

Daily Reflections



Center for Spiritual Development

A TIME FOR EVERYTHING

By Julie Mussché

From Ecclesiastes

There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens.

ECCLESIASTES 3:1

Reflection

Here we are edging toward the month of October. Yes, I know earlier this week we explored the gift of being present -- yet it is difficult to contain my excitement about the month of October. It is probably my favorite month. Where does it line up for you?

So, why October? First off, the month segues into Autumn with changing leaves, the distinguishing outlines of lengthening shadows, cooler temperatures, and a descending horizon. The environment just pops with beauty.

Most spectacularly, October is the month of the Holy Rosary, with October 7 being the feast day of Mary, Queen of the Holy Rosary. Then there are the saints that are remembered and celebrated: St. Thérèse of Lisieux; St. Francis of Assisi; St. Bridget of Sweden; St. Edward the Confessor; St. Teresa of Avila, and St. Luke, some of my favorites. October 15 is also the Sisters of St. Joseph Founders Day, and this year begins to celebrate the 375th anniversary of the founding in 1650 (it culminates in 2025).

For me, October offers both a seasonal as well as spiritual sense of liminality. It is a reminder that God's Kingdom is both here and there, in the now and yet to come. The season provokes quietude, contemplative presence, and waiting in transition for an expectation and promise. In my household, we will also celebrate the Jewish New Year, *Rosh Hashanah*, and the Day of Atonement, *Yom Kippur*. It is a time of serious reflection and making right with people we may have hurt or offended during the past year -- and with God. It is a time to move closer to wholeness and the Holy.

With only few days to go, dare I say Happy October? God bless you on your journey.



Dirt Road Covered by Dried Leaves

For Pondering

- What is your favorite month of the year?
 - How do the seasons enter into your spiritual life and growth?
 - Where and how do you encounter the Sacred as you pilgrim through the year?
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For Prayer

*“Source of blessing, Eternal our God,
You fill the universe with majestic might --
giving us life within us,
and bringing us to this time.”*

MACHZOR FOR THE DAYS OF AWE, ROSH HASHANAH, 80

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