It would be superficial to marvel at fire, wind, rushing waters or the stars of heaven, without allowing our gaze to rise to the Creator of such wonders. He referred to the melodious voice of creation which we can listen to by putting ourselves in a silent mode and becoming aware of the sound and visual beauty around us. Of course, he cited St. Francis' *Canticle of the Creatures* where this Saint praises God through the sun, moon and stars, wind, water, fire and the earth.

Pope Leo recalled that Pope Francis drew particular inspiration from the saint when within *Laudato Si'* and in establishing the *Laudato Si' Village*. “With Saint Francis,” he said, “let us renew our commitment to living and promoting that universal fraternity which is inseparably bound to the task of caring for creation..”

The Canticle of the Creatures

By St. Francis of Assisi

Most High, all-powerful, good Lord
Yours are the praises, the glory, and
the honour, and all blessing,

To you alone, Most High, do they belong,
And no human is worthy to mention your
name.

Praised be You, my Lord, with all Your
creatures,

Especially Sir Brother Sun who is the day
and through whom You give us light.

And he is beautiful and radiant with great
splendor;

And bears a likeness of You, Most High One.

Praised be You, my Lord,

through Sister Moon and the stars,
In heaven You formed them clear and precious
and beautiful.

Praised be You, my Lord, through Brother Fire,

Through whom You light the night,

And he is beautiful and playful and
robust and strong.

Praised be You, my Lord, through our
Sister Mother Earth,

Who sustains and governs us,
And who produces various fruit with colored
flowers and herbs.

Praised be You, my Lord, through those
who give pardon for Your love,
And bear infirmity and tribulation.

Blessed are those who endure in peace
For by You, Most High, shall they be crowned.

Praised be You, my Lord,

through our Sister Bodily Death,
From whom no one living can escape.

Woe to those who die in mortal sin.

Blessed are those whom death

will find in Your most holy will,
For the second death shall do them no harm.

Praise and bless my Lord and give Him
thanks and serve Him with great humility.

From Francis of Assisi: Early Documents, Vol. I: The Saint. Edited by Regis J. Armstrong, J.A.Wayne Hellman, and William J. Short. (New York: New City Press, 1999) 113.

**You created my inmost
you knit me together
in my mother's womb.
I praise you because
I am fearfully
and wonderfully made.
(Psalm 139:13-14)**



OCTOBER

October 2	Linda Edwards
October 3	Mary Farmer
October 5	Ricardo Riojas
October 11	Blanca Mendieta
October 16	Rosamaría Garza

October 17	Patricia Fitzpatrick
October 19	Sandra Watts
October 21	Lupita Pérez
October 30	Michele Marsh
October 31	Angelita Martínez