



Spotlight on Saints

2019

December 2019

St. John the Evangelist

He left his family to follow Jesus. He heard the wonderful things Our Lord taught. He followed Jesus and took care of Mary after Jesus ascended into Heaven. He became a great bishop and wrote the Fourth Gospel. He was the most beloved apostle of Jesus. He is the patron saint of love, loyalty and friendship.

His Feast Day is December 27.

November 2019

St Elizabeth of Trinity

She was a French Carmelite as well as a mystic and a spiritual writer. She shares with St Therese of the Child Jesus a zeal for contemplation and the salvation of souls. Elizabeth of the Trinity is the patron against illness, of sick people, and the loss of parents.

Her Feast Day is November 8.

October 2019

St Anthony Mary Claret

He was born in Spain in 1807. He started the Missionary Sons of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, known as the Claretians. Many of his initiatives included building trade and vocational schools, a library and hospitals. He wrote and distributed books wherever he went. Anthony Mary Claret is the patron saint of weavers, the Catholic Press and all things Claretian.

His Feast Day is October 24.

September 2019

Pope St. Gregory the Great

He inherited wealth and gave it all to the poor. He was well educated in law, emphasized the aspect of service to the poor and used the Church's asset to feed the poor during a famine. He also established Gregorian Chant - the oldest style of music. He wrote great books which are still read. He was the first pope to call himself the "servant of the servants of God" for his support of mission work. He is the patron saint of musicians, singers, students, and teachers.

His Feast Day is September 3.

August 2019

St. Rose of Lima

She did not attend school but helped support her family by selling her needlework and the flowers that she raised in her garden. She also joined the Third Order of Saint Dominic and set up a free medical clinic for poor children and the elderly which became the beginning of social service in Peru. She is the Patron Saint of gardeners, florists and family problems.

Her Feast Day is August 23.

July 2019

St. Martha

Jesus loved Martha and Mary and Lazarus and was a frequent guest at Martha's home. Hospitality being paramount in the Middle East, Martha doesn't understand why Mary can ignore the rule of hospitality. In Martha we see ourselves—worried and distracted by all we have to do in the world and forgetting to spend time with Jesus and just listening to him. Martha is the Patron Saint of cooks, housewives, servants, waiters and waitresses.

Her Feast Day is July 29.

June 2019

St. Barnabas - which means "son of encouragement"

He along with Paul were among the first "Christians" to become missionaries in Cyprus and beyond. To settle a serious problem, Barnabas and Paul met with Church leaders at the Council of Jerusalem. Through prayer and discussion, they came to a decision. St. Barnabas is the patron saint of Antioch, Cyprus and is invoked as a peacemaker.

His Feast Day is June 11.

May 2019

St. Florian

He was a commander in the Roman army and killed for refusing to kill Christians. A story that he put out a massive fire with a single pitcher of water was cause for him to be given the title of patron saint of firefighters. Because he was killed by drowning, St. Florian is also sought out as protector against the dangers of water including drowning and flooding.

His Feast Day is May 4.

April 2019

St. Benedict the Moor

He was born a slave and after being freed became a Franciscan brother. This humble man worked as a cook and then superior of a convent. A holy man, he had a reputation for miracles and became a confessor. He is the patron saint of African-Americans.

His feast day is April 4.

March 2019

St Perpetua and St. Felicitas

Perpetua was a wealthy free woman and a catechumen studying to become a Christian. Felicitas, a slave woman, gave birth to a child while in prison. Yet, both realized that in Christ they were one and equally important. Jailed together they were sentenced to be killed and went to martyrdom rejoicing. They are patron saints of mothers, expectant mothers and mothers separated from their children because of war or persecution.

Their Feast Day is March 7.

February 2019

St. Appolonia

She spent her life teaching the goodness of God. She spoke out about the way the people of God were treated. She was captured, all her teeth knocked out, and tortured by non-Christians for her beliefs. Rather than reject Jesus she was burned to death and many non-Christians turned to Christianity after watching her strength in the Faith. She is the patroness of dentists and those who suffer from dental problems.

Her Feast day is February 9th.

January 2019

Saints Timothy and Titus

They lived when the apostles were dying, and Gentile Christians were beginning to take roles of leadership. These bishops were given instructions by Paul for teaching and governing the Christians. Under their guidance the church grew stronger.

Their Feast Day is January 26.