

CHRISTIAN CALENDAR: AUGUST 18

Today, August 18, the Christian Church commemorates Holy Martyrs Florus and Laurus of Illyria (Eastern tradition) and Saint Helen, Empress (Western tradition). This day is historically associated with the protection of livestock, horses, and the finding of the True Cross.

1. The Lord's Prayer (Our Father)

"Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name; Thy kingdom come; Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. Amen."

2. Angelic Salutation (Hail Mary)

"Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee; blessed art thou among women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death. Amen."

3. Prayer for Blessing of Animals to Saints Florus and Laurus

"O Holy Martyrs Florus and Laurus, hear our prayers and ask our Lord to bless and preserve our domestic animals and horses from all sicknesses, injury, and harm, that they may serve for the benefit of our households and the glory of God. Amen."

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