

SAINT SIMON
&
SAINT JUDE
October 28



Vox Populi
26 October 2023

On October 28, the Church joins together to celebrate the Feast of Saints Simon and Jude, two of the Apostles of Jesus.

The two share a feast day due to the tradition they were an evangelising team through the Middle East, particularly in Persia and Armenia.

Like many of the apostles, we really know very little about their lives.

Through the Gospels, we can surmise that Simon, through his identification as Simon the Zealot, was a faithful member of the Jewish community who sought to rebel against the Roman Empire. Jude is identified as being a cousin of Christ.

Despite their extraordinary commission, they were just ordinary men.

They are venerated as Saints, because despite their ordinariness, they responded to Christ's calling to follow Him and preach His word following His death.

These two Saints serve as a reminder our holiness is not something given to us because of human merit, culture, personality, effort, or achievement. Our holiness is entirely a gift from God.

Their response to God is what made them Holy and made them into Saints. They went from being ordinary men, to extraordinary preachers of the Word, and suffered a martyr's death due to that response.

Many people have reported strong and powerful intercessions through these saints, so much so Jude is heavily associated with hopelessness and impossible causes.

While God does not call all of us to be martyrs or to desire a martyr's death, He does call us to live more than an ordinary life. Through simple means, we can live extraordinary lives, by responding to God's call in our own lives, following our own unique path to Sainthood.