

THE TOP WINDOWS - THE SAINTS

ST. PATRICK

ST. PATRICK MOST PROBABLY WAS BORN IN BRITAIN AROUND THE YEAR 385. AS A TEEN-AGER HE WAS CAPTURED AND SOLD AS A SLAVE IN IRELAND WHERE HE CARED FOR THE SHEEP. AFTER ESCAPING, HE STUDIED FOR THE PRIESTHOOD AND, LATER, WAS SENT AS BISHOP TO PREACH THE GOSPEL TO THE PEOPLE OF IRELAND WHERE HE CONVERTED MANY TO THE FAITH AND ESTABLISHED A STRONG AND VIBRANT CHURCH. HE DIED IN 461.

PATRON OF IRELAND AND NIGERIA AND PATRON OF MISSIONARIES. ALSO PRINCIPAL PATRON OF THE ARCHDIOCESE OF NEW YORK. FEASTDAY: MARCH 17



ST. THERESE

ST. THERESE OF THE CHILD JESUS (CALLED THE LITTLE FLOWER) WAS BORN IN 1873 AND DIED IN HER CARMELITE CONVENT AT LISIEUX, FRANCE IN 1897. SHE HAS BEEN CALLED BY POPE PIUS XI "THE GREATEST SAINT OF MODERN TIMES" BECAUSE SHE EMPHASIZED HER "LITTLE WAY" OF FINDING GOD IN THE DAILY THINGS OF LIFE. SHE DEDICATED HER LIFE TO PRAYING FOR PRIESTS, ESPECIALLY MISSIONARIES. SHE WAS DECLARED A DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH IN 1997.

PATRONESS (WITH ST. FRANCIS XAVIER) OF THE MISSIONS. PATRONESS (WITH ST. JOAN OF ARC) OF FRANCE. PATRONESS OF FLORISTS.

FEASTDAY: OCTOBER 1

ST. JOHN BAPTIST DE LA SALLE

BORN IN 1651 IN RHEIMS, FRANCE, ST. LA SALLE GAVE AWAY HIS FORTUNE TO ESTABLISH THE BROTHERS OF THE CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS FOR THE TRAINING OF POOR CHILDREN. HE ENCOURAGED TEACHERS TO SEE THEMSELVES AS "AMBASSADORS OF CHRIST" TO THEIR STUDENTS. HE DIED IN 1719. PATRON OF TEACHERS. FEASTDAY: APRIL 7





ST. DOMINIC

BORN IN SPAIN IN 1170, ST. DOMINIC ESTABLISHED THE ORDER OF PREACHERS TO BRING BACK TO THE CHURCH THOSE WHO HAD ABANDONED THE FAITH. HIS COMMUNITY EMPHASIZED CONTEMPLATION, STUDY, AND PREACHING AND COMMITMENT TO THE TRUTH. HE DIED IN 1221.

PATRON OF THE DOMINICAN ORDER, INCLUDING THE DOMINICAN SISTERS OF SPARKILL WHO HAVE SERVED OUR PARISH SINCE 1940. FEASTDAY AUGUST 8

ST. CECILIA

ST. CECILIA DEDICATED HERSELF AS A VIRGIN TO THE LORD. SHE OFFERED HER HOME AS A PLACE FOR THE CELEBRATION OF THE MASS. SHE SUFFERED MARTYRDOM DURING THE ROMAN PERSECUTION OF THE THIRD CENTURY.

PATRONESS OF SACRED MUSIC. FEASTDAY: NOVEMBER 22



ST. PETER

ST. PETER, THE FISHERMAN OF GALILEE, WAS CALLED BY THE LORD TO BE A "FISHER OF MEN." DESPITE HIS HUMAN FAILINGS (EVEN HIS DENIAL OF OUR LORD), HE WAS APPOINTED BY THE LORD AS THE FIRST POPE. HE DIED AROUND THE YEAR 67, CRUCIFIED UPSIDE DOWN BECAUSE HE DID NOT THINK HE WAS WORTHY TO DIE IN THE SAME WAY AS HIS MASTER. PATRON OF FISHERMEN. FEASTDAY (WITH ST. PAUL): JUNE 29



ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

BORN IN 1581, THIS GREAT FRENCH APOSTLE OF CHARITY, ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SERVED THE POOR AND THE DESTITUTE OF FRENCH, ESTABLISHING ORPHANAGES FOR ABANDONED CHILDREN. HE ESTABLISHED THE DAUGHTERS OF CHARITY TO ACCOMPLISH THIS WORK. HE ESTABLISHED THE CONGREGATION OF THE MISSIONS (THE VINCENTIANS) TO TRAIN SEMINARIANS AND TO GIVE SUPPORT TO THE POOR. HE DIED IN 1660. PATRON OF CHARITIES, HOSPITALS, AND PRISONERS. FEASTDAY: SEPTEMBER 27



ST. PAUL

AT FIRST, ST. PAUL WAS A PERSECUTOR OF THE CHRISTIANS. THEN ON THE WAY TO DAMASCUS, HE WAS BLINDED BY LIGHT AND HEARD THE WORDS OF JESUS, "SAUL, SAUL, WHY DO YOU PERSECUTE ME? I AM JESUS WHOM YOU ARE PERSECUTING." RECOVERING HIS SIGHT, HE BECAME "THE APOSTLE OF THE GENTILES," TRAVELING ON FOUR MISSIONARY JOURNEYS AND COMPOSING THIRTEEN LETTERS IN THE NEW TESTAMENT. HE WAS BEHEADED IN ROME AROUND THE YEAR 64. PATRON OF THE LAY APOSTOLATE. FEASTDAY (WITH ST. PETER): JUNE 29



GUARDIAN ANGELS

FROM THE WORDS OF PSALM 91, "HE HAS PUT HIS ANGELS IN CHARGE OF YOU TO GUARD YOU IN ALL YOUR WAYS," THE CHURCH TEACHES US THAT GOD, IN HIS PROVIDENCE, HAS GIVEN US THE PROTECTION OF OUR GUARDIAN ANGEL TO GUIDE US ON OUR WAY TO HEAVEN. ST. PADRE PIO ENCOURAGED PRAYER AND DEVOTION TO OUR GUARDIAN ANGEL. FEASTDAY: OCTOBER 2.





ST. FRANCIS XAVIER

BORN IN NAVARRE IN SPAIN IN 1506, ST. FRANCIS XAVIER WAS ONE OF THE FOUNDERS OF THE SOCIETY OF JESUS (THE JESUITS). HE PREACHED THE GOSPEL IN THE FAR EAST, REACHING INDIA, SRI LANKA, MALAYSIA, AND JAPAN. HE DIED IN 1552 NEAR THE COAST OF CHINA.

PATRON (ALONG WITH ST. THERESE OF LISIEUX) OF THE MISSIONS. FEASTDAY: DECEMBER 3

ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI

BORN IN ASSISI IN 1181, ST. FRANCIS GAVE UP ALL THINGS TO BECOME THE "POOR MAN OF GOD." HE IS KNOWN FOR HIS LOVE FOR ALL GOD'S CREATION, ESPECIALLY ANIMALS (WHO ARE OFTEN BLESSED ON HIS FEASTDAY). HE RECEIVED THE STIGMATA, THE WOUNDS OF JESUS. HE DIED IN 1226.

PATRON OF ANIMALS. PATRON OF ANIMALS. PATRON OF ITALY. FEASTDAY: OCTOBER 4



ST. ANNE

ST. ANNE IS HONORED AS THE MOTHER OF OUR BLESSED MOTHER MARY AND THE GRANDMOTHER OF OUR LORD. SHE IS A POWERFUL INTERCESSOR FOR ALL CHRISTIANS, ESPECIALLY FOR THE SICK.

PATRON (WITH HER HUSBAND ST. JOACHIM) OF GRANDPARENTS. FEASTDAY: JULY 26



ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA

BORN IN LISBON, PORTUGAL IN 1195, ST. ANTHONY BECAME A MEMBER OF THE FRIARS MINOR (THE FRANCISCANS). HE HOPED TO BE A MISSIONARY TO AFRICA, BUT WHEN THIS WAS NOT POSSIBLE, HE WAS COMMISSIONED TO PREACH AND TEACH. HE IS CALLED THE EVANGELICAL DOCTOR. HIS CLOSENESS TO JESUS IS THE REASON WHY HE IS PICTURED HOLDING THE CHILD JESUS IN HIS ARMS. HE DIED IN PADUA IN 1231.

PATRON OF PORTUGAL, OF LOST ARTICLES, AND OF HARVESTS. FEASTDAY: JUNE 13



ST. AGNES

ST. AGNES DIED AS A MARTYR IN ROME IN THE BEGINNING OF THE 4TH CENTURY. SHE WAS ONLY TWELVE YEARS OF AGE AND IS A MODEL FOR YOUNG PEOPLE IN LIVING A LIFE OF VIRTUE, DESPITE ANY HARDSHIP.

PATRONESS OF CHRISTIAN VIRTUE WHEN THREATENED BY VIOLENCE. FEASTDAY: JANUARY 21