

MAY



**Praying in the Spirit and
Inspiration of**

**St. Rose of Lima
(1586-1617)**

Feast Day: August 23

(Postage Stamp: Peru 1936)

Gathering and Centering:

Leader 1: We gather in God's name asking that our work be blessed and that we be strengthened to respond to the Gospel challenge of discipleship. We ask this in the name of Jesus, in union with the Holy Spirit, One Holy God.

All: Amen.

Dominican Saint: St. Rose of Lima

Leader 2: Rose, the first saint of the Americas, was born in Lima, Peru. The de Flores family suffered financially. To help support her family Rose did needlework and raised flowers for the market.

Her vocation to the Dominican Community came from a "call" Rose heard during prayer in which Jesus referred to her as "Rose of My heart". Rose practiced excessive penances as a way of uniting herself with the sufferings of Christ for the conversion of sinners and the needs of society. She was always kind and cheerful. She composed short poems, singing them as she sat in her favorite "hermitage corner" of the garden. Her friend and was counselor was Martin de Porres.

Rose was a mystic, with the grace of living in the presence of God even in the midst of her conversations and work. Rose recommended the rosary to others as a way of integrating prayer and meditation.

She died at the age of thirty-one. St. Rose was deeply loved and admired by all of the people of Peru. She was canonized just fifty-four years after her death. St. Rose is recognized as the patroness of Peru.

Prayer:

Leader: St. Rose of Lima shared deeply in God' love.
In her memory, we pray,

Response: Lead us in the way of holiness.

Leader: Rose was a true contemplative, we ask for the grace to cherish our life of prayer, we pray,

Leader: Rose shared the fruits of her prayer in her ministry to others, we ask for the grace to be gentle and caring in our sharing, we pray,

All: Gracious God, St. Rose of Lima saw God's face and heard God's voice alive in her heart and responded wholeheartedly. May we be as attentive to God's presence in our life. Amen.

Scripture: 1John 4:7-16

Reader: Beloved, let us love another, because love is of God; everyone who loves is begotten by God and knows God. Whoever is without love does not know God, for God is love. In this way the love of God was revealed to us: God sent his only son into the world so that we might have life through him. In this is love, not that we have loved God, but that God loved us and sent his Son as expiation for our sins. Beloved, if God so loved us, we also must love another. No one has ever seen God. Yet, if we love one another, God remains in us, and God's love is brought to perfection is us. The Word of God!

All: Thanks be to God.

Reflection and Sharing:

How do you experience God as love?

How do you express belief in God's love?

Blessing: Dominican Prayer:

Leader 2: We pray:

All: May God the Creator bless us.

May Jesus heal us.

And, May God the Holy Spirit fill us with light.

