

June 21, 2021

Good Morning All,



First full day of Summer - the heat is on! Ask St. Aloysius Gonzaga to watch over all of us as we go forward into summer doing our summer activities and remember our youth in summer's past!

1. Today's Readings: [Memorial of Saint Aloysius Gonzaga, Religious | USCCB](#)

2. The RE Corner with Jan Heithaus: Today we celebrate the memorial of St. Aloysius Gonzaga, patron saint of youth. Let us ask his intercession for the youth of our parish and families.

3. Quote of the Day:

~ "It is better to be a child of God than king of the whole world." - *St. Aloysius Gonzaga*

St. Aloysius Gonzaga, Pray for Us!
St. Joseph, Pray for Us!

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As a young boy, St. Aloysius always had a great desire to know and serve God, but his family life was not always supportive of this desire. He was born into a noble Italian family in Castiglione, Italy, and his father was a compulsive gambler. He was destined for the military by his father (who was in service to Philip II), but by the age of 9 Aloysius had decided on a religious life and made a vow of perpetual virginity. To safeguard himself from possible temptation, he would keep his eyes persistently downcast in the presence of women.

He encountered many holy people in his lifetime; he received his first Communion from St. Charles Borromeo and studied under St. Robert Bellarmine. As a teen, he suffered from a kidney disease which he considered a blessing, as it left him with plenty of time for prayer.

Although he was appointed a page in Spain, St. Aloysius kept up his many devotions and austerities, and was quite resolved to become a Jesuit. His family eventually moved back to Italy, where he taught catechism to the poor. When he was 18, he joined the Jesuits, after finally breaking down his father, who had refused his entrance into the order. He served in a hospital during the plague of 1587 in Milan, and died from it at the age of 23, after receiving the last rites from St. Robert Bellarmine. The last word he spoke was the Holy Name of Jesus. St. Robert wrote the Life of St. Aloysius.

He was canonized in 1726 and is the patron saint of youth, AIDS patients and AIDS caregivers.

Sources: catholicnewsagency.com and catholic.org