

SAINTS OF THE MONTH.

[By the Editor of the Catholic School and Home Magazine.]

St. RAPHAEL, ARCHANGEL, Oct. 24.—This is the Angel of healing, who, as a beautiful youth, offered himself as a guide to young Tobias, setting out on his journey to a distant country. He brought him safely to his journey's end, in Media, married him to Sara and returned him to his parents, and then made known to them that he was "Raphael, one of the seven who stand before the Lord."

St. BRIDGET, W., Sweden, Oct. 8, 1304-1373.—One of the Royal family of Sweden, St. Bridget was born in 1304. At a very early age she heard a sermon on the Passion of Jesus Christ, and was so affected by it that the image of Christ crucified was ever present to her. Following her father's wish she married Prince Ulpho and had eight children. Some time before her husband's death, which occurred in 1344, both separated by mutual consent; he entered the Cistercians and she founded the Order of St. Saviour in Sweden. Her revelations concerning the Passion were approved by the Council of Basle. She died in 1373.

St. EUSTOCHIUM, V., Oct. 27, 419.—St. Jerome calls this saint "the flower of Virgins." She was the youngest daughter of St. Jerome's friend and disciple, the noble Roman widow, St. Paula. She was gifted with great intelligence which was carefully cultivated by her mother and St. Jerome. Like her mother she devoted her life to religion and accompanied her to the Holy Land and took the veil in the Monastery which St. Paula established at Bethlehem, and over which she presided after the death of her mother. Many of the letters of St. Jerome are addressed to St. Eustochium, whose learning and sympathy aided him in his great labor of translating the Hebrew books of the Old Testament into Latin. She died in 419 at Bethlehem.

SS. SIMON AND JUDE, Apostles, Oct. 28.—Simon, known in the Gospel as Zelotes or the Zealot, was from Galilee and was called by Christ to be one of His Apostles. Much is not known of him, except his zeal in preaching the doctrines of Christ. St. Simon preached in Egypt and Persia. He was put to death in the latter country.

St. Jude was a brother of St. James the Less, and was the son of Cleophas and Mary, sister of the Blessed Virgin. Being relatives or the Blessed Virgin, they were called "brethren of the Lord." He preached in Judea and in Mesopotamia, and then in Persia, where with St. Simon he suffered martyrdom. He wrote a Catholic Epistle to the Churches in the East, which is a part of the New Testament which urges fidelity to the faith and threatens all disturbers of the unity of the faith.

B. MARGARET MARY ALACOQUE, V., Oct. 17, 1647-1690.—This great apostle of the Sacred Heart was born in Burgundy, July 22, 1647, and was remarkable in her tenderest years, for her great sanctity, giving her food to the poor and practicing great austerities. June 20, 1671, she entered the Order of the Visitation at Paray-le-Monial, and Nov. 6, 1672, made her profession. She not only suffered intense bodily pain, but her soul was grievously tried by temptation, while her associates looked upon her with suspicion and distrust. Her years of suffering were rewarded by the Great Manifestations of the Sacred Heart, and she was commissioned by the Sacred Heart to preach the devotion and establish the Feast. The first vision of the Sacred Heart occurred Dec. 27, 1673; the second in the summer of 1674; the third in June, 1675. She died Oct. 17, 1690, young in years, but old in the sanctity which the loving Heart of our Saviour generously bestowed upon her. She was beatified by Pius IX. in 1864. Steps have been taken for her canonization, and we hope soon to have the Apostle of the Sacred Heart glorified with the title of Saint.

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