

October 28, 2025

Daily Reflections



FEAST OF SAINTS SIMON AND JUDE, APOSTLES

By Sister Christine Hilliard, CSJ

Saints Simon & Jude

Very little is said in the Scriptures about either Simon or Jude, the two apostles whose feast is celebrated today. In the Gospel of Luke, Simon is referred to as a zealot, i.e., a person of strong beliefs and intense actions. During this time among the Jews there was a radical group called the Zealots. They detested the Romans for taking control of Israel and wanted to remove these intruders by force. In Simon's case, the word zealot may have implied that he was simply known for following the Jewish law very, very seriously. He is mentioned in Matthew 10:4, Mark 3:18, Luke 6:15, and Acts 1:13. While Scripture tells us almost nothing about him, Church tradition says that after Christ's death and resurrection, he preached the gospel as a missionary in Egypt. Simon's occupation or where he lived is not mentioned. We only know that he was a disciple and missionary for Jesus Christ.

In the gospels of Matthew and Mark, Jude is called Thaddeus. He is called Jude rather than Judas to separate him from Judas Iscariot, the apostle who

betrayed Jesus. He is said to have been born into a Jewish family (possibly that of Mary of Clopas and her husband) in Paneas, modern day Caesarea Philippi. He is known as the patron saint of desperate situations. [*Have you ever called upon St. Jude for his help? Does any situation come to mind right now*
Imagine yourself calling on St. Jude for help in a threatening situation. What do you say? How does he respond?]

It is said that both Simon and Jude eventually traveled to Persia, where they were both martyred. Later their bodies were brought to Rome for burial in St. Peter's Basilica.



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Today's Responsorial Psalm

Their message goes out through all the earth.

The heavens declare the glory of God,

*and the firmament proclaims God's handiwork.
Day pours out the word to day,
And night to night departs knowledge.*

Their message goes out through all the earth.

*Not a word nor a discourse
whose voice is not heard;
Through all the earth their voice resounds,
and to the ends of the world, their message.*

Their message goes out through all the earth.

PSALM 19:2-3, 4-5

Reflection

If one looks at the whole of Psalm 19, it notably consists of two distinct parts. The first section -- used in today's readings -- presents the heavens, especially the sun, singing the glories of the creator; with the second section, the psalmist praises God's moral law and prays for the grace to keep it.

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