



October 15, 2020

Today is the feast of **St. Teresa of Avila**, tomorrow St. Margaret Mary of Alacoque, and early next week is St. Isaac Jogues and his companions. All three of these are favorite saints for many people. From a young age, St. Teresa experienced a great conversion, and is often thought of as the 'great St. Teresa' who surmounted many obstacles and sustained an intense favor with God. She was a mystic and founder of many convents, and was the first woman named to be a 'doctor of the church'.

The life of **St. Margaret Mary of Alacoque** is a story about a person who was ready to give her whole life for Jesus. It is likely that we know what we do about the 'Sacred Heart of Jesus' because of her. From childhood, she experienced a closeness to Jesus and thought that everyone else did, too. One day, Jesus showed Margaret his human heart as red as a ruby. She was especially devoted to mental prayer.

St. Isaac Jogues and Companions were Jesuit missionaries, and they were martyred for their work among the Mohawks in 1646. It is appropriate to celebrate their feast around this time of the year, because Native American Day was this past Monday. Isaac and his companions were martyred for their work at their village north of the Mohawk River. Maybe someday people will be remembering us for what we are doing for God. Do you think so? We don't have to be martyrs, you know.

God bless you all!

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