



Vox Populi

25 September 2024

In the coming week, the Church will commemorate the Memorial of three great saints: Saint Jerome, Saint Thérèse of Lisieux, and Saint Francis of Assisi.

These three saints lived at very different times, came from differing circumstances and led very different lives. But they all shared in common, a desire to live according to God's will.

Every day, they lived out God's mission, most particularly through prayer. Despite the challenges they all faced in life, they never strayed far from God.

Saint Jerome dedicated much of his life to translating the Bible into Latin and writing extensively on theology. He also wrote commentaries on the Scriptures, helping many to understand and grow in their knowledge of God's Word.

Saint Francis gave up a lavish life to dedicate himself entirely to the service of God, leading a life of poverty and preaching, encouraging more people to live virtuous lives centred on Christ. He held a great affinity for the Eucharist and saw it as sign God dwelled within everyone.

Saint Thérèse of Lisieux was a model of simplicity and sanctity. Despite living just 24 years and living her entire adult life as a Carmelite nun, she has become a model of holiness to people everywhere, despite overcoming many obstacles in her life.

The saints of our Church came from many different backgrounds. They show there is no single path to sainthood. But they are all examples to us and help to light the path on our own journey to sainthood.

We also keep in our prayers this week, Bishop Anthony Randazzo and Kelly Paget, Chancellor of the Diocese of Broken Bay. Both are travelling over to Rome to take part in the Second Session of the Synod on Synodality.

We pray the Holy Spirit will be with them during this next month, guiding them in their discussions and helping them to serve the Church in this unique and special way.