

<p style="text-align: center;">St. Abraham, Patriarch</p> <p style="text-align: center;">“Look now toward heaven, and count the stars if you are able to number them.” And He said to him, “So shall your descendants be.”</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Pray for the conversion of Israel</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">St. Alphonsus De Liguori August 1</p> <p style="text-align: center;">"Leave the world and give yourself to Me." (Jesus to St. Alphonsus)</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Pray for good spiritual directors</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Saint Andrew November 30th</p> <p style="text-align: center;">"Saint Andrew was the first convert among the apostles; he was especially in the Lord's confidence; thrice is he described as introducing others to him; lastly he is little known in history, while the place of dignity the name of highest renown have been allotted to his brother Simon, whom he was the means of bringing to the knowledge of his Savior." J.H. Newnman</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Pray in thanksgiving for the quiet and humble of the world who do the work of the Lord without recognition.</i></p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Saint Angela Merici, mystic, religious founder January 27th</p> <p style="text-align: center;">"Mothers of children, even if they have a thousand, carry each and every one fixed in their hearts, and because of the strength of their love they do not forget any of them. In fact, it seems that the more children they have the more their love and care for each one is increased."</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Pray for mothers.</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Saint Anne, mother of the Blessed Virgin Mary July 26th</p> <p style="text-align: center;">“In the moment when the light of the angel had enveloped Anna in grace, I saw a radiance under her heart and recognized in her the chosen Mother, the illuminated vessel of the grace that was at hand. What I saw in her I can only describe by saying that I recognized in her the cradle and tabernacle of the holy child she was to conceive and preserve; a mother blessed indeed. I saw that by God's grace Anna was able to bear fruit.”</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Pray for the holiness of all mothers.</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Saint Anthony of Egypt, 4th century desert monk January 17th</p> <p style="text-align: center;">“Now therefore, beloved, let this word be manifest among you, that the bounty of the Father spared not his Only begotten for our sakes, but delivered him up for the salvation of us all.”</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Pray for the purification of the world from evil.</i></p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Saint Anthony of Padua June 13th</p> <p style="text-align: center;">“We spread the love of God by loving as he loves.”</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Pray for non-believers.</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Archangel Gabriel September 29th</p> <p style="text-align: center;">“The one who looked like a man touched me again and strengthened me, saying, ‘Fear not, beloved, you are safe; take courage and be strong.’ When he spoke to me, I grew strong and said, ‘Speak, my lord, for you have strengthened me.’” (Daniel's vision of the Archangel Gabriel) Daniel 10:18-19</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Pray that Divine love will conquer the world.</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Saint Michael the Archangel September 29th</p> <p style="text-align: center;">"Satan is strong and that is why I am seeking your prayers for those who are under his influence, so that they may be saved." (Mary in Medjugorje)</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Pray that those who are under the influence of Satan may be saved</i></p>

<p style="text-align: center;">Archangel Raphael September 29th</p> <p>"I was sent to put you to the test. At the same time, however, God commissioned me to heal you and your daughter-in-law Sarah. I am Raphael, one of the seven angels who enter and serve before the Glory of the Lord...No need to fear; you are safe. Thank God now and forever. As for me, when I came to you it was not out of any favor on my part, but because it was God's will. So continue to thank him every day; praise him with song." (Tobit 12:14-18)</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Pray for the healing of families</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">St Augustine of Hippo, bishop, Doctor of the Church August 28th</p> <p>You have forgiven me my past sins and drawn a veil over them, and in this way You have given me happiness in yourself, changing my life by faith and Your sacrament. When others read of those past sins of mine their hearts are stirred so that they no longer lie listless. Instead their hearts are roused by the love of Your mercy and the joy of Your grace.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Pray for the conversion of sinners</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Newborn Baby Jesus</p> <p>"Today when Jesus is born and by His birth brings immeasurable joy, love and peace, I call you, in a special way to say your 'yes' to Jesus. Open your hearts so that Jesus enters into them, comes to dwell in them and starts to work through you. Only in this way will you be able to comprehend the true beauty of God's love, joy and peace." (Message thru Jacov 2000)</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Let the baby Jesus be your guide.</i></p>
<p style="text-align: center;">St. Barbara December 4th</p> <p style="text-align: center;">The blood of the martyrs is the seed of Christians.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Pray for the spread of the Church to all parts of the world</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">St. Benedict, abbot and patriarch of western monks July 11th</p> <p>"See how the Lord in His love shows us the way of life. Clothed then with faith and the performance of good works, let us set out on this way, with the Gospel for our guide, that we may deserve to see him <i>who has called us to his kingdom</i> (1 Thes 2:23)" from the <i>Rule of Saint Benedict</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Pray for the coming of the Kingdom of God.</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">St Benedict Joseph Labre, pilgrim recluse April 16th</p> <p style="text-align: center;">"These things offend God and they are not good for you either. Try to work if you can. If you can't work, be good to the people who care for you."</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Pray for the homeless</i></p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Saint Bernadette of Lourdes April 16th</p> <p>"My weapons are prayer and sacrifice, to my dying breath. At death the weapon of sacrifice will fall away, but that of prayer will follow me to heaven."</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Offer sacrifices to Mary for her intentions</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Saint Bernard of Clairvaux, abbot, Doctor of the Church (celebrated on 20 August)</p> <p>"When God forgives a sinner who humbly confesses his sin, the devil loses his dominion over the heart he had taken.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Pray for those who are called and have not yet said "yes."</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">St. Camillus of Lellis July 18</p> <p>The Lord asks that we do not bury the talent so invaluable that the Lord placed in our hands, so that we obtained holiness during the life and then eternal glory</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Pray for nurses and those in the health care profession</i></p>

<p style="text-align: center;">Catherine Doherty</p> <p>"To love with the heart of God, we must empty ourselves totally of self, to allow Christ to love through us. Without him we cannot love anything or anyone, not even ourselves."</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Pray for love to conquer in our world.</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">St. Catherine of Alexandria November 25th</p> <p>"God is peace itself. Therefore, approach him through your personal prayer and then live peace in your hearts. In this way, peace will flow from your hearts like a river into the whole world. Do not speak about peace, but make peace." Our Lady of Medjugorje, Feb 25, 1991</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Pray for nurses and unmarried women</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Saint Catherine of Genoa, mystic, wife, hospital director (celebrated September 15th)</p> <p>"Dear children, I ask you to pray every day for the souls in Purgatory. In this way you too will acquire intercessors who will be able to help you in life" (message of Mary in Medjugorje)</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Pray for the souls in purgatory.</i></p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Saint Catherine Labouré (celebrated November 28th)</p> <p>"My child, the Cross will be despised, thrown on the ground, and the Lord's side will be opened again" (Mary to St. Catherine)</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Pray for the enemies of the Church</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Saint Catherine of Siena (Virgin and Doctor of the Church) (celebrated April 29th)</p> <p>"Eternal Trinity, Godhead, mystery deep as the sea, you could give me no greater gift than the gift of yourself."</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Pray for holy women in all states of life.</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Saint Cecilia November 22</p> <p>And then she said to her husband, "I have an angel that loves me who watches over my body whether I sleep or am wake and if he finds that you touch my body by foul and polluted love, he will kill you, but if you love me in Holy love and cleanness, he will love you as he loves me and will give you his grace."</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Pray for married couples to have Holy and Pure love</i></p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Saint Charbel, Hermit in Lebanon (celebrated on 24 December)</p> <p>"Through Mary we are born, not to this world, but to God."</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Pray for the Lebanon.</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">St. Charles Borromeo November 4th</p> <p>"We ought to walk in front, and our spiritual subjects will follow us more easily."</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Pray for spiritual directors.</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Blessed Charles de Foucault (France) December 1</p> <p>"My Father, I abandon myself to you. Do with me what you will."</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Pray for peace in the Holy land.</i></p>

<p style="text-align: center;">Child Jesus, King of Love</p> <p>"Whoever receives one such child in my Name, receives me." (Matthew 18:5) Our Lady in Medjugorje has told us to let the Little Child, Jesus, lead us in our lives and he will show us the way to holiness.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Pray for the reign of the Child Jesus in all hearts.</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">St Clare of Assisi (celebrated August 11th)</p> <p>"Look daily into that spotless mirror, dear queen and spouse of Christ, and see your face in it. See how you are to adorn yourself, within and without, in all the blossoms of virtue, as befits a chaste daughter and spouse of that greatest of kings. In that mirror poverty, humility, and love beyond all telling shine radiantly."</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Pray for consecrated virgins to grow ardently in love for Jesus</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Saints Cosmas & Damian, 4th century martyrs, physicians (celebrated September 27th)</p> <p>Jesus replied, "It is not the healthy who need the doctor, but the sick. Go and learn the meaning of the words: What I want is mercy, not sacrifice." Matt 8: 12-13</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Pray for those who minister to sick bodies and to sick souls</i></p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Cure of Ars, Saint Jean-Marie-Baptiste Vianney, (celebrated on 4 August)</p> <p>"My children, we cannot comprehend the power of a soul over the Good Lord: it can obtain whatever it wants."</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Pray for priests.</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Saint Dismas the good thief</p> <p>"We are paying for what we did, but this man has done nothing wrong. Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.,Jesus replied 'Indeed, I promise you, today you will be with me in paradise.'" Luke 23:41-43</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Pray for those who have delayed their conversion to Jesus</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Saint Dismas, the good thief March 25</p> <p>"Lord, Remember me when you come into Your Kingdom"</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Pray for the conversion of criminals</i></p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Saint Dominic (celebrated on 8 August)</p> <p>"My God, what will become of sinners? My God, have mercy on sinners!"</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Intercede for hardened hearts.</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Saint Dominic Savio (celebrated on 9 March)</p> <p>"Pray without ceasing and ask the Holy Spirit to inspire you always. In all that you ask, in all that you do, seek only the will of God." (Mary in Medjugorje - 13 October 1984)</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Pray for the young.</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Edith Stein, Saint Teresa Benedicta of the Cross (celebrated August 9th)</p> <p>"I joyfully accept the death God has appointed for me, in perfect submission to his most holy will. May the Lord accept my life and death for the honor and glory of his name, for the needs of his holy Church...for the Jewish people, that the Lord may be received by his own and his kingdom come in glory..."</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Pray for philosophers and theologians.</i></p>

<p style="text-align: center;">Elijah, the Prophet</p> <p>"O Lord my God, let this child's life come into him again." The Lord listened to the voice of Elijah; the life of the child came into him again, and he revived.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Pray for a deepening of faith throughout the world</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Saint Elizabeth (mother of John the Baptist) (celebrated November 5th)</p> <p>"When your greeting sounded in my ears, the infant in my womb leaped for joy!"</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Pray for all mothers, that they will welcome new life, and receive the Holy Spirit as Elizabeth did.</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">St. Elizabeth of Portugal, Queen of Portugal July 4th</p> <p>And Jesus said to His disciples, "Truly I say to you, it is hard for a rich man to enter the kingdom of heaven. "Again I say to you, it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle, than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God." When the disciples heard this, they were very astonished and said, "Then who can be saved?" And looking at them Jesus said to them, "For man this is impossible, but with God all things are possible." <i>Pray for the conversion of political leaders</i></p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Saint Elizabeth of the Holy Trinity (Celebrated November 8th)</p> <p>"It's not looking at our own miseries that we should be cleansed but by looking upon Him who is all purity and all Sanctity"</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Strive to offer a loving, dwelling place in your heart for the Holy Trinity</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Saint Elizabeth of the Trinity (celebrated November 9th)</p> <p>"If you feel ice fall on your heart, go warm up near He who is the Source of Love and Who makes emptiness only in order to fill up all that is empty".</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Pray for vocations to the contemplative life</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton (celebrated January 4th)</p> <p>"I offer myself to your Father by you, to yourself by your Father and you to the Holy Spirit who is the mutual love of both."</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Pray for an increase in women religious.</i></p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Saint Maria Faustina (celebrated October 5th)</p> <p>"I know God is in my heart. With Him I go to work, with Him I go to recreation, with Him I suffer, with Him I rejoice; I live in Him and He in me. I am never alone, because He is my constant companion. He is present to me at every moment. Our intimacy is very close, through a union of blood and flesh."</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Pray for deeper intimacy with God.</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Sts. Felicity and Perpetua, Third Century Martyrs March 7th</p> <p>"In the meantime, Perpetua and Felicitas had been exposed to a wild cow; Perpetua was first attacked, and the cow having tossed her up, she fell on her back. Getting up, and perceiving Felicitas on the ground much hurt by a toss of the cow, she helped her to rise. Having given one another the kiss of peace, they went of their own accord into the middle of the arena. Thus did two women, amidst fierce beasts and the swords of gladiators, vanquish the devil and all his fury." <i>Pray for the courage of the martyrs to reign in the Church</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Saint Frances Xavier Cabrini (celebrated December 22nd)</p> <p>"We can do nothing of ourselves, for we are poor and miserable, but if we have faith and trust in him who comforts us, then we can do all things."</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Pray for an increase in women religious.</i></p>

<p style="text-align: center;">Saint Francis de Sales (celebrated January 24th)</p> <p>In all your affairs rely wholly on Divine Providence, through which alone you must look for success. Labor quietly on your part to co-operate with its designs. Amidst those ordinary affairs and occupations that require most so earnest an attention, you should look more on God than on them.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Pray for writers, journalists and editors of all kinds</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Saint Francis of Assisi (celebrated October 4th)</p> <p>"All Highest, Glorious God, cast Your light into the darkness of my heart. Grant me right faith, firm hope, perfect charity, and profound humility; with wisdom and perception, O Lord, that I may do what it truly Your holy will."</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Pray for the gift of faith.</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Saint Francis Xavier (celebrated on 3 December)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">"We must be wary of our own strength and trust God immensely. Let us never show discouragement and never doubt victory!"</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Pray for missionaries.</i></p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Blessed Francisco of Fatima February 20</p> <p>"I'm thinking of God who is so sad because of so many sins! It hurts me so much that He's sad. I offer Him all the sacrifices I can. If only I could console Him."</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Pray for children</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">St. Genevieve January 3</p> <p>"I am nothing in this world but a pilgrim passing"</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Pray for the virginity of young people</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">St. George, The Great Martyr April 23rd</p> <p>"Our battle is not against human forces but against the principalities and powers, the rulers of this world of darkness, the evil spirits in regions above. You must put on the armor of God if you are to resist on the evil day; do all that your duty requires, and hold your ground." ~Eph 6:12-13</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Pray for soldiers.</i></p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Saint Gertrude (celebrated November 16th)</p> <p>"I want my intimate friends to follow in my footsteps by displaying a deeper affection for their enemies than for their benefactors, because they will thus reap an incomparably greater reward." (Jesus to Gertrude)</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Pray for enemies.</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Saint Gianna Beretta Molla (Celebrated April 28)</p> <p>"Love is the most beautiful sentiment the Lord has put into the soul of men and women".</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Pray for pregnant mothers to choose life</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Saint Helen, empress, mother (August 18th)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">"O innocent Jesus, your Cross is my Cross"</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Pray for children who are mistreated.</i></p>

<p style="text-align: center;">The Holy Family of Nazareth Sunday after Christmas</p> <p style="text-align: center;">"Don't be afraid to take Mary, your wife, home, for that which is conceived in her comes from the Holy Spirit."</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Pray for blessed, holy, and happy families</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">The Holy Guardian Angels (celebrated on 2 October)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">"Whoever prays does not fear the future and whoever fasts does not fear evil." (Mary in Medjugorje - 25 Jan. 2001)</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Help someone to meet and get to know their guardian angel.</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">The Fourteen Holy Helpers of Mankind August 8th</p> <p>Fourteen Holy Helpers, who served God in humility and confidence on earth and are now in the enjoyment of His beatific vision in Heaven; because thou persevered till death thou gained the crown of eternal life. Remember the dangers that surround us in this vale of tears, and intercede for us in all our needs and adversities. Amen. <i>Invoke the Fourteen Helpers for the sake of mankind this year</i></p>
<p style="text-align: center;">The Holy Innocents (celebrated Decemeber 28th)</p> <p>Theirs was a wordless profession of faith in Jesus. They died because they bore the likeness of the Christ Child, and are crowned with life eternal.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Pray for an end to abortion</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Holy Souls in Purgatory (celebrated November 2nd)</p> <p>"For if he had not expected the fallen to rise again it would have been superfluous and foolish to pray for the dead, whereas if he had in view the splendid recompense reserved for those who make a pious end, the thought was holy and devout. This was why he had this atonement sacrifice offered for the dead, so that they might be released from their sin." 2 Maccabees 12:44-45</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Pray for the Souls in Purgatory and allow them to help you pray for a deeper communion between the saints in heaven, in purgatory and on earth</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">St. Ignatius of Loyola (celebrated July 31st)</p> <p>"Take, Lord, and receive all my liberty, my memory, my understanding, and all my will—all that I have and possess. You, Lord, have given all that to me. I now give it back to you, O Lord. All of it is yours. Dispose of it according to your will. Give me only your love and your grace, for that is enough for me."</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Pray for a spirit of total surrender.</i></p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Isaiah, the Prophet</p> <p>"And I heard the voice of the Lord saying, 'Whom shall I send? Who will go for us?' Then I said, 'Here am I! Send me.'" (Isaiah 6:8)</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Get to know the book of Isaiah</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Blessed Jacinta of Fatima (celebrated February 20th)</p> <p>"Tell everyone that God gives us grace through the Immaculate Heart of Mary. She is the one we should ask."</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Pray for the Triumph of the Immaculate Heart.</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">St. James, the Greater, Apostle July 25th</p> <p>"He then went up the mountain and summoned the men he himself had decided on, who came and joined him. He named the twelve as his companions whom he would send to preach the good news; they were likewise to have authority to expel demons...James, son of Zebedee; and John, the brother of James. He gave these two the name Boanerges, or 'sons of thunder.'" Mark 3:13-17</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Pray for great zeal in the hearts of priests.</i></p>

<p style="text-align: center;">St Jerome (celebrated September 30th)</p> <p>“Read the divine scriptures constantly; never, indeed, let the sacred volume be out of your hand. Learn what you have to teach. Hold fast the faithful word you have been taught so that you may be able by sound doctrine to give instruction and confute those who contradict it.”</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Pray for a deep love of God’s Word and pray for bible scholars</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Saints Joachim and Ann (celebrated July 26th)</p> <p>“It is important that the ‘communion of persons’ in the family should become a preparation for the ‘communion of saints.’ This is why the Church both believes and proclaims the love which ‘endures all things’ (1Cor13:7); Everyone is called to love, including spouses and families. In the Church everyone is called equally to perfect holiness.” – JP II, <i>Letter to Families</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Pray for healing within families.</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Saint Joan of Arc (celebrated on 30 May)</p> <p>“You know that I love you, that I burn with love for you. That is why, dear children, decide to love God; burn with love!” (Mary in Medjugorje - 25 June 1988)</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Pray for France and for the conversion of freemasons</i></p>
<p style="text-align: center;">St. Jude, Patron of Impossible Causes October 28th</p> <p>“Through love you will achieve everything, even what you think is impossible.” ~ Our Lady of Medjugorje</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Pray for those who are desperate.</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Saint Jeanne of Chantal (celebrated on 12 December)</p> <p>“May this Sweet Savior live and reign in our hearts for ever amid the desolation and darkness. He is our light, he leads us; let us fear nothing, he will never let us down.”</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Pray for mothers</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Saint Pope John XXIII October 11</p> <p>‘May this sacrifice of praise, which I offer to Your divine majesty for the success of the 2nd Ecumenical Vatican Council, be acceptable to You, Lord God, and grant that what we, together with our Pope John, implore of You we may effectively obtain. Amen.’</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Pray that the true spirit of Vatican II continues to bear fruit in the Church.</i></p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Saint John the Baptist (celebrated June 24th and August 29th)</p> <p>“He must increase and I must decrease” (John 3:30)</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Pray for the prophets of our day</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Saint John Bosco (celebrated on 31 January)</p> <p>“From now on, I no longer want to place any limit on my trust in God.” (after an apparition of Saint Dominic Savio)</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Pray for teachers</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">St. John N Neumann, Bishop of Philadelphia January 5th</p> <p>“Everyone who breathes, high and low, educated and ignorant, young and old, man and woman, has a mission, has a work. We are not sent into this world for nothing; we are not born at random; God creates every soul for a purpose. He needs, He deigns to need, every one of us. We are all equal in His sight, and we are placed in our different ranks and stations, not to get what we can out of them for ourselves, but to labor in them for Him. As Christ has His work, we too have ours; as He rejoiced to do His work, we must rejoice in ours also.”</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Pray to understand God’s plan for your life.</i></p>

<p style="text-align: center;">Saint John of the Cross (celebrated December 14th)</p> <p>"Would that men might come at last to see that is quite impossible to reach the thicket of the riches and wisdom of God except by first entering the thicket of much suffering, in such a way that the soul finds there its consolation and desire."</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Pray for those who suffer, that they unite with Jesus and find joy.</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">St. John Eudes August 19th</p> <p>„We must preach to the poor, otherwise,” said Saint John, “we put a bandage on the wound, but do not heal it.”</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Pray for the renewal of the seminaries throughout the world.</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Saint John Paul the Great October 22</p> <p>“Jesus Christ, in the revelation of the mystery of the Father and his love, fully reveals man to himself and makes his supreme calling clear.” ~<i>Guadium Et Spes</i> 22</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Pray that Jesus will have the first place in your life.</i></p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Saint John the Evangelist (celebrated December 27th)</p> <p>“O open heart of Jesus, devoured with such a pure love, into your wound I place my wounds and my lack of love” (Ephraim)</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Pray for those wounded by life that they might be healed.</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Saint Joseph, foster father of Jesus</p> <p>"The angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph and said: Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife; she will give birth to a son, and you will name him Jesus."</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Pray for the gift of blessed fatherhood for the world's families.</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">St. Joseph of Arimathea March 17</p> <p>“There was a man named Joseph, an upright and holy member of the Sanhedrin, who had not been associated with their plan or their action... This man approached Pilate with a request for Jesus’ body. He took it down, wrapped it in fine linen, and laid it in a tomb hewn out of the rock, in which no one had yet been laid.” Lk 23:50-53</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Pray for great reverence for the Body of Christ.</i></p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Saint Juan Diego December 9</p> <p>“I am only a poor man. I am not worthy of being there whwere you send me. Pardon me, my Queen, I do not want to make your noble heart sad, I do not want to fall into your displeasure.” After much persuasion he agreed to go to the Bishop. He left her, calling her “my Dear One, my Lady...”</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Pray for unity among the nations</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">St. Katharine Drexel, Virgin and Foundress March 3rd</p> <p>“And here is the passive way – to be filled unto the fullness of God. The passive way – I abandon myself to it, not in a multiplicity of trials, extraordinary penances accomplished, practices of great works – but in peaceful abandonment to the tenderness of Jesus, which I must try to imitate, and by being in constant union with his meek and humble heart.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Pray for receptivity to Christ.</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Saint Kateri Tekawitha, Native American July 14th</p> <p>“Who can tell me what is most pleasing to God that I may do it?”</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Pray for the healing of the Native Americans</i></p>

<p style="text-align: center;">St. Lawrence (Celebrated August 10th)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">After three days, Lawrence gathered all of the lepers, cripples, orphans, widows, the poor and the lame and presented them to the prefect as the "true treasures of the Church."</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Carry the poor in your heart and encourage them.</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">St. Longinus, First Century Martyr</p> <p style="text-align: center;">"One of the soldiers thrust a lance into his side, and immediately blood and water flowed out." John 19:34</p> <p style="text-align: center;">"Truly this was the Son of God!" Mt 27:54</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Pray for light for the spiritually blind.</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Saint Louis Marie Grignon de Montfort (celebrated on 28 April)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">"The more the Holy Spirit finds Mary in a soul, the more active and powerful He becomes to bring forth Jesus Christ in that soul, and that soul in Jesus Christ."</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Pray for Our Lady's intentions.</i></p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Saints Louis and Zelig Martin</p> <p>St. Therese and Louis Martin could do no more than gaze at each other. With difficulty he pointed his index finger upward and was heard to whisper, "Until Heaven!" (Blessed Louis Martin on his deathbed to Little Flower)</p> <p>Our Mother said to me, 'Don't be afraid; wait and see, your soul will expand.' (Blessed Zelig Martin to Leonie who was nearly impossible to handle)</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Pray that Holiness may be born in families</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Blessed Leonie Martin (Celebrated June 16th)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">"Your little Leonie may be changed, not only in name, but in everything which might be displeasing to Him whom alone she wishes to love." "It is inappropriate for me to moan over my faults as I have done until now. That is pride. As our Holy Founder said, it is no wonder that weakness is weak; I must humble myself, not vex myself".</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Pray for children who are not understood</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">St. Leopold Mandic 1866-1942 (Celebrated October 16th)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Cappuchin Priest in Yugoslavia: "I expect everything from the charity of our Lord Jesus Christ and His Divine Heart"</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Pray for souls to make a Holy Confession</i></p>
<p style="text-align: center;">St Luke the Evangelist (celebrated October 18th)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">"After carefully going over the whole story from the beginning, I have decided to write an ordered account for you, so that you may learn how well founded the teaching is that you have received." Luke 1:3-4</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Pray for those who are questioning their faith in the Church.</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">St. Margaret Mary Alacoque October 16</p> <p style="text-align: center;">„A just soul has so much power over my heart that it can obtain forgiveness for thousands of criminals.“ (Jesus to St. Margaret Mary Alacoque)</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Cultivate devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Saint Margaret Mary Alacoque (celebrated on 16 October)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">"Make your home in the adorable Heart of Jesus Christ, take your little worries and disappointments, and all will find peace there. You will find the remedy for your ills, the strength for your weaknesses and shelter in all your needs."</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Pray for those crushed by trials</i></p>

<p style="text-align: center;">St. Margaret of Scotland, Queen of Scotland November 16th</p> <p style="text-align: center;">“O God, come to my assistance. O Lord, make haste to help me.” ~From the <i>Liturgy of the Hours</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Pray for large families.</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Saint Martin de Porres (celebrated November 3rd)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">“He excused the faults of others and pardoned even the most bitter injuries done to him. He sought to bring sinners back to a good life, was most kind to the sick, provided the poor with food, clothing, and medicine, and did all he could for those who were regarded in his day almost as slaves” BI John XXIII</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Pray for greater humility, charity and generosity in God’s service</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Saint Mary Magdalene (celebrated July 22nd)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">“And a woman in the city, who was a sinner, having learned that he was eating in the Pharisee’s house, brought an alabaster jar of ointment. She stood behind him at his feet, weeping, and began to bathe his feet with her tears and to dry them with her hair. Then she continued kissing his feet and anointing them with the ointment” (Luke 7:37ff.)</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Pray that those lost in sin will come to know the great love of Jesus.</i></p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Mary, Mother of God January 1</p> <p style="text-align: center;">“Do everything he tells you.”</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Pray for those rebelling against the Church</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">St. Maria Goretti, virgin and martyr (celebrated July 6th)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">“Rejoice in the measure that you share Christ’s sufferings. When His glory is revealed, you will rejoice exultantly. Happy are you when you are insulted for the sake of Christ, for then God’s Spirit in its glory has come to rest on you.”</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Pray for purity of heart</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Saint Martha of Bethany July 29th</p> <p style="text-align: center;">“Martha, Martha, you are busy and worried about many things. One thing alone is necessary. Mary has chosen the better part and it shall not be taken from her.” (Luke 10:41-42)</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Pray for a spirit of prayer to overcome the world’s busyness</i></p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Saint Martha of Bethany (celebrated July 29th)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">“Martha said to Jesus, ‘Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. But even now I know that whatever you ask of God, God will give you.’ Jesus said to her, ‘Your brother will rise.’ Martha said to him, ‘I know he will rise, in the resurrection on the last day.’ Jesus told her, ‘I am the resurrection and life; whoever believes in me, even if he dies, will live, and anyone who lives and believes in me will never die.”</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Blessed Mary of Incarnation April 18</p> <p style="text-align: center;">“I am a poor mendicant who begs of you the divine mercy, and that I may cast myself into the arms of religious life.”</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Pray for abused women</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Saint Matthew, apostle (celebrated September 21st)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">“The Pharisees and the scribes of their party said to Jesus’ disciples, ‘Why do you eat and drink with tax collectors and non-observers of the law?’ Jesus said to them, ‘The healthy do not need a doctor; sick people do. I have not come to invite the self-righteous to a change of heart, but sinners.”</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Pray for those who do not know the love of Jesus.</i></p>

<p>Saint Maximilian Kolbe (Poland) (celebrated August 14th)</p> <p>“What is essential is not to accomplish a great deal according to our own lights, but to be in the hands of the Immaculate Virgin.”</p> <p><i>Pray that Mary Immaculate may reign in our hearts.</i></p>	<p>Saint Mechtilde November 19</p> <p>“All those who love my gifts in others will receive the same merit and glory as those to whom I have granted those gifts.” (Jesus, to the saint)</p> <p><i>Pray for the underprivileged.</i></p>	<p>Saint Mariam of Bethlehem (August 26th)</p> <p>“Little Lambs, do not be afraid of God! Call on God alone and entrust yourself to Him and do not be afraid. Jesus is madly in love with Man”</p> <p><i>Pray for the liberation of those who are under the power of darkness</i></p>
<p>St. Monica (mother of St. Augustine) (celebrated August 27th)</p> <p>“If I am your child, O my God, it is because you gave me such a mother!” St. Augustine. Monica did not give up but prayed for Augustine for many years. Her prayers won for the church one of its greatest Doctors.</p> <p><i>Pray for Holy Mothers.</i></p>	<p>Blessed Mother Teresa of Calcutta September 5</p> <p>"The more we are united with God, the more eager we will be to love and serve the poor with our whole heart."</p> <p><i>Pray to serve the poor with joy.</i></p>	<p>St. Nicholas, Bishop and Patron of Children December 6th</p> <p>“Let the children come to me, and do not hinder them, for it is to such as these that the Kingdom of Heaven belongs.”</p> <p><i>Pray for a childlike heart.</i></p>
<p>Saint Nicodemus (celebrated August 3rd)</p> <p>“I have come for the sake of the lost sheep of the house of Israel.”</p> <p><i>Pray for the enlightenment of Israel.</i></p>	<p>Our Lady of Fatima (celebrated May 13th)</p> <p>“O my Jesus, forgive us our sins, save us from the fires of hell. Lead all souls to heaven, especially those in most need of thy mercy.”</p> <p><i>Pray for greater devotion to the Rosary among Christians</i></p>	<p>Our Lady of Lourdes (celebrated February 11th)</p> <p>“It is only through prayer that you will become my apostles of peace in this restless world.” (Our Lady in Medjugorje, Nov 25, 1999)</p> <p><i>Pray for the apostles of Our Lady</i></p>

<p style="text-align: center;">Our Lady of Guadalupe (celebrated December 12th)</p> <p>"Am I not here who am your Mother? Is there anything else that you need?"</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Pray for greater dependence on the maternal love of Mary</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Our Lady, the Immaculate Conception December 8th</p> <p>"O Mary, conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to Thee."</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Cultivate a devotion to the Miraculous Medal.</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Our Lady of Mount Carmel (celebrated July 16th)</p> <p>"Those who wish to live truly devoted to Our Lady of Mount Carmel must follow Mary into the depths of the interior life... Mary's soul is a real 'garden' of virtues, an oasis of silence and peace, where justice and equity reign; an oasis of security completely enveloped in the shadow of God, and filled with God. Every interior soul, even if living amid the tumult of the world, must strive to reach this peace, this interior silence, which alone makes continual contact with God possible." <i>Pray for peace and interior silence in the hearts of bishops and priests.</i></p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Our Lady, Queen of Peace (Celebrated June 25th)</p> <p>"Love one another, my children, you are brothers and sisters, do not fight!" (Message of Dec. 25th 1981)</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Bring to Mary every single conflict you come across</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Our Lady, Queen of Peace June 25,</p> <p>"I need you. You are important to me." (message from Medjugorje)</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Pray for the plan of Our Lady in Medjugorje</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Saint Padre Pio (celebrated September 23rd)</p> <p>"The greatest charity is to take away souls from Satan and to bring them back to God".</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Pray for the salvation of souls that are bound to Satan.</i></p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Saint Patrick of Ireland (celebrated March 17th)</p> <p>"If I am worthy, I am ready also to give up my life, without hesitation and most willingly, for his name. I want to spend myself in that country (Ireland), even in death, if the Lord should grant me this favor." Patrick's Confessions</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Pray for the laity to respond to the call to be missionaries and evangelists today.</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">St. Paul Feast of Sts. Peter and Paul: June 29th</p> <p>"I have been crucified with Christ; and it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself up for me." ~Gal 2:20</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Pray for the conversion of those who attack the Church</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">St. Paul Feast of the Conversion of St. Paul: January 25th</p> <p>"As he traveled along and was approaching Damascus, a light from the sky suddenly flashed about him. He fell to the ground and at the same time heard a voice saying, 'Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?'"</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Pray for the unity of Christians</i></p>

<p style="text-align: center;">Saint Peter the Apostle (celebrated on 29 June)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">"Lord, You know everything, You know that I love You."</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Pray for the Pope and his intentions for the world.</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Saint Peter Chanel (celebrated on 28 April)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">"To love Mary and make her loved."</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Pray for missionary vocations</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">St Peter Julian Eymard (celebrated August 3rd)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">"To abide in His love is to make the Eucharist the center of our desires. To abide in His love is to delight in surprising Him with some gift, or some little sacrifice. To abide in His love is to live by the Eucharist; to guide ourselves in our actions by His thought, and to make it a point always to prefer the good service of the Eucharist to everything else".</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Pray that souls make Jesus in the Eucharist their first joy in life</i></p>
<p style="text-align: center;">St Philip Neri (celebrated May 26th)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">"Let joy in the Lord be continuous until joy in the world is extinguished. The former is always growing, the latter ever decreasing and finally dying. Rejoice in the Lord then, and not in the world. Rejoice, for wherever you are and as long as you are on earth, the Lord is near, do not be anxious." <i>Pray for those who have yet to find true joy in Jesus</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Blessed Pier Giorgio Frassati July 4th</p> <p style="text-align: center;">"Always be ready to give an explanation to anyone who asks you for a reason for your hope." 1Pet 3:15</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Pray for the young, especially teenagers.</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Blessed Luigi and Maria Quattrocchi (Celebrated April 28th)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Maria was advised to abort her unborn child to save her own life. The couple graciously relied on their trust in divine providence and were blessed with a healthy baby girl "Enrichetta". They also raised their family to be just as virtuous; three of their four children joined religious orders.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Pray for strong, virtuous, holy families</i></p>
<p style="text-align: center;">St. Rita of Cascia May 22nd</p> <p style="text-align: center;">"The soldiers then wove a crown of thorns and fixed it on his head..." John 19:2</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Pray for the healing of broken and wounded marriages</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Saint Rose of Lima (celebrated August 23rd)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">"Listen, all you people! At Christ's bidding and in his very words, I warn you: We cannot win grace if we do not suffer affliction; toil upon toil must be ours if we are to attain an intimate share in the divine nature, the glory of God,s children, and perfect happiness. If only men knew how beautiful, noble, and priceless a thing God,s grace is!"</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Pray that souls find the true beauty of the Cross</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">St. Scholastica, Virgin, Sister of St. Benedict February 10th</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Thereupon, Scholastica cried openly, laid her head upon the table, and prayed that God would intercede for her. As she did so, a sudden storm arose. The violent rain and hail came in such a torrential downpour that Benedict and his companions were unable to depart. "May Almighty God forgive you, sister" said Benedict, "for what you have done." "I asked a favor of you," Scholastica replied simply, "and you refused it. I asked it of God, and He has granted it!"</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Pray for great confidence in God's Providence</i></p>

<p style="text-align: center;">Saint Seraphim of Sarov August 1</p> <p style="text-align: center;">"Acquire inner peace and thousands around you will find salvation."</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Pray for the unity of the Church.</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">St. Simon of Cyrene</p> <p style="text-align: center;">"It is the Cross that bears you, not you who bear the Cross" (the Curé of Ars).</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Pray that many will be drawn to help others carry their crosses.</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Fr. Slavko Barbaric (died November 24)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">"O Holy Spirit, through Mary I choose you today the Master of my whole being. With trust and hope in Your endless love, which manifested itself so marvelously in Mary I decide for your gifts. I renounce every evil spirit and his action, and accept You, Spirit of light, love, peace and order. I devote to You all my abilities and want to act in Your light. I surrender to You all rights over my life. Watch over me and lead me to the Father! I pray to You with Mary through Jesus Christ. Amen" (from "Pray with the Heart" by Fr. Slavko) <i>Pray for the Holy Spirit!</i></p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Saint Stephen, first martyr, celebrated Dec 26</p> <p style="text-align: center;">"And Stephen, full of grace and power, did great wonders and signs among the people. Then some of those who belonged to the synagogue of the Freedmen...disputed with him. But they could not withstand the wisdom and the Spirit with which he spoke...And gazing at him, all who sat in the council saw that his face was like the face of an angel."</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Pray for the gift of profound holiness.</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Saint Teresa of Avila (celebrated October 15th)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">"Since the spiritual world is based entirely on humility, the closer one gets to God, the more this virtue should grow."</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Pray for consecrated souls, they are the soul of the Church</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Saint Therese of Lisieux, Doctor of the Church (celebrated on 1 October)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">"I understand so well that it is only love that can make us pleasing to the Good Lord, and my ambition is for this love alone."</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Pray for an outpouring of love in families.</i></p>
<p style="text-align: center;">St. Thomas Aquinas, Dominican, Doctor of the Church (celebrated January 28th)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">"Eternal life consists in the complete satisfaction of desire, for there the blessed will be given more than they wanted or hoped for. The reason is that in this life no one can fulfill his longing, nor can any creature satisfy man's desire. Only God satisfies, he infinitely exceeds all other pleasures. That is why the Lord says: Enter into the joy of your Lord."</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Pray for the conversion of lukewarm souls.</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Saint Thomas the Apostle (celebrated on 3 July)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">"Jesus said to him, "Put your hands in my side and do not doubt, but believe." Thomas replied, "My Lord and my God." (Jn 20: 27-28)</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Pray for unbelievers.</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Saint Thomas More (celebrated June 22nd)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">"I never stop trusting in His mercy. His grace has thus far strengthened me to renounce everything— possessions, income, life itself—rather than take an oath against my conscience. God will either sway the king to do no more to me, or He will give me strength to bear courageously and willingly whatever further evils are in store for me."</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Pray that lawyers and judges will decide for Gospel values, making it their sole aim to bring about a culture of life.</i></p>

<p style="text-align: center;">St Timothy, Disciple of St Paul (celebrated January 26th)</p> <p>'We decided to send our brother Timothy, who is God's helper in spreading the Good News of Christ, to keep you firm and strong in the faith, and prevent any of you from being unsettled by the present troubles.' 1 Thess 3:2-3</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Pray that Christians proclaim the Gospel with great zeal.</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Saint Valentine, priest, physician, martyr (celebrated February 14th)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">"I am beautiful because I love. If you want to be beautiful, love." Our Lady in Medjugorje, March 25, 1985</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Pray that people will model their love after God's love.</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Saint Veronica (who wiped the face of Jesus on the way of the cross) (celebrated February 4th)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">"It is your Face, Lord, that I seek!"</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Comfort Jesus through adoration</i></p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Saint Vincent de Paul. (celebrated September 27th)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">"You have as much need to be compassionate as the poor person has need of your compassion."</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Pray for compassion.</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Saint Junipero Serra (Celebrated July 1)</p> <p>The word that best describes Junipero is <i>zeal</i>. It was a spirit that came from his deep prayer and dauntless will. "Always forward, never back" was his motto.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>"Pray, little children, and be courageous witnesses of Good News in every situation. Only in this way will God bless you and give you everything you ask of Him in faith."</i> (12/25/04)</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Pray for the evangelization of all peoples.</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">The Martyrs of Otranto (d. 1480) (Feast day: Aug. 14)</p> <p>Also known as Antonio Primaldo and Companions, these were the first canonized saints of the new pontificate, 800 citizens of the Italian city of Otranto who were put to death by an invading army of the Ottoman Turks after a bloody siege. The city resisted the siege for 15 days, despite the absence of any trained forces, and fell on Aug. 12. The next day, more than 800 men, mostly fishermen, farmers, artisans and shepherds, were massacred. One of the executioners was so moved by the heroism of the martyrs that he converted on the spot and was slain.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Pray for the conversion of those who violently oppose Christianity</p>