

Reflection Thursday Week 30 St Simon & St Jude 2021

Simon is eleventh in the list of the twelve Apostles and known as Simon the Zealot. Nothing else is known about him. His other name “Simon Cananaeus” is adapted from the Hebrew meaning “zeal”. It has nothing to do with the town of Cana.

Jude, also called Thaddaeus, asked the Lord at the Last Supper why he showed himself only to the disciples and not to the world. For many centuries people confused him with Judas Iscariot. He is the patron saint of lost and desperate causes.

In his Letter to the Ephesians Paul calls us family, a family who together make up the Church. As the Church, we are the dwelling place or temples of the Holy Spirit, made clear to us in baptism. The Synodal journey we are making seeks to recognise this presence more clearly. The Church is asking the faithful, as an essential and substantial element, to speak up and share its hopes and dreams with the whole family. This will help us recognise the value of the Lay Faithful and how the Holy Spirit is working through them. Today’s celebration of Simon and Jude, apostles, reminds us that they journey with us, a support, a strength, guides. Over the next few weeks, we are called to make a prayerful journey together in conversation about our hopes and dreams for our great family. Called to listen to each other, we will begin to hear the voice of the Holy Spirit speaking to us through others as they hear the voice of the Spirit speaking through us to them. What a wonderful time for our Family!

Lyrics: We are Family

We are family. I got all my sisters with me.

We are family.

Everyone can see we're together.

As we walk on by

all of the people around us say:

Can they be that close?

'Cos we're giving love in a family dose.

- **It is not easy** being a mom. If it was, dads would do it.
- My professor asked us what book helped us the most in life thus far. I chose my father’s check-book.
- What’s it called when you have your grandmother on speed dial? Instagram.