

CALENDAR
OF THE
ETERNAL VIRGIN EUCHARISTIC
CHURCH

JANUARY

1. The Circumcision of Our Lord.
From ancient times the Church celebrated on this day, the Octave of Christmas, the anniversary of the Circumcision, when the Divine Infant submitted to the rite which proved the reality of His human nature, and shed His Blood for the first time.
2. The Most Holy Name of Jesus. Devotion to the Holy Name was preached by St. Bernardine of Siena (1380-1444) and was spread by his brethren of the Franciscan Order. A special feast in its honor was established for the Universal Church by Pope Innocent XIII in 1721.
3. The Motherhood of Mary. This day is kept as a day of special devotion to the Blessed Virgin in honor of her Motherhood.
4. Saint Joseph, Guardian of Our Savior; St. Elizabeth Ann Bayley Seton.
It is a truth that Saint Joseph was the savior of our Savior, who preserved the Divine Infant from the fury of Herod. The prefiguring of saving Jesus from temporal death, was essential, so that Our Lord, the Saviour of man, could preserve man from eternal death. To this glorious Saint was entrusted the Incarnate Word, and all the secrets of Father God. It was Saint Joseph whom God entrusted to guard, and keep safe, Jesus, our Redeemer.
St. Elizabeth Ann Bayley Seton, Religious, was raised Episcopalian and was a wife and a mother of 5 children. She was the foundress (1812) of the first congregation for women religious in the USA, the Sisters of Charity, devoted primarily to the education of the poor and to teaching in parochial schools. She died 1821, was the first native born citizen of the USA canonized in 1975.
5. St. John Neumann, Bishop, died in 1860. A missionary from Bohemia; C. Ss. R., bishop of Philadelphia, USA. He was known for his holiness and learning; promoter of parochial schools; authored two German catechisms; first American bishop canonized (1977).
6. The Epiphany.
Epiphany is a Greek word which means manifestation. The Church celebrates today the manifestation of our Lord to the Gentiles in the persons of the three Wise Men from the East. This is one of the oldest feasts in the liturgy, and record of it is found in the third century. That our Lord so early in His earthly life revealed Himself by a star to Gentiles from distant lands was emphasized by the Church as proof that His redemption was not confined to the Jewish people, as some of the Jewish Christians maintained. The Epistle recalls how Isaiah foretold the call of the Gentiles.
Sunday within the Octave of the Epiphany; (Jan 7th - 14th):
Feast of the Baptism of our Lord.
Jesus began His public ministry when He came to the Jordan, unto John, to be baptized by him, saying to him: "It becomes us to fulfil all justice." Jesus completed His public ministry, establishing the Sacrament of Baptism: "All authority is given to Me in Heaven and earth. Going therefore, teach ye all nations, baptizing them, in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost." By overcoming death, and rising again from the dead, Jesus fulfilled "all justice" and took back the authority which man lost by the sin of the first parent, and restored to all who believe in Him, the garb of immortality.
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14. St. Hilary, Bishop and Doctor; and St Felix, Priest and Martyr,

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St. Hilary is one of the most famous defenders of the Catholic faith against the Arian heresy, which in the fourth century had made great headway, especially in the Imperial Court. Appointed bishop of Poitiers in 353, he was banished to Phrygia by Emperor Constantius because of his defense of orthodoxy; but in Phrygia he carried on the combat against Arianism with such success that he was sent back to his diocese, where he reigned till his death in 368. He wrote a famous Treatise on the Trinity, and is venerated as a Doctor of the Church.

St. Felix, was a priest at Nola in Southern Italy who in 250 AD endured great torments in persecution and was saved from death only by a miracle. He died at an advanced age, famed for holiness and charity, and his tomb became a place for pilgrimage.

15. St. Paul; and St. Maurus.

St. Paul, the first Hermit, Confessor, was an Egyptian of good birth and education, who fled to the desert in his youth to escape the persecution of Decius. Delighted and helped by the solitary life, he persevered in it, even after persecutions had ceased. Before his death in 342 he was visited by St. Anthony (17th Jan), who formed the first laura or group of Anchorites, and thus began the development of monasticism.

St. Maurus, Abbot, was the first disciple of St. Benedict, and was sent by him to France about 528. He founded the abbey of Glanfeuil, from whence the great Benedictine foundations of France derived.

16. St. Marcellus I, Pope, Martyr, was Pope during the last persecution in Rome. He died in 310 as a result of the sufferings inflicted upon him.

17. St. Anthony, Abbot, retired into the desert as a youth of 18, in 270 AD. Numerous disciples followed his example and flocked to him, forming a laura or colony of anchorites, each of whom worked and prayed alone. St. Anthony gradually introduced into the hermetical life the element of obedience to a common superior, and so he is regarded as the Patriarch of Monasticism. He opposed the Arian heresy strenuously. He died in 356.

18. Chair of St. Peter, Apostle at Rome, and also St. Paul; and St. Prisca.

This feast commemorates the establishment by St. Peter and of his episcopal see and primacy at Rome, and honors the powers given by our Lord to St. Peter for the government and unity of his Church. St. Paul is commemorated because he is the co-founder of the Church in Rome. (*See 22 Feb*).

St. Prisca, whose feast occurs also today, was a Virgin and Martyr of Rome who is held in great veneration there.

19. SS Marius, Martha; Audifax and Abachum, Martyrs; and St. Canute.

Marius and his wife Martha were Persian nobles who came to Rome with their sons Audifax and Abachum. They visited Christians who were imprisoned for the faith and were arrested and martyred in 270.

St. Canute IV, Martyr, King of Denmark, who thoroughly established the Christian religion in Denmark and the Baltic provinces. He was cruelly murdered in the church in 1084, and is honored as a Christian martyr.

20. St Fabian; and St Sebastian.

St. Fabian, Pope and Martyr, was, when yet a layman, pointed out by a sign from Heaven as the successor of St. Anthems in the Chair of Peter. He did much for discipline and unity, and shed his blood for the faith in the persecution of Decius in 250 AD.

St. Sebastian, Martyr, was an officer of the Imperial Army and a friend of the Emperor Diocletian, when he avowed himself a Christian he was tied to a tree and made a target for Roman archers, and when discovered to be still alive, was clubbed to death in 288 AD. He is one of the most renowned Roman martyrs, especially in Christian art.

21. St. Agnes, Virgin and Martyr, is the martyr-saint of childhood, for she was only 13 years when put to death for being a Christian in 304 AD. Her constancy and courage under torment

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astonished her persecutors. A basilica was erected over her tomb by the daughter of Emperor Constantine, who was cured of a disease by her intercession. She is the patroness of Christian virtue confronted by political and social violence.

22. St. Vincent; and St. Anastasius.
St. Vincent, Deacon and Martyr, suffered most painful torments for the faith in Spain AD 304, and is patron of wine growers.
St. Anastasius, Martyr, was a Persian monk who suffered savage and prolonged torture on 628, under the Persian king, Chosroes. Relics of the two saints were brought to Rome and preserved in a church which was dedicated in their joint names.
23. St. Raymond of Pennafort, Confessor, was born in Spain, studied Roman and canon law at Bologna and became Archdeacon of Barcelona, and then entered the Dominican Order. He became renowned as a preacher, confessor and canonist, became chief adviser to Pope Gregory IX and at his order, compiled the collection of Decretals which was, from 1234 till 1917, the official compilation of Canon Law. He wrote also a famous work on the Sacrament of Penance. He co-operated with St. Peter Nolasco in establishing the work for the redeeming Christian captives from the Moors. He became the second Master General of the Dominican Order after St. Dominic, and died in 1275, a centenarian. He is related to have miraculously crossed the sea from Majorca to Barcelona. He is the patron of canonists and lawyers.
24. St. Timothy and Titus, Bishops and Martyrs
St. Timothy was born at Lystra in Asia Minor of a pagan father and Jewish mother. When St. Paul came on his second apostolic journey to Lystra he took Timothy as his disciple and companion. Two of his letters are addressed to Timothy, containing many counsels on the duties of a bishop. Timothy was made bishop of Ephesus and was martyred there in 97 AD. St. Titus, of Greek origins, was also a favored companion of St. Paul who appointed him Bishop of the Church at Crete. He died there in his 94th year about 105 AD.
25. Conversion of St. Paul, Apostle, when he had a miraculous conversion on the road to Damascus, he was changed by the grace of Christ from a persecutor into an apostle of the Christians.
26. St. Polycarp, Bishop and Martyr, was a disciple of St. John, and later Bishop of Smyrna. He was put to death by burning in the persecution under Marcus Aurelius. The letter written by the clergy of Smyrna to neighboring churches giving an account of his death has been preserved.
27. St. John Chrysostom, Bishop, Confessor and Doctor, an ascetic, became bishop of Constantinople in 397. He was an outstanding preacher and thus surnamed "golden mouthed." He defended the poor, sought reform of the clergy, and was twice exiled due to royal opposition. He authored ascetical, apologetic, and polemical treatises as well as letters. He is one of the four great doctors of the Eastern Church. Patron of preachers, and of Istanbul (Constantinople).
28. St. Peter Nolasco, Confessor, was a native of Southern France, went to Spain and, in cooperation with St. Raymond of Pennafort, founded the Order of Our Lady of Ransom. He devoted his life to the rescue of Christians kept in slavery by the Moors. Before his death in 1256 he had freed over 3,000 Christians. (see also Jan 23rd and Sept 24th).
29. St. Francis de Sales, Bishop, Confessor and Doctor, was born of noble parents in Savoy. Having studied at Paris and Padua, he gave up a brilliant worldly career for the Church. He became coadjutor to the Bishop of Geneva, and conducted a wonderfully successful apostolate among the Calvinists of Savoy. He established the Order of the Visitation and wrote several works on the spiritual life, which have become classics. He was remarkable for the wonderful combination of zeal and gentleness. He died in 1622.
30. St. Martina, Virgin and Martyr, was a Roman maiden, arrested while at prayer, and beheaded at Ostia. Her remains were transferred to Rome and placed in a church dedicated to her honor.

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31. St. John Bosco, Confessor, was born in Italy of poor parents, lost his father when two, and entered the seminary at Chieri when sixteen. At Turin, he continued his studies and was ordained there. He began his work with neglected boys at Turin at the encouragement of Fr. Joseph Cafasso, and was appointed chaplain of St. Philomena's Hospice for girls there in 1844. He housed his boys in an old building on the grounds. He was ordered to give up his care of the boys, or resign as chaplain, when they became too unruly. He resigned and with his mother opened a refuge for the boys. He began workshops and schools, built a church for the boys, and by 1856 was housing 150 boys, and had another 500 in oratories with 10 priests. He paid for his work by preaching, writing popular books, and from charitable donations. His need for dependable assistants led him to found the Society of St. Francis de Sales (The Salesians), which received general approval from Pope Pius IX in 1859, and formal approval in 1884. By the time of his death in 1888, there were some 64 Salesian foundations in Europe and the Americas, and almost 800 priests. In 1872 he founded the Daughters of Our Lady, Help of Christians, to care for poor and neglected girls, and followed this with a third order called Salesian co-operators. He was canonized in 1934.

FEBRUARY

1. St. Ignatius of Antioch; and St. Brigid.
St. Ignatius, Bishop and Martyr, was the second successor of St. Peter in the diocese of Antioch, and ruled there for forty years. In the persecution under Trajan he was taken to Rome and thrown to the wild beasts in the amphitheatre during the public game, AD 107. During his journey to Rome he wrote letters to the churches in different cities: they have been preserved, and are invaluable for the light they throw on the teaching and constitution of the Church. He besought all to whom he wrote not to hinder his martyrdom: he knew the kind of death that awaited him, for he wrote: "I am the wheat of Christ: may I be ground by the teeth of beasts that I may be found pure bread."
St. Brigid (C. 450-525). Born near Dundalk, Louth, Ireland, her parents were baptized by St. Patrick, with whom she developed a close friendship. According to legend, her father was Dubhthach, and Irish chieftain of Leinster, and her mother, Brocca, was a slave at his court. Even as a young girl she evinced an interest for a religious life, and took the veil in her youth, from St. Macaille at Croghan and probably was professed by St. Mel of Armagh, who is believed to have conferred abbatial authority on her. She settled with seven of her virgins at the foot of Croghan Hill for a time, and about 468, followed Mel to Meath. About 470 she founded a double monastery at Cill-Dara (Kildare) and was abbess of the convent, the first in Ireland. The foundation developed into a center of learning and spirituality, and around it grew up the cathedral city of Kildare. She founded a school of art, and its illuminated manuscripts became famous, notably the Book of Kildare, which was praised as one of the first of all illuminated Irish manuscripts before its disappearance about 1670. Brigid was one of the most remarkable women of her times, and despite the numerous legendary, extravagant, and even fantastic miracles attributed to her, there is no doubt that her extraordinary spirituality, boundless charity, and compassion for those in distress were real. She died at Kildare on February 1, 525. The Mary of the Gael, she is buried at Downpatrick with St. Columba and St. Patrick, with whom she is the patron of Ireland. Her name is sometimes Bridget and Bride, and Brid.
2. Purification of the Blessed Virgin Mary, and the Presentation of Our Lord
Forty days after the birth of her first-born son, a Hebrew mother was bound by the law of Moses (Ex 13 and Lv 12) to offer a lamb in holocaust and a dove as a sin-offering; or, if she were poor, two doves in all. Mary came as a poor woman with two doves to the Temple to fulfil the law. There she was met by Simeon, who took Jesus in his arms and proclaimed Him a "Light to the revelation of the Gentiles." From as early as the fourth century the Church has celebrated on this day one of the most ancient feasts of Our Lady, to commemorate her ritual "Purification and the Presentation of our Lord in the Temple." The feast has been celebrated with the blessing and procession of candles, to signify that Christ has come as "the Light of the world."
3. St. Joseph, Guardian of Our Savior; St. Blaise; and St. Ansgar.
After the Purification and Presentation in the Temple, Saint Joseph in obedience to the command: "Arise, and take the Child and His mother, and fly into Egypt," did so, and is considered the Guardian and savior of our Lord and His Blessed Mother.
St. Blaise, Bishop and Martyr, was bishop of Sebaste in Armenia, is famous for the many miracles he wrought, among which was a boy in whose throat a fish-bone was firmly lodged. He was put to death in 316 AD. in the persecution under Licinius. In his memory, throats are usually blessed on this day. The prayer used for the blessing of throats is: **Through the intercession of Saint Blaise, bishop and martyr, may God deliver you from every disease of the throat and from every other illness; In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, ✠ and of the Holy Ghost. Amen.**
St. Ansgar, Bishop and Confessor, was a missionary to Denmark and Sweden, bishop of Hamburg, and known as a great preacher and administrator. He was known as the "Apostle of the North" and died at Bremen in 865. He is the patron of Denmark, Germany, and

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Iceland.

4. St. Andrew Corsini, Bishop and Confessor, was a member of the noble Corsini family of Florence, and spent much of his youth in dissipation; but, touched by the grace of conversion, he entered the Carmelite Order, and spent the rest of his life in penance and preaching. Appointed Bishop of Fiesoli, he doubled his penance. He died in 1373.
5. St. Agatha; St. Paul Miki and Companions.
St. Agatha, Virgin and Martyr, was a maiden of Sicily who suffered death for the faith, after atrocious torture, during the persecution of Decius, 250 AD. She was one of the most renowned of the Christian martyrs. By her intercession the town of Catania was several times preserved from destruction by volcanic eruptions from Mount Etna nearby. She is the patroness of Palermo and Catania.
St. Paul Miki and Companions, Martyrs. Paul Miki, a Jesuit scholastic, and his 25 companions, including 2 other Jesuits, 6 Franciscans, 15 tertiaries, and 2 laymen, were crucified, by order of the ruler Hideyoshi, at Nagasaki on Feb. 5, 1597. Among them, the Mexican, Felipe de Jesus, the first martyr from the Americas to be beatified. They were canonized in 1862 by Pope Pius IX.
6. St. Dorothy, Virgin and Martyr, was racked, scourged and beheaded in Cappadocia about 300 for the crime of being a Christian. At her trial, a lawyer mockingly asked her to send him fruit and flowers from the garden of her heavenly bridegroom. On the day of her martyrdom, in the depths of a Cappadocian winter, he received roses and apples from a mysterious messenger
7. St. Romuald, the Founder of the Camaldose Order, a branch of that of St. Benedict, died at a great age in 1057. His own life and that which he prescribed to his Religious, was austere in the extreme. Yet, as much by his gentleness as by his zeal, he was instrumental in the conversion of thousands of sinners.
8. St. John of Matha, Confessor, a Frenchman, devoted his life to the rescuing of Christians held as slaves by the Muslims. For the forwarding of this good work, which in his age was of the most pressing importance, he with his compatriot, St. Felix of Valois, (*see Nov. 20th*), founded the Trinitarian Order. St. John died 21st Dec, 1213.
9. St. Cyril of Alexandria, Bishop, Confessor and Doctor, was Patriarch of Alexandria in Egypt, one of the great Fathers of the Eastern Church, was a zealous champion of the Catholic faith. He spared no effort to eradicate the last vestiges of paganism. At the Council of Ephesus in 431, over which he presided as legate of Pope Celestine I, he upheld against Nestorius the Catholic doctrine that in our Lord there is only one Person and that in truth our Blessed Lady is the Mother of God. After enduring many hardships in the cause of religion, he passed to his reward in 444 AD.
10. St. Scholastica, Virgin, sister of St. Benedict, practised the religious life under his direction. St. Gregory the Great relates how, in witness to the innocency of her life, at the moment of her holy death, 543 AD., St. Benedict saw his sister's soul flying heavenwards in the shape of a dove. She is interred in the same grave with her brother and is invoked against storms. She is the patron saint of Benedictine convents.
11. Apparition of Our Lady of Lourdes.
On 11th February 1858, the fourth year after the dogmatic definition of the Immaculate Conception, began the series of wonderful apparitions of the Blessed Virgin Mary seen by the humble maid Bernadette Soubirous (*see 16 April*) near the town of Lourdes. There a sanctuary has been set up, pilgrims come, and God works many miracles. Our Lady here proclaimed herself "The Immaculate Conception." To commemorate these divine favors, Pope Pius X ordered the celebration of this feast in 1908. Under the title of "The Immaculate Conception" our Lady is patroness of Portugal and of the Philippines.
12. The Seven Holy Founders of the Order of Servites

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The Servite Order was founded by seven noblemen of Florence, whom our Blessed Lady bade to establish an Order to honor her Seven Sorrows. Each of the seven holy men was distinguished for zeal and sanctity, and miracles have been worked as a result of their joint invocation.

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14. St. Valentine; and St. Methodius.

St. Valentine, Priest and Martyr, was a Roman priest who visited and consoled those imprisoned for being Christians: he was eventually arrested and beheaded, about 270.

St. Methodius, Bishop and Martyr. The Roman Martyrology and St. Jerome state that he was bishop of Patara in Lycia, and then of Tyre, while other sources declare that he was bishop of Patara in Lycia. He was famous for his preaching and scholarship, and wrote several treatises, among them *On the Resurrection*, against Origen's teaching on the subject, and his *Symposium*, an ascetical treatise on virginity, which was marred by Millenarianism. He suffered martyrdom at Chalcis, Greece, for his faith on 18, September, 311.

15. St. Faustinus and Jovita, Martyrs. Two brothers of Brescia, in Northern Italy, who fervently lived and preached the Christian faith during the Roman persecutions. They were beheaded by order of the Emperor Hadrian 121.

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18. St. Simeon, Bishop and Martyr, was a cousin of our Blessed Lord, was the successor of St. James the Apostle, and therefore second bishop of Jerusalem, from which city, forewarned by God, he escaped with his flock when its destruction was imminent. He was crucified under Emperor Trajan in 107.

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22. Chair of St. Peter, Apostle at Antioch.

There was a feast on this day from ancient times in honor of St. Peter's Chair or Primacy. Since the establishment of his See in Rome came to be celebrated on January 18, this day commemorates the seven years during which St. Peter ruled over the Church as Bishop of Antioch.

Today's feast, attested as early as the mid-fourth century (in the *Depositio martyrum*), has its roots in the commemoration of dead relatives and friends (*Parentalia*) celebrated in Rome between 13-22 Feb. At this commemoration, a chair (*cathedra*) was left empty for particular deceased persons. Since the actual date of St. Peter's death was unknown, it came to be commemorated on 22 Feb., eventually celebrating his taking pastoral responsibility of the Church of Rome.

23. St. Peter Damian, Bishop, Confessor and Doctor, was born at Ravenna about 990, he became a Camaldolese monk and attained renown for his learning, austerity of life and administrative missions. He was a tower of strength to the Popes of the 11th century in their efforts to reform the Church from the abuses of the feudal system. He died in 1072.

24. St. Matthias, Apostle, was the disciple of our Lord who was chosen to take the place lost by Judas. This election shows how from the beginning the Church recognized that special power and authority for government was vested in the Apostles. The subsequent missionary labors of St. Matthias are not known with historical accuracy, but the Church honors him as a martyr.

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27. St. Gabriel of Our Lady of Sorrows, Confessor, was born at Assisi, the birthplace of St. Francis, and was guided by divine grace into the Passionist Congregation, where he soon

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became eminent for his penance, self-denial and heroic humility. He practiced intense devotion to the Passion of Our Lord, to the Blessed Eucharist, and in a specially tender degree to the sorrows of the Mother of God. He was only in his 24th year when his heavenly Mother came to call him to his eternal reward, in 1862. He was canonized in 1920.

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MARCH

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4. St. Casimir; and St. Lucuis.
St. Casimir, Confessor, was son of Casimir III, King of Poland, and from boyhood was distinguished for his piety and charity to the poor. He died in 1482 at age 24. Many miracles have been wrought at his tomb, which is in Villa, capital of Lithuania. Patron of Poland and Lithuania.
St. Lucuis, Pope and Martyr, occupied the See of Peter during the persecution under Gallus for only a few months when he was put to death for the faith in 254.
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6. SS. Perpetua and Felicity, Martyrs, were married women of Carthage in Africa, who were arrested and imprisoned for being Christians during the persecution under Severus. They were condemned to be thrown to the wild beasts in the amphitheatre, but neither the entreaties of their parents nor the thought of their baby children could shake their constancy. With other Christians, they endured death with magnificent courage in 203.
7. St. Thomas Aquinas, Confessor and Doctor, was born of the noble family of Aquino, was educated by the Benedictines, and entered the newly-founded order of mendicant friars of St. Dominic, against the violent opposition of his family. Sent to study at the University of Paris, he soon won renown both for his sanctity and his learning. His marvelous keenness and clearness of intellect won him the title of Angelic Doctor. In his writings he developed the rational exposition and defence of Christian teaching on the principles of sound philosophy. He was also a gifted poet and mystic, and composed the Office of Corpus Christi and many beautiful hymns. He died at Fossa Nuova in Italy in 1274. He is the patron of all Catholic universities and schools.
8. St. John of God, Confessor, was born in Portugal, he founded the famous religious order which is called the Order of Hospitallers. It is devoted to the care of the sick, to whose service he himself gave his life. He died at Granada in Spain, kneeling at the foot of the crucifix on March 8, 1550. He is patron of hospitals and the sick, of nurses and book sellers.
9. St. Frances of Rome, Widow, Religious, was a noble Roman lady of the 15th century, during forty years of married life was an example of all the virtues of a Christian wife. She founded an Order of Oblates of St. Benedict, committed to serving the poorest of the poor, and on the death of her husband entered it herself and practised great austerities until her death in 1440. She was favored with frequent visions of Angels. She is the Patroness of widows and motorists.
10. The Forty Martyrs, were soldiers of the Roman army, stationed at Sebaste in Armenia, who in the persecution under Licinius were condemned to death by freezing in the ice of a pond because they refused to sacrifice to false gods.
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12. St. Gregory I the Great, Pope, Confessor and Doctor, was born in Rome, son of a Roman Senator, and while still a young man was appointed Imperial Governor of Rome. But he relinquished the secular career, sold all his patrimony, and became a monk in a monastery which he had endowed. Pope Pelagius II appointed him legate at the Court of Constantinople, and in 590, much against his will, Gregory was elected to the Chair of Peter. During a reign of 12 years he did immense work for the Church. He fixed and perfected the liturgy and chant of the Church, so that his name is for ever associated therewith, the Gregorian Chant. He carried out a thorough reform of the monastic and secular clergy, repressed heresy, and firmly maintained the primacy of Rome against the pretensions of the Patriarch of Constantinople. He sent missionaries to convert the English and the Lombards. He personally attended to the poor of Rome, and he wrote many works on Scripture, Church government, and the pastoral office. He is one of the great Doctors of the Western Church. He died 12 March, 604, and is

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buried in St. Peter's.

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17. St. Patrick, Bishop and Confessor, was the son of a Roman provincial officer, and was carried off as a boy by a band of marauding Celts and kept in slavery in Ireland. Having effected his escape, he devoted himself at Tours and Lerins to the study of the Sacred Scripture, and returned to Ireland with a few companions to spread the light of Christianity. His mission was remarkably successful, and before long Ireland became a center of Christian culture and asceticism. St. Patrick was a man of great austerity, and as his writings show, deep humility. He died about 464 at Down. He founded the metropolitan See of Armagh, authored the Confession, and the famous Lorica ("breastplate"), a work praising Christ, is probably his. He is the patron of Nigeria, and apostle and patron of Ireland.

18. St. Cyril of Jerusalem, Bishop, Confessor and Doctor, was Patriarch of Jerusalem from 350 to 386. He is famous for his courageous stand with St. Athanasius against the Arian heretics and for his "Catecheses," (18 and 5 "Mystagogical Catecheses") or simple expositions of Christian teaching for catechumens, which bear witness to the faith of the Early Church in the Holy Eucharist. He was exiled 3 times by the Arians. He died in 386.

19. Solemnity of Saint Joseph, Spouse of the Virgin Mary. God has declared that he was a just man. Holy Scripture recounts the important role he took in the events of our Lord's Infancy - the nativity, circumcision, presentation in the temple, flight into Egypt, the finding in the temple, and life at Nazareth. It is presumed that he died at Nazareth, in the arms of Jesus and Mary, before our Lord's public life began. He is the model of husbands, fathers and working men. Devotion to him existed in the East from before the 8th century, but in the West the liturgical celebration in his honor began only in the 14th century. Since then it has developed rapidly and we have now six solemn feasts in his honor. He was declared Patron of the Universal Church in 1870 by Pope Pius IX. He is patron of workers and carpenters. Also patron of Austria, Belgium, Bohemia, Canada, Mexico, Peru, and South Vietnam.

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21. St. Benedict, Abbot, was born at Norcia, in Central Italy in 480 AD. of the ancient family of the Anicii. In early youth he abandoned his studies and earthly prospects and lived the hermitical life in a cave at Subiaco, about 40 miles south of Rome. There he was joined later by disciples, eager for the solitary life, and he founded monasteries for men and women. In 529 he established the great abbey of Monte Cassino, which became a center of learning and religion for Western Europe. There he wrote his famous Monastic Rule, remarkable for its spirit of wisdom, orderliness and peace. In the course of time it became the basis of all monastic life in the West, supplanting even the Rule of St. Columbanus. Hence St. Benedict is rightly called the Patriarch of Western Monasticism. He died in 543, and his life was written by his disciple, Pope Gregory the Great.

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23. St. Turibius de Mogrovejo, Bishop. As a layman, he was the chief judge of the Inquisition at Granada. As archbishop of Lima, he presided over the III Council of Lima (1583). He established the first seminary in the New World, and sought to alleviate poverty among the native population. He is contemporary of Rose of Lima. He died in 1606. He is patron of Latin American bishops.

24. St. Gabriel, Archangel, (*God's Strength*), is the special messenger of the Incarnation. He was sent to the prophet Daniel to tell him the time when Christ would be born. He announced to Zachary the birth of St. John the Baptist, the precursor of the Messiah, and then to Our Lady the Incarnation of the Messiah Himself. He protects the virtue of Hope, and helps us

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overcome temptations to despair, and the deadly sin promoted by the arch-demon of Lust. He is the patron of the Sacrament of Baptism, and breathes life into every soul who is baptized in the Name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost. A feast of St. Gabriel does not appear in the history of the Church before the tenth century. Pope Benedict XV (1914-22), fixed it on March 24, and ordered it to be kept by the universal Church. (*See also 29 Sept*).

25. The Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary. This Festival, in memory of the announcement made by the Angel Gabriel to the Blessed Virgin Mary, of the Incarnation of the Son of God, is among the most ancient and most celebrated of the Christian year. It is noticed as early as the 5th century.
26. Saint Joseph, Spouse of the Virgin Mary. Almighty God confided to Saint Joseph that he is the representative of the Holy Ghost, Who, in placing His spouse under Joseph's dependence and direction, confided to him the mystery of the Blessed Virgin Mary. In entrusting him with the Virgin of all virgins, God the Father, and God the Holy Ghost, entrust to him what is most dear to them, the earthly mother of the Son of God, Jesus the Christ, Who would redeem the world, and return all, to the Creator of all. With his acceptance of the word of God, to care for His family, Joseph is freed from original sin, becomes the immaculate spouse, of the Immaculate Mother, and father of the immaculate Holy Family.
27. St. John Damascene, Confessor and Doctor, was born about 680 in Damascus, where his father was the Caliph's Vizier. He succeeded to the office of Vizier, and had all that the world could give him learning, wealth, honors, and power. But he abandoned all and became a monk in the laura of St. Sabbas near Jerusalem. The rest of his life was spent in study and prayer. He wrote a treatise "On the Orthodox Faith" which was the first complete and systematic treatise of all dogmatic theology. He defended the practice of the veneration of images against the image-breaking Emperors of Constantinople, who had him cruelly punished for his writings by the cutting off of his right hand, but it was miraculously restored, he died about 760.
28. St. John of Capistrano, Confessor, was born in 1385 at Capistrano in southern Italy. He studied law at Perugia and entered the service of the King of Naples, but abandoned the worldly career for the Order of St. Francis. He became celebrated for his theological learning and sanctity of life, and ardently encouraged devotion to the Name of Jesus. He devoted himself to the defence of the Church against internal and external foes, and assisted at the Council of Florence to bring about union between the Latin and Greek Churches. As legate of the Pope, he preached against heretics in Germany and Austria with great success. He organized a crusade and gathered 40,000 men to help John Hunyade, King of Hungary, to achieve the famous victory of Belgrade against the Turks, 1456, the year of his death.
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- 30.
31. The Seven Dolours of the Blessed Virgin Mary. The Church has two feasts in honor of the sorrows our Blessed Lady. This feast is usually celebrated in Passion Week commemorates her greatest sufferings, those which she endured during the Passion of her Divine Son, from the moment of meeting Him carrying the Cross, till the taking down of His lifeless Body and laying Him in the tomb.

APRIL

- 1.
2. St. Francis of Paul, Confessor, was born in Calabria of poor parents, and at the age of 14 retired to a cave on the seashore where he was joined by other aspirants to the life of prayer and penance. Their number increased so that soon they formed a new religious institute devoted to the practice of humility and austerity. Francis adopted for them the name "Minim," which means "least." By their rule they fasted all the year round. The Order spread rapidly. Francis died in 1508 at the age of 92.
- 3.
4. St. Isidore, Bishop, Confessor and Doctor, the most famous Doctor of the Spanish Church, was born at Cartagena. He became bishop of Seville in 603. He purified Spain from the remnants of heresy, held many councils, restored ecclesiastical discipline and wrote works on all the sciences of his age. These works had great importance in transmitting the torch of learning to the Middle Ages. He died in 636.
5. St. Vincent Ferrer, Confessor, was born at Valentia in Spain. He joined the Dominicans and became the greatest preacher of his time. He traveled over Spain, France, Italy and Switzerland, giving missions, in which entire populations were converted. He labored to bring to an end the great schism by which Europe was divided between rival claimants for the Papal Throne. He had the gifts of prophecy and miracles, and died in Brittany in 1419.
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11. St. Leo the Great, Pope, Confessor and Doctor. Leo I ruled the Church of God from 440 till his death on Nov 10th 461. He is called the Great and a Doctor because he defended the true faith in Christ against the Nestorian and Eutychian heresies, which denied the union of human and divine natures in the person of Christ. The General Council of Chalcedon, 451, accepted his statement of the true faith with the famous words: "Peter has spoken by the mouth of Leo." He also protected Rome and Italy from the cruelty of Attila, King of the Huns, and from Genseric, King of the Vandals, the barbarian invaders from the North. Many of his prayers are found in the Sacramentary.
- 12.
13. St. Hermenegild; and St. Justin.
St. Hermenegild was son of Leovigild, King of the Visigothic people who conquered Spain in the fifth century. The Visigoths adhered to the Arian heresy, which denied the true divinity of Christ. Hermenegild became converted to the faith, was imprisoned by his father, and put to death on April 13th, 586, for refusing to abandon the true faith. His death was not without avail, for his brother Reccared (Richard), on succeeding to the throne, became a Christian and brought the whole nation to the faith.
St. Justin, Martyr, was born at Naplouse in Samaria. Having studied the pagan philosophers, he found truth and wisdom in the Christian faith. He made use of his philosophical training in the exposition and defence of Christian teaching, and wrote two famous Defenses of the Christian Religion, addressed to the Emperors Antonius Pius and Marcus Aurelius. He gave one of the earliest descriptions of the Mass. He was put to death on April 13th, 162. He is the patron of philosophers and apologists.
14. St. Tiburitus, Valerian and Maximus, Martyrs. Valerian, a Roman noble espoused to St. Cecilia (22nd Nov), was converted by her, with his brother Tiburitus. Maximus, the officer who presided at their execution for the faith, was so impressed by their courage that he, too, became a Christian and suffered martyrdom about 229.
- 15.
16. St. Bernadette of Lourdes, (Marie Bernard Soubirous), was born on January 7, 1844, at

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Lourdes, France, oldest child of miller Francis Soubirous and his wife, Louise, she was called Bernadette as a child, lived in abject poverty with her parents, was uneducated, and suffered from asthma. On February 11, 1858, while collecting firewood on the banks of the Gave River near Lourdes, she saw a vision of the Virgin Mary in a cave above the riverbank. Her report provoked skepticism, but her daily visions of the Lady from February 18 through March 4 drew great crowds of people. Despite great hostility on the part of the civil authorities, she persisted in her claims, and on February 25 caused a spring to flow where none had been before. On March 25, the vision told her it was the Immaculate Conception and directed her to build a chapel on the site. In 1866, she became a Sister of Notre Dame at Nevers, and she remained there until she died at Nevers on April 16, 1879. Lourdes soon became one of the great pilgrimage centers of modern Christianity, attracting millions of visitors. Miracles were reported at the shrine, and in the waters of the spring, and after painstaking investigation the apparitions were ecclesiastically approved. Bernadette was canonized in 1933 by Pope Pius XI.

17. St. Anicetus, Pope and Martyr, governed the Church for eight years, suffered death for the faith under Marcus Aurelius, 168, and was buried in the Catacomb of St. Callistus.

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21. St. Anselm, Bishop, Confessor and Doctor, was born in Italy and became a monk in the Benedictine abbey of Bec in Normandy, of which he was later elected prior and abbot. He was the great teacher of his day in philosophy and theology, and prepared the way for the development of Scholastic Theology. In 1093 he was appointed Archbishop of Canterbury and defended with great courage the liberty of the Church against the tyranny of William Rufus. He was twice exiled for defending the rights of the church. He died in 1109.

22. Our Lady of Akita. St. Soter and St. Caius, Popes and Martyrs.

Our Lady of Akita. In the Japanese village of Akita, a statue of our Blessed Mother shed blood, sweat and tears, according to the testimony of more than 500 Christians and non-Christians, including the Buddhist mayor of the town. She gave messages to a nun, Sister Katsuko Sasagawa, who in addition to receiving messages from Our Lady, has also received the stigmata. On April 22, 1984, after eight years of extensive investigations, and after consultation with the Holy See, the messages of Our Lady of Akita were approved by Most. Rev. John Shojiro Ito, Bishop of Niigata, Japan, bishop of the Doicese, to be of supernatural origin, and authorizes throughout the entire diocese the veneration of the Holy Mother of Akita. In June 1988, Joseph Cardinal Ratzinger, Prefect, Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, gives definitive judgement on the Akita events and messages as reliable and worthy of belief.

St. Soter governed the Church for ten years and suffered martyrdom in the reign of Marcus Aurelius about 170.

St. Caius was martyred on the same day in the year 296.

23. St. George, Martyr, was born in Cappadocia, he became an officer in the Roman army, and suffered death for the faith in the time of the Emperor Diocletian, with such sublime fortitude that he became known in the Eastern Church as the Great Martyr. The story of his slaying of the dragon does not appear until the twelfth century. In the legend he was a Christian knight who came to Sylene in Libya, where a dragon was terrorizing the city. The people were supplying the dragon with a victim at his demand. The latest victim was a princess. George sallied forth, attacked, and subdued the dragon. The Princes led it back into the city, and George slew it after the inhabitants agreed to be baptized. "St. George's arms," a red cross on a white background, became the basis of the uniforms of English soldiers and sailors. He was chosen as the Patron of England about the year 800. He is also known as a patron of

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Poland.

24. St. Fidelis of Sigmaringen, Priest and Martyr. Mark Reyd was born at Sigmaringen in Germany in 1577 and became a magistrate at Colmar. He showed such charity in this position that he was called the Advocate of the Poor. In 1612 he entered the Capuchin Order, received the name Fidelis, and devoted himself to the propagation of the faith among the Swiss Calvinists. His success aroused the fury of the enemies of the Church. He was killed on April 24, 1622.
25. St. Mark, Evangelist, was, according to tradition, one of the 72 disciples sent by our Lord to preach. He was the disciple and interpreter of St. Peter (says St. Jerome), according to what he heard from Peter himself, wrote at Rome a brief Gospel at the request of the Brethren, about ten years after our Lord's Ascension (about 43AD). When Peter had heard it, he approved it, and with his authority published it to the church to be read. Baronius and others say that the original was written in Latin, but the more general opinion is that the Evangelist wrote it in Greek. His Gospel begins with the story of St. John the Baptist - the voice in the desert - and is therefore represented under the symbol of a lion who makes the desert re-echo with its roaring. St. Mark became the first bishop of the great city of Alexandria in Egypt, and was martyred there in 70 AD. In the 9th century his remains were taken to Venice, where he is venerated as Patron of the city.
His Gospel may be divided into seven parts:
 1. Prelude (Baptist, baptism, temptation) 1: 1-13.
 2. Ministry (in Galilee) 1:14-7:23.
 3. Journey (Tyre, Sidon, Decapolis, Caesarea and back to Galilee) 7:24-9:28.
 4. Transfiguration. 9:1-12.
 5. Final journey (Peraea, Jericho, Jerusalem). 9:29-13:37.
 6. Passion Ch 14,15.
 7. Resurrection. Ch 16.
26. St. Cletus and Marcellinus, Popes and Martyrs.
St. Cletus was the third successor of St. Peter, elected in 76. He suffered martyrdom probably in Rome during the persecution of the Christians by Emperor Diocletian. He is also known by the Greek version of his name, Anacletus.
St. Marcellinus succeeded St. Caius in 296, also suffered martyrdom for the faith.
27. St. Peter Mary Chanel; and St. Peter Canisius.
St. Peter Mary Chanel, Confessor and Martyr, was a French Marist missionary on the Pacific islands of Wallis and Futuna. He destroyed the cult of evil spirits there. He was murdered in 1841. He is considered the proto-martyr and patron of Oceania.
St. Peter Canisius, Confessor and Doctor, was born at Nimeguen, Holland on May 8th 1521. He entered the Society of Jesus and died at Fribourg, Switzerland on Dec 21st 1597, was beatified by Pope Pius IX, canonized and proclaimed Doctor of the Church by Pope Pius XI. His feast was extended to the universal Church on 24 November 1926. This Dutch saint was called the "Apostle of Germany," (see 5th June) the "Hammer of heretics," the Jerome and Augustine of his century, the defender of the Church against the gates of hell. By his eloquent preaching, controversy and books of piety, by the foundation of several colleges, by the missions entrusted to him by four Sovereign Pontiffs, he stopped the progress of Protestantism and caused Catholic life to flourish. He assisted as theologian at the Council of Augsburg and the Conference of Worms. He refused the bishoprics of Vienna and Cologne. We owe to him the first Catechism of Christian Doctrine. "Institutiones Christianae Pietatis."
28. St. Paul of the Cross, Confessor, was born near Genoa in 1694. He fought as a soldier in one of the Crusades against the Turks. Consumed with burning love for Christ and zeal for souls, he founded the Order of the Passionists in 1720, who make a vow to propagate devotion to

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the Passion of our Lord. He died on 18 Oct 1775, and was canonized in 1867.

29. St. Catharine of Sienna, St. Peter, Martyr.

St. Catharine of Sienna, Virgin, of the Order of St. Dominic, was remarkable **not only** for the fervor of her religious life, and for the supernatural favors vouchsafed her by Almighty God, but also for the great public services she rendered to His Church, especially in bringing about the return of the Popes to Rome, after 70 years of exile at Avignon in France. St. Catharine died, aged 33, in 1380.

St. Peter, Martyr, was born at Vienna in 1205 of heretical parents, of the Manichean Sect, but he was brought up in the faith and became a famous preacher in the Dominican Order. He was assassinated by the heretics on 6th April 1252, because of his ardor in preaching the true faith.

30.

Feast of Divine Mercy. (Celebrated on the Sunday after Easter Sunday).

The Divine Mercy of God is the supreme attribute of our Creator, the greatest perfection of our Redeemer, and the unfathomable love of our Sanctifier. Divine Mercy is the inconceivable mystery of Holy Trinity, the expression of the greatest power of the Most High God. In trusting in Divine Mercy, we are raised from the misery of sin, justified us in the Word Incarnate through the Precious Blood flowing from the wounds of Christ, and gushing from His Most Sacred Heart. This feast was given to Sister Faustina, and has been passed on to the Universal Church.

MAY

1. St. Joseph, the Worker, Patron of the Universal Church. Joseph was a true father to the family, who nourished Jesus and Mary, and prepared them bread unto fulness, which he gained by the labor of his hands, and the sweat of his brow. Joseph, was the master of his Master, for Jesus was an apprentice in his workshop. He taught Him to work as a carpenter, so that everyone said: "Is not this the carpenter's Son?" He gave us the example to work according as we are called, and do all for the glory and honor of God. This feast commemorates his title of Patron of the Universal Church. A feast in honor of his Patronage was celebrated in many dioceses and religious orders since 1680, and in 1847 was extended to the whole Church. In 1870, Pope Pius IX formally declared St. Joseph Patron of the Universal Church. This feast was inaugurated to counter the atheistic communist celebration of May Day.
2. St. Athanasius, Bishop, Confessor and Doctor, was born 297. He was well educated in scripture and theology, was ordained a deacon and became secretary to Bishop Alexander of his native city, Alexandria, about 318, and was present at the Council of Nicaea with his bishop. This council condemned Arianism and excommunicated Arius. Arius denied the divinity of Christ. Athanasius was elected bishop of Alexandria on Alexander's death about 327. He also became the spiritual head of the desert hermits and of Ethiopia. He was immediately confronted with a revival of Arianism in Egypt and its rapid growth throughout the Mediterranean and the continued schism of the Meletians, who supported the Arians. He was ordered by Emperor Constantine to admit Arius to communion at the insistence of Eusebius. When Athanasius refused, Eusebius incited the Meletians to use every means to discredit Athanasius. He was charged with various crimes, including that of murder of Arsenius, a Meletian bishop everyone knew was alive and in hiding. During all of this Athanasius was exiled from his see five times, but remained the unshakeable champion of the true faith who stood firm even when the whole world seemed to have adopted Arianism. He wrote many treatises in defence of the faith, defending the incarnation and redemption. He died 373 and is honored as one of the four great doctors of the East.
3. SS. Philip and James, Apostles. Finding of the Holy Cross.
St. Philip, like Peter and Andrew came from Bethsaida in Galilee, and was one of the first called to be Apostle. It was he whom Jesus addressed at the multiplication of the loaves, and through him the Gentiles sought access to our Lord (Jn 12:21). Tradition holds he preached in Phrygia and died on a cross at Hierapolis. Two apocrypha works are attributed to him. With James, he is venerated as the patron saint of Uruguay.
St. James, son of Alphaeus, called the Less, to distinguish him from the other Apostle James (see 25th July), was a kinsman of our Lord, and brother of the Apostle Jude. He was the first Bishop of Jerusalem, and wrote an epistle which is included in the New Testament. Persecuted by the Jews, he was thrown from a terrace of the Temple and then beaten to death. He is considered patron of the dying.
The relics of these Apostles were brought to Rome and placed in the great basilica of the Apostles, which is one of the principal churches of Rome.
Finding of the Holy Cross. After the victory gained by Constantine in 312, by virtue of the Cross which appeared to him in the skies, St. Helena, his mother, went to Jerusalem to try to find the true Cross. At the beginning of the second century, the Roman Emperor Hadrian had covered Calvary and the Holy Sepulcher under a terrace of 100 yards in length, on which had been erected a statue of Jupiter and a temple of Venus. The Empress razed them to the ground, and, in digging up the soil, they discovered the nails and the three crosses. The miraculous cure of a woman attested which of them was the Cross of Christ. St. Helen divided into three the precious wood which had been worthy to bear the King of Heaven. One part was deposited in Rome in the Church which was called Holy Cross. The second in Constantinople and the third in Jerusalem.

May

4. St. Pius V, Pope, Confessor, was born at Bosco in Lombardy and entered the Dominicans at the age of 16. Renowned for the austerity of his life, he was made bishop and cardinal, and in 1566 was elected Pope. His reign, though only six years, was memorable for his great work in reforming ecclesiastical discipline, restoring the beauty of the liturgy. He implemented the reforms of the Council of Trent, promulgated the Roman Catechism, the Roman Missal, and the Roman Breviary used until Vatican II. He defended the Church against the Lutherans and the Turks. The great naval victory of Lepanto (see 7th October) won in 1571, which saved Europe from the Turks, was due to his zeal and organization. He died May 1, 1572.
5. St. John before the Latin Gate. This feast celebrates an episode in the life of St. John the Evangelist. When he was nearly ninety years old, he was ordered by the Emperor Domitian to be brought to Rome and there plunged into a cauldron of boiling oil. This order was carried out just outside the city at the Latin Gate, but by a striking miracle he came forth from the cauldron strengthened rather than weakened. A church has been erected near this gate in honor of the miracle, and is dedicated to the holy Apostle.
6. St. Stanislaus, Bishop and Martyr, was born in Poland about 1030 and became Bishop of Cracow in 1072. Having reproached the king, Boleslaus II, for his tyranny and dissolute life, he became an object of hatred at court, and was eventually assassinated May 8th 1079, at the king's instigation. He is the patron saint of Poland.
- 7.
8. Apparition of St. Michael the Archangel; St. Gregory Nazianzen
Devotion to the holy Archangel, St. Michael, dates from the very beginnings of the Church. Besides the chief festival kept in his honor, and in that of all the holy Angels, on Michaelmas Day (29th Sept), since the fifth century, the 8th of May has also been deemed sacred, on account of the wonderful apparition of the holy Archangel that took place in that age in Italy. St. Gregory Nazianzen, Bishop, Confessor and Doctor, was born at Nazianzus in Asia Minor about 330, and was the intimate friend of St. Basil the Great. Bishop first of Sasima, and afterwards of Constantinople, he converted the greater part of his diocese from the Arian heresy, but had much to suffer from political disputes. Finally, in the cause of peace and the welfare of the Church, he retired and devoted his last years to the contemplation and literary work. His profound knowledge of the Divine Law and the many writings with which he enriched the Church have earned for him the surname of Theologian. He was called "theologus" for his outstanding teaching abilities and eloquence. He died January 25 in 389 or 390.
9. St. Antoninus, Bishop and Confessor, was a member of the Dominican Order, and became Archbishop of Florence in 1446. He was renowned for his zeal as a pastor and his learning as a theologian and canonist. He died at the age of seventy in 1459.
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12. SS Nereus, Achilleus, and Domitilla, Martyrs.
Officers of the household of Flavia Comitilla, a niece of the Emperors Titus and Domitian, are said to have been baptized by St. Peter. These Saints, having inspired Domitilla with the resolution to consecrate her virginity to God, Aurelianus, her betrothed, accused all three of being Christians, and, out of hatred for Christ, they were put to death under the Emperor Comitian at Terracina. Their bodies rest in Rome in the Church of St. Nereus and Achilleus.
13. Apparition of Our Lady of Fatima. (*See 13 October*) St. Pancras, and St. Robert Bellarmine.
The apparitions at Fatima began on May 13, 1917 as ten year old Lucia and her younger cousins Jacinta and Francisco were tending sheep in a vale known as the Cova da Iria. Francisco died of influenza a year and a half later on April 4, 1918 the day after he received his First Communion. Jacinta also fell victim to the epidemic and died on February 20, 1920. Jacinta and Francisco were canonized on 13th May 2000. Lucia entered a boarding school

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run by the Sisters of St. Dorothy in 1922, and in 1926, she joined the order's novitiate. She stayed with the Sisters of St. Dorothy until 1948, when she became a Carmelite sister. She died on 13 February 2005 at the age of 98.

St. Pancras, Martyr, was an orphan boy-Saint who was cruelly martyred in Rome under the Emperor Diocletian in 304. Devotion to him was anciently so wide spread that in every country of Europe churches are found dedicated in his honor.

St. Robert Bellarmine, Bishop, Confessor and Doctor, of the Society of Jesus, was raised up by God to combat error and to defend the right of the Holy See. He is most noted for his Catechism and for a study of the Catholic faith to refute the errors of the Protestant Centuries of Magdeburg. Distinguished alike for his holiness and learning, he taught with brilliant success at Louvain and at the Roman College, where he became the spiritual director for St. Aloysius Gonzaga. He was created Cardinal, and was also for three years Archbishop of Capua, was Pope Clement VIII's theologian, and is a patron of catechists and catechumens. Born in Tuscany, he died in Rome in 1621, at the age of eighty. In 1931 he was canonized by Pope Pius XI, who bestowed on him the title of Doctor of the Church.

14. St. Boniface, Martyr, after having lived a disorderly life in Rome, undertook to journey to the East in quest for relics of the martyrs. He was denounced as a Christian at Tarsus and beheaded on 14th May 290. His body was brought back to Rome and laid in a church on the Avenue built in his honor in reparation by the companion of his former sinful life.

15. St. John Baptist de la Salle; and St. Isidore.

St. John Baptist de la Salle, Confessor, was born at Reims on April 1651, of the illustrious family, de la Salle. He studied in Paris, and was ordained priest in 1678, after which he devoted himself to the education of poor children. Renouncing everything, he founded the Institution of Christian Brothers, and died at Rouen May 15th 1719. He is the Apostle of the Christian education of youth.

St. Isidore, Farmer, was a layman whose wife Maria de la Cabeza (Torribia) is also a saint; was a farm laborer associated with miracles; patron of Madrid and of farmers and rural communities.

16. St. Ubald, Bishop and Confessor, was born at Gubbio at the end of the eleventh century. He was made Bishop of his native town, and was remarkable for the austerity of his life and for his pastoral zeal. He died in 1160, and was canonized by Pope Celestine III thirty years later.

17. St. Pascal Baylon, Confessor, was a Spanish lay-brother of the Order of St. Francis. He was a model of the greatest austerity, humility and obedience, and was specially celebrated for his devotion to the Blessed Eucharist. He died in 1592, and was declared by Pope Leo XIII, Patron of the Eucharistic Congress.

18. St. Venantius, Martyr, was a native of Camerino in Italy, suffered a cruel martyrdom during the persecution of Decius about 250.

19. St. Peter Celestine, Pope and Confessor, was born Peter Morone in Abruzzi in 1229, became a hermit and founded a branch of the Benedictine Order, called after him the "Celestines." He was unanimously elected Pope in 1294, and took the name Celestine V, but in December of the same year he resigned and returned to his solitude. He died May 19th 1296.

20. St. Bernardine of Siena, Confessor, was born at Siena in Tuscany in 1380. He entered the Franciscan Order, and was a celebrated preacher, propagating devotion to the Holy Name of Jesus. He died in 1444, and was canonized a few years later.

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25. St. Gregory, St. Urban I.

St. Gregory VII, Pope and Confessor, was born at Soana in Tuscany. After having been a

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monk, abbot of St. Paul's Outside the Walls, and Cardinal, he became Pope under the name of Gregory VII. He showed an indomitable energy and unbending firmness in defence of the rights of the Church against the usurpation of lay princes. He strove valiantly for the freedom and purification of the Church, and died in exile at Salerno in 1085.

St. Urban I, Pope and Martyr, governed the Church during the reign of the Emperor Alexander Severus from 222 to 230.

26. St. Philip Neri, Confessor, was born at Florence in 1515, was ordained priest at Rome and founded there the celebrated Congregation of the Oratory. He was the means of bringing thousands of souls to God, and became known as the Apostle of the Roman people. He died May 26th 1595, and was canonized in 1622.

27. St. Bede the Venerable; and St. John I.

St. Bede the Venerable, Confessor and Doctor, was born in England in 674, he became a Benedictine monk and is one of the greatest figures of the Anglo-Saxon Church. A great historian and Commentator of the Scriptures, he has left works of great value to Christian literature. During his lifetime some of his writings were read in the churches, and he was called the Venerable - a title that has been kept ever since. He passed his life as a simple monk in the monastery of Jarrow, and died in 735. He was proclaimed Doctor of the Church by Pope Leo XIII.

St. John I, Pope and Martyr, governed the Church from 523 to 526. He died in prison in Ravenna, where he had been thrown by Theodoric, king of the Visigoths. His body was brought to Rome, and is buried at St. Peter's in the Vatican.

28. St. Augustine of Canterbury, Bishop and Confessor, was the first Archbishop of Canterbury. He was sent into England by St. Gregory the Great, and became the great missionary of the Anglo-Saxons. He evangelized the south of England and established the diocesan hierarchy through the country. He died on 26 May 605.

29. St. Mary Magdalene de Pazzi, Virgin, of the illustrious family of Pazzi, was born in Florence in 1566. She became a Carmelite, and was an example to all for the austerity of her life. She died May 25th 1607. During her life she was favored with many visions.

30. St. Joan of Arc; and St. Felix.

St. Joan of Arc, Virgin, Mystic, Martyr (1412-31). The daughter of Jacques d'Arc, a peasant farmer, was the youngest of five children, and was born on January 6 at Domremy, France. A pious child, of only thirteen when she experienced the first of her supernatural visions, which she described as a voice accompanied by a blaze of light. As time went on she identified the voices she heard as those of St. Michael, St. Catherine, St. Margaret, and others who she claimed revealed to her, that her mission in life was to save France by aiding the Dauphin. At first she was laughed at by Robert de Baudricourt, the French commander at Vaucouleurs, but his skepticism was overcome when her prophecies came true and the French were defeated in the Battle of Herrings outside Orleans in February 1429. He sent her to the Dauphin, son of the insane King Charles VI, who had been kept from the French throne by the British in the Hundred Years' War, and preferred the life of pleasure he had pursuing since his father's death in 1422, to taking on the responsibilities of kingship if he mounted the throne. Joan recognized him, despite a disguise he had assumed, and she gave him a secret signal that he recognized, and was then convinced of her mission. After an examination by theologians at Poitiers cleared her of all suspicion of heresy, she was allowed to lead an expedition to relieve besieged Orleans, and in a suit of white armour, she led her forces to victory. She followed this with a great victory over the British on 18th June, and shortly after that, the capture of Troyes. Finally, on 17th July 1429, Charles was crowned as King Charles VII at Rheims, with Joan at his side. She failed in an attempt to capture Paris in August, and in the spring of 1430, set out on a new campaign. She was captured on May 24 near Compiègne and sold to the British by John of Luxemburg on November 21. Charged with

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heresy and witchcraft before the court of Bishop Pierre Cauchon, her visions were declared to be of diabolical origin. She was tricked into signing a recantation on 23rd May 1431, but when she again dressed in male attire, which she had agreed to abandon, she was condemned as a lapsed heretic, and burned to death at the stake at Rouen on 30th May 1431, the victim of her enemies' determination to destroy her. A court appointed by Pope Callistus III found her innocent in 1456 and she was canonized in 1920. She is the second patron of France and is known as "The Maid of Orleans."

St. Felix, Pope and Martyr, succeeded to the Pontifical throne in 269 and was martyred under Emperor Aurelian in 274.

31. Queenship of Mary. St. Angela of Merici.

St. Angela of Merici, Virgin, was born in Northern Italy about 1470. She founded an order of nuns for the Christian education of girls, which she placed under the protection of St. Ursula, called Ursulines. The disorders of society are due, she believed to disorders in families, and these are due to the lack of Christian mothers. She died January 27th, 1540.

First Sunday after Pentecost: HOLY TRINITY.

CORPUS CHRISTI, Thursday following first Sunday after Pentecost.

THE BODY AND BLOOD OF CHRIST, Sunday after Holy Trinity.

SACRED HEART OF JESUS, Friday following Second Sunday after Pentecost.

IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY, Saturday following Second Sunday after Pentecost.

THE FEAST OF THE SACRED HEART OF JESUS

Protestantism, in the sixteenth century, and Jansenism, in the seventeenth, both sought to impose a distortion of one of the essential beliefs of Christianity, the love of God for all men. The Church re-acted strongly and, guided by the Holy Ghost, instituted the feast of the Sacred Heart to enable all the faithful to celebrate in a special manner the immense love of our Saviour for men. Earlier indeed, in the Middle Ages, several Fathers and Doctors, like St Bonaventure or the two Benedictine nuns, SS. Gertrude and Mechtilde, knew and practised this devotion, but only privately.

In order to make this worship public and official, Almighty God raised up first St John Eudes, who in 1672 composed the Mass of the Sacred Heart for the Congregation known as Eudists. The Holy Ghost then chose one of the spiritual daughters of St Francis of Sales, St Margaret Mary, to whom Jesus showed His Heart at Paray-le-Monial, on June 16, 1675, the Sunday after Corpus Christi, asking her to work for the establishment of a feast of the Sacred Heart on the Friday following the octave of Corpus Christi. Then God used blessed Claude de la Columbaria, S.J., to propagate this devotion. In 1765, Clement XIII extended it to the whole of the West. In 1929, Pius XI drew up a new Office and Mass for this feast.

Coming after all the feasts of Christ, the solemnity of the Sacred Heart calls to mind all the phases of the life of Jesus. The material object of the feast is Jesus' Heart of flesh and its formal object the unbounded charity symbolized by this Heart and made manifest by all the mysteries of our Saviour's life, first and foremost by His Incarnation, His death on Calvary, and the institution of the Holy Eucharist. This feast, therefore, celebrates all the favors which we have received from His divine charity during the year, all His mercies, and all the help He has borne us. It was love that constrained Him to put on a mortal body, it was His love which willed the piercing of His Heart on the Cross, so that there might flow forth torrents of mercy and grace, of water and blood, symbols of Baptism and the Eucharist whither we might seek cleansing from sin and food for our souls.

May

As these manifestations of Christ's love bring out more clearly the ingratitude of man who answers them with increasing coldness and indifference this festival exhibits characteristics of reparation. This was particularly requested by our Lord Himself and was emphatically by Pius XI in his encyclical *Miserentissimus* and in the act of reparation ordered to be said today before the blessed Sacrament exposed.

JUNE

- 1.
2. SS Marcellinus, Peter and Erasmus, Martyrs.
These three saints were martyred in the persecution of Diocletian. St. Peter, an exorcist, and St. Marcellinus, a priest, suffered at Rome, being beheaded in 303, where one of the oldest stational churches is dedicated to them. St. Erasmus was a bishop in Southern Italy.
3. SS Charles Lwanga and 21 Ugandans, Martyrs.
Charles Lwanga and 21 Ugandan companions were killed on November 15, 1885, and on January 27, 1887. Protomartyrs of Black Africa, over 100 were killed in this period, including Anglicans. Charles is the patron saint of African Catholic Youth Action.
- 4.
5. St. Boniface, Bishop and Martyr, whose family name was Winfrid, afterwards took the name of Boniface, was born in England about 680. Having been professed in the Benedictine Order, he went to Germany, where he spent the rest of his life in Apostolic labor, and became the first Archbishop of Mayence. While laboring for the conversion of the barbarous tribes of the North, he suffered martyrdom near Utrecht on 5 June, 755, along with 30 companions. His body was buried in the Abbey of Fulda. He is known as the “apostle of Germany.” (See 27 April).
6. St. Norbert, Bishop and Confessor, was born near Cologne in 1050. His youth was overclouded by dissipation, but he was converted and founded the Order of the Premonstratensians. Afterwards, he was made Archbishop of Magdeburg. He revived the religious spirit of the people, and strenuously combated the heresies of the age. He died 6 June, 1134. In 1582 was canonized by Pope Gregory XIII.
- 7.
- 8.
9. SS Primus and Felician; and St. Columba.
SS Primus and Felician, Martyrs, were brothers martyred in Rome during the persecution of Diocletian at the beginning of the fourth century. They showed heroic constancy in terrible sufferings, notwithstanding that they were of advanced age.
St. Columba (c. 521-597). Also known as Colm, Colum, and Colmcille, he was probably born at Gartan, Donegal, Ireland, the son of Fedhlimidh (or Phelim) and Eithne, both of royal descent. He was baptized with one of the names listed above, and educated at Moville, where he became a deacon. He then studied at Leinster and continued his studies at Clonard, where he was probably ordained, and then went to Glasnevin under St. Mobhi. When plague caused Glasnevin to be disbanded in 543, he returned to Ulster and spent the next decade and a half preaching and founding monasteries all over Ireland, among them Derry, Durrow, and Kells. He became involved in a dispute with St. Finnian when he copied the first copy of St. Jerome’s psalter (owned by Finnian) to reach Ireland, and Finnian claimed his copy; King Diarmaid ruled Columba’s copy must go to Finnian. Columba again crossed swords with Diarmaid, this time literally, when Curnan of Connaught, a kinsman who had sought sanctuary with Columba, was murdered by Diarmaid’s men. In the family feud that ensued between Diarmaid’s men and Columba’s clan, some three thousand men were killed at the Battle of Cuil Dremne. A synod at Telltown held Columba responsible and censured him. In remorse, Columba decided to leave Ireland and do penance for the deaths by converting a like number of pagans. In 563, with twelve relatives, he went to Iona, off the coast of Scotland, and built on that island a monastery that grew into the greatest monastery in Christendom. He devoted himself to evangelizing the Picts of Scotland, converted King Brude at Inverness, and in time evangelized all of Pictland. He attended the Synod of Drumceat in Meath, Ireland, in 575, where he successfully fought to exempt women from military service, visited Ireland again in 585, and is believed responsible for the Battle of Cuil Feda near Clonard in 587. In the meanwhile, Iona had become famous all over Europe, and his holiness, austerity, and reputation for miracles attracted all manner of visitors to the monastery, where he died on 9 June, 597. Columba’s influence on Western Christianity was enormous. Monks from

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Iona went all over Europe, and the monastic rule he developed was practised widely on the Continent until the Rule of St. Benedict became almost universal. Columba's practices dominated the churches of Scotland, Ireland, and Northumbria, though, in time, the Celtic practices he introduced came into conflict with the Roman practices, which eventually supplanted them.

10. St. Margaret, Queen of Scotland, Widow, was born in England about 1048, of a royal Anglo-Saxon family. She was the wife of King Malcolm III of Scotland and mother of eight. She helped root out paganism and her love for the poor became legendary. She died in 1093 shortly after her husband. She is the patroness of Scotland.
11. St. Barnabas, Apostle, was of the tribe of Levi and was a disciple of our Lord. He was not one of the Twelve, but he was a companion of St. Paul and merited the title of Apostle by his preaching. He preached the Gospel principally in Cyprus, his birth-place, and suffered martyrdom there in the time of the Emperor Nero.
- 12.
13. St. Anthony of Padua, Confessor and Doctor, was born at Lisbon in Portugal in 1195. He at first was a Canon Regular of St. Augustine, but afterwards joined the Franciscans and became a preacher of great power. He performed many miracles, and died in Padua at the age of 35, and was canonized by Gregory IX in the following year.
14. St. Basil the Great, Bishop, Confessor and Doctor, is one of the great doctors of the Eastern Church. Born in Cappadocia, in 329, he studied at Athens with his life-long friend, St. Gregory of Nazianza. He embraced the monastic life and, though made Bishop of Caesarea in 370, still led the life of the monk. He wrote the rule of monastic life which is still observed in the East. With great learning and indomitable firmness he defended the Catholic faith against the Arian heresy. He died in 379.
- 15.
- 16.
- 17.
18. St. Ephrem the Syrian, Deacon, Confessor and Doctor, is the great glory of the Syrian Church. He wrote poems and hymns celebrating the mysteries of the Christian religion, which had a great influence in preserving the Syrian people firm in the faith. He taught in the famous School of Edessa, and was renowned as an orator and controversialist. His life was one of monastic simplicity and solitude. He died in 379.
19. St. Romuald, Abbot, was the Founder of the Camaldolese Order, a branch of that of St. Benedict. He died at a great age in 1057. His own life, and that which he prescribed to his religious, was austere in the extreme. Yet, as much by his gentleness as by his zeal, he was instrumental in the conversion of thousands of sinners.
20. St. Silverius, Pope and Martyr, was Pope during the sixth century. He was cast into prison by order of the Empress Theodosia, on account of his resistance to the Eutychian heresy. He died 538, and as his death was the result of terrible privations and sufferings in prison, he is honored as a martyr.
21. St. Aloysius Gonzaga, Confessor, was born in 1568, he was the oldest son of Marquis Ferrante of Castiglione, who was in the service of Philip II of Spain. He was to be in the military, but early in his childhood he decided on a religious life. Sent to Florence to be educated in 1577, he became ill but began to practice great austerities and to devote himself to religious practices and teaching catechism to the poor of Castiglione. He desired to enter the Jesuits, but was refused permission by his father. He finally convinced his father and in 1585 joined the Jesuits in Rome and sent to study in Milan, but because of his poor health was recalled to Rome. He made his vows in 1587. When the plague struck the city, he worked in a hospital opened by the Jesuits. He caught the plague and died on June 21, 1587 after receiving last rites from St. Robert Bellarmine. He was canonized in 1726. He is considered protector of young students and patron of Catholic youth.

June

22. St. Paulinus of Nola, Bishop and Confessor, was born in Bordeaux in 353, and after brilliant studies entered the Roman Imperial service, in which he soon reached the highest posts, becoming Prefect of Rome, Senator and Consul. He gave up all to join the ecclesiastical state, was ordained priest and later Bishop of Nola. He was one of the most cultured men of his day, and wrote many poems on Christian subjects, but he was also renowned for his sanctity and heroic charity. Once, when bishop, he sold himself into slavery in order to ransom the son of a poor widow, one of his flock. He died at Nola in 431.
23. Birth of St. John the Baptist. St. John the Baptist and our Blessed Lady are the only creatures whose birthday is celebrated as a feast by the Church, for they were the only two born free from all stain of sin. John was sanctified while still in his mother's womb, on the occasion of Mary's visit to Elizabeth. He lived a life of great austerity, and preached to the people the coming of the Messiah, so that he is the last and greatest of the Prophets of the Old Testament. When Christ came to be baptized by him in the Jordan, he recognized Him as the Messiah. His heroic death is celebrated on 29th August, but the feast of his birth is the greater in solemnity. It is one of the oldest feasts in the Church. There was the greatest popular devotion and rejoicing in his feast in the early centuries and all through the Middle Ages. The pagan festivals of Midsummer were replaced by the pious celebration of St. John's Day.
24. Our Lady of Medjugore. On 24 June, 1981, Our lady appeared to children in the village of Medjugore. She gave them five pebbles to fight Satan. Confessions, Holy Mass, and receive the Eucharist, Fasting, and the daily recitation of the Holy Rosary, read the Bible. Our Blessed Mother Mary, has been appearing almost daily since then, with messages of hope, and return to the truth.
25. St. William, Abbot, was born in Northern Italy and became a hermit on Mount Vergine in the Apennines. Others came to share his life of austere penance, and a monastery was built following the Benedictine Rule. William died in 1142.
26. SS John and Paul, Martyrs, were two brothers, officers of the Roman Army, who suffered martyrdom under Emperor Julian, the Apostate, 362. They are said to have been the last who suffered martyrdom in Rome for refusing to worship idols.
- 27.
28. St. Irenaeus, Bishop and Martyr, whose name signifies 'man of peace,' was born at Smyrna and was a disciple of Polycarp, who was a disciple of St. John. He came to Gaul, and was ordained priest and Bishop of Lyons. He suffered death in a massacre of the Christians in 202. He wrote many works to refute the heresies and false teachings that were appearing in the Church. He knew both the Eastern and Western Church, and traveled extensively to find the true teachings handed down from the Apostles. Hence the eloquent testimony which he bore to the Primacy of St. Peter's See in Rome is of the greatest theological importance. He was the first to provide a coherent rationale for a Christian Bible including both testaments, and the first to offer a comprehensive account of belief in God's universal providential and redemptive economy. He was instrumental in preventing a schism in the Church on the question of the celebration of Easter.
29. SS Peter and Paul, Apostles.
St. Peter, a fisherman of Bethsaida, was one of the first called by Jesus to be an Apostle. At Caesarea Philippi, Christ made him chief of the Apostles and head of the Church, in the famous promise of the Keys. After the Resurrection, Christ confirmed the promise, notwithstanding Peter's denial of Him in the house of Caiphaz, gave him the order to feed the lambs and the sheep, and formally made him the chief Pastor. St. Peter preached in Judea, then went to Antioch, and finally established his See in Rome, where he was crucified, head downwards, on a hill near the Vatican. From earliest times the Church of Rome has celebrated this feast in honor of the two Apostles as Her co-founders.
St. Paul, (Saul) was of Jewish parents, born and educated in the great provincial city of Tarsus. As a devoted Jew he at first opposed the Christians, but was miraculously converted

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by Christ on the road to Damascus, and sent to preach the Gospel to the Gentile world. He journeyed through Asia Minor three times, went on through Salonika to Greece, and finally came to Rome a prisoner. He wrote his Epistle to the Romans, as to members of a Church established, and already famous throughout the world. In Christian art St. Paul is represented with a sword, which was the instrument of his glorious martyrdom by beheading.

30. First Martyrs of the Church of Rome.

Those many Christians who were tortured, crucified and burned alive in 64 in Nero's gardens of the Vatican Hill are honored this day.

JULY

1. The Most Precious Body and Blood of Our Lord, Jesus Christ; and St. Oliver Plunket. The Blood of Our Lord Jesus is most precious because it is the Blood of God made man. It was shed for us at the Circumcision, the Agony in the Garden, the Scourging, and finally on the Cross to the last drop. From the earliest days of the Church, the piety and love of Christian souls venerated the Blood of Christ as the great symbol and the price of our Redemption. In 1849, Pius IX established a special feast in Its honor, as thanksgiving for his deliverance from the revolution of 1848.
St. Oliver Plunket, Bishop and Martyr, was born in Co. Meath, Ireland of an Anglo-Irish family. He was ordained in Rome, and taught theology there for fifteen years. He was appointed Archbishop of Armagh, and notwithstanding the penal laws in force against Catholics - especially against bishops - he came to Ireland and labored zealously to restore the condition of religion, enduring many privations as he traveled around in secret. He was arrested on a sham charge of plotting a Catholic insurrection, and sent to London to be tried. His trial was a travesty of justice: even the judge admitted that the real charge was that of being a Catholic. He was hanged, drawn and quartered at Tyburn in 1681. His head is preserved at Drogheda and his body at Downside Abbey. He was the first Irish saint to be canonized since St. Laurence O'Toole in 1226.
2. The Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary. When the Angel Gabriel announced the Incarnation to the Virgin Mary he told her as proof of God's all-powerful Will, that her cousin Elizabeth had conceived a son in her old age. Forthwith Mary went with haste to visit Elizabeth. At their meeting, St. John was sanctified in his mother's womb; Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Ghost, and cried the salutation that is now in the Ave Maria, and Mary was inspired to utter the sublime canticle of praise, the Magnificat. The Church recalls the great outpouring of grace on that occasion as the first effect of the presence of Jesus in the world. The festival was instituted by Pope Urban VI.
3. St. Leo II, Pope and Confessor, was a native of Sicily, well versed in the Latin and Greek tongues and the sacred sciences. He ruled the Church for little more than a year, but in that time helped to repress the Monothelite heresy and reformed the Gregorian Chant. His charity earned for him the title Father of the Poor. He died in 684.
- 4.
5. St. Anthony Zaccaria, Confessor, was born at Cremona in Northern Italy. Taking up the study of medicine, he won his doctorate degree at the University of Padua. But feeling himself called to the higher task of healing souls, he became a priest and devoted himself with wonderful zeal and piety to the welfare of the poor. He founded a congregation of priests, called Barnabites, from the church of St. Barnabas, near which they first lived. Having spent himself entirely in laboring for the salvation of souls and the reform of the ecclesiastical order, he died at the age of 36 in 1539.
6. St. Maria Goretti, Virgin and Martyr, was born near Ancona. She was stabbed to death, preferring to die than to be raped alive. This happened in 1902 when she was just 12 years old. She was canonized in 1950 before the largest crowd ever assembled in Rome for a canonization with her mother present. She is patroness of teenage girls.
7. SS. Cyril, monk, and Methodius, Bishop, and Confessors, were brothers, born at Salonika and educated at Constantinople, where they embraced the monastic life. Sent as missionaries to Moravia, they translated the Sacred Scriptures into the Slavonic language and were the first to devise and use the Slavonic alphabet. They went to Rome, and obtained approval of the Pope for their mission and their practice of using the Slavonic language in the sacred liturgy. Cyril died in Rome; Methodius returned to Moravia and carried the faith thence into Bulgaria, Roumania, Dalmatia, Bohemia, Poland and even as far as Russia. He died in 885. They are venerated by the whole Church as the Apostles of the Slavonic race.
8. St. Elizabeth, Queen of Portugal, daughter of the King of Aragon in Spain, was called after her great aunt, St. Elizabeth of Hungary. Married at the age of 12 to Denis, King of Portugal, she became the perfect pattern of the Christian wife and queen. She was distinguished for her

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love of the poor and her success as a peace maker, intervening to settle the disputes between princes which wrought havoc in these troubled times. After the death of her husband, she took the Franciscan habit, and died in 1336 at age 65.

9. SS. John Fisher, Bishop, and Thomas More, Martyrs.
St. John Fisher was chancellor of Cambridge University, and bishop of Rochester. He was renowned for his preaching and educational reforms as shown in his writings on prayer and the sacraments, and the identity of Mary Magdalen, and as defender of Church tradition against Luther and of the Roman primacy against King Henry VIII. He was beheaded June 22, 1535 for opposing the king.
St. Thomas More was a humanist and chancellor of England. He wrote Utopia and refused to support Henry VIII's divorce of Queen Catherine and his Act of Supremacy. He was beheaded July 6, 1535. He is considered patron of lawyers.
10. Seven Holy Brothers, Martyrs, were the sons of St. Felicity (*23rd Nov*), were all martyred in her presence on one day during the persecution of Marcus Aurelius in 150.
SS. Rufina and Secunda, Virgins and Martyrs, were two Roman virgins beheaded for the faith in 257.
11. St. Pius I, Pope, Martyr, ruled the Church in the middle of the second century. He was zealous in promoting the discipline of the Church, and suffered death for the faith.
12. St. John Gulabert; SS. Nabor and Felix.
St. John Gulabert, Abbot, was a nobleman of Florence, who meeting the murderer of his brother on Good Friday, did not take vengeance according to the custom of the time, and received thereupon the grace of conversion to the monastic life. He retired to the secluded valley of Vallombrosa, and founded an abbey there according to the strict Benedictine rule. Before he died in 1073, he had twelve monasteries under his guidance.
SS. Nabor and Felix, Martyrs, were martyred in Milan about the year 304. Their relics were discovered by the great St. Ambrose, Bishop of that city some years afterwards, and magnificently enshrined.
13. St. Henry, son of the Duke of Bavaria, was born in 972, and elected Emperor in 1002. He ruled justly and firmly, repressing lawless vice and helping religion. He died in 1024, renowned for sanctity. Together with his wife St. Cunegunda, he assisted the poor. He is the pattern of the Christian ruler, Patron of Finland and Benedictine oblates.
14. St. Bonaventure, Bishop, Confessor and Doctor, was born 1221 in Tuscany. He entered the Franciscan Order, studied and taught at Paris with St. Thomas Aquinas, and rose to be General of his Order. Appointed Cardinal Bishop of Albano, he died in 1274 during the General Council of Lyons. He enriched Christian Theology with many valuable writings, in which tender piety and deep mysticism are united with keenness of intellect. Thus his title is Seraphic Doctor.
- 15.
16. Our Lady of Mount Carmel. According to a pious tradition, on the day of Pentecost a number of men who walked in the footsteps of the holy Prophets Elijah and Elisha, and whom John the Baptist had prepared for the coming of Jesus, embraced the Christian faith, and after her assumption erected a church to the Blessed Virgin on Mount Carmel, at the very spot where Elijah had seen a cloud arise (*3K 18:44*), a figure of the fecundity of the Mother of God. In course of time they were called the Brethren of Blessed Mary of Mount Carmel. These religious came to Europe in the 13th century, and in 1245 Innocent IV gave his approbation to their rule under the generalship of Simon Stock. On July 16th 1251, Mary appeared to the holy man and placed in his hands the habit, which was to be their distinctive sign. Innocent IV blessed this habit, and attached to it many privileges, not only for the members of the Order, but also for those who entered the Confraternity of Our Lady of Mount Carmel. By wearing the scapular, they participate in all the prayers of the Carmelite Order, and may hope to obtain, through the Virgin, a prompt delivery from Purgatory, if they have faithfully

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observed abstinence, chastity according to their state, and said the prayers prescribed. The feast of Our Lady of Mount Carmel was extended to all Christendom by Benedict XIII in 1726.

17. St. Alexius, Confessor, was born the son of a wealthy Senator in Rome about 350. In order to avoid the fascinations of the world, he fled from his home and his promised bride on his wedding-day and devoted himself to poverty and good works in the East. Returning many years after, he lived poor and unknown in the house of his own parents. It is only when he died (about 404) that his identity was revealed.
18. St. Camillus de Lellis, Confessor, was born in Southern Italy in 1550. After some years of a worldly life he was converted and gave himself to the service of the sick in the hospitals. He founded an Order whose special work was ministering spiritually and corporally to the sick. He died at Rome July 14th 1614. Pope Leo XIII made him patron of hospitals and infirmaries, and inserted his name in the litany of the dying.
19. St. Vincent de Paul, Confessor. Born in France 1576, ordained priest 1600. Captured by Algerian pirates and made a slave, he converted his master, and was eventually set at liberty. Thenceforth he devoted all his life and energy to the service of the poor and suffering, convicts, the sick, the aged, orphans, destitute and unemployed. He preached against Jansenism heresy. He founded the Congregation of the Mission to preach to the people of neglected country districts. He founded the Sisters of Charity, to minister to distress in every form. Even when eighty years of age, he spent half his nights searching for poor foundlings in the streets of Paris. He was a man of extraordinary humility, simplicity and energy, and is venerated as the greatest hero and organizer of Christian charity. He died in Paris 1660. Patron of charities, of hospitals and prisoners, and of Malagasy Republic (Madagascar).
20. St. Jerome Emiliani was born at Venice in 1480 of the noble family of the Aemiliani. Having served in the Army of the Republic of Venice, he gave up all worldly prospects for the service of Christ. At Somascha, between Milan and Bergamo, he established the congregation of the Clerks Regular, dedicated to the care of the poor, and the education of orphan children. He died in 1537 of a contagious disease contracted while visiting the sick. He is the patron of orphans and abandoned children.
21. St. Lawrence of Brindisi, Capuchin Confessor, and Doctor, was a linguist, military chaplain, diplomat, and minister general. He was a forceful preacher and controversialist. 15 volumes of his writings are extant. He died in 1619.
22. St. Mary Magdalene. According to the tradition of the Western Church, Mary, the sinner who anointed Jesus in the house of Simon, is the same as Mary from Magdala, a town on the Lake of Galilee, and Mary the sister of Lazarus, who received our Lord at Bethany. Mary Magdalen followed our Lord to the end on Calvary, and was the first to whom He appeared and spoke (after our Blessed Mother) after the Resurrection. She is called the apostle of the Apostles. (Some feel she is mistakenly identified as the sinful woman in Lk 7:37-50). She is patroness of the Order of Preachers.
23. St. Apollinaris, Bishop and Martyr, is said to have come from Antioch to Rome with St. Peter. He became Bishop of Ravenna, and endured great sufferings for the faith. Though twice banished from the city, he returned to preach there. Finally he was put to death about 79 AD.
24. St. Christina, Virgin and Martyr, was a Roman maiden who, believing in Christ, broke the idols in her father's house, and was put to death with great torture.
25. St. James, Apostle; St. Christopher.
St. James, Apostle, called the Greater, the son of Zebedee (*see 3 May*) and brother of St. John, was one of the first called to be a disciple of our Lord. He was with St. Peter and St. John at the Transfiguration, and the Agony. After Pentecost, he is said to have preached for some time in Spain, but he returned to Jerusalem, and was the first of the Apostles to suffer martyrdom in 42 by order of Herod Agrippa. His relics are venerated at Compostella in

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Spain, one of the great pilgrim places of Christendom.

St. Christopher, Martyr. "Christopher" means "one that carries Christ." This saint suffered martyrdom in Asia Minor, in the middle of the third century, under Decius.

26. SS. Joachim and Anne, parents of the Blessed Virgin Mary.
Devotion to St. Anne is founded on the fact that she was the mother of Mary. Already in the 6th century in the East churches were founded in her honor. Since the 8th century, devotion to the mother of the Blessed Virgin spread throughout the Latin Church. She is the patroness of childless women and miners.
Devotion to St. Joachim dates from the 8th century.
27. St. Pantaleon, Martyr, was a physician who suffered martyrdom for his Christian faith about 303 at Nicomedia, in Asia Minor, under the Emperor Maximian. He is honored with St. Luke as the patron of medical men.
28. SS. Nazarius and Celsus; and St. Victor I; and St. Innocent I.
SS. Nazarius and Celsus, Martyrs, were martyred in Milan in the year 68.
St. Victor I, Pope and Martyr, was the Pope who fixed the date of Easter and asserted the authority of the Roman See against dissentient Eastern bishops. He was martyred in 197.
St. Innocent I, Pope and Confessor, was Pope from 401 to 417, he made many important decrees on Church discipline, condemned the Pelagian heresy, upheld the cause of St. John Chrysostom (27th Jan) and withstood Alaric, the King of the Goths, when he sacked Rome.
29. St. Martha, Virgin, is the sister of Mary and Lazarus who gave hospitality to our Lord at Bethany. In the Gospel of St. Luke, she asked Jesus to have Mary help her in the house chores, but Jesus said: "Mary has chosen the better part." Martha became the prototype of the Christian activist, and Mary, the symbol of the Christian contemplative. She is patroness of cooks, housewives, waiters, and waitresses.
30. SS. Abdon and Sennen, Martyrs, came to Rome from Persia, where they suffered martyrdom under Emperor Decius in the middle of the third century.
31. St. Ignatius of Loyola, Confessor, was born in Northern Spain in 1491, and took up the military profession, but being wounded in a siege, he turned, on his recovery, to be a soldier of Christ. After some years of arduous penance he proceeded to the University of Paris to make his studies. There he gathered his first companions and laid the foundations of his Order, The Society of Jesus. Its mission was to combat heresy and rouse the faithful to a higher spiritual life. He authored the Spiritual Exercises and founded the Roman College. The Society numbered 1,000 members in 76 houses in 12 provinces, including Brazil, Japan, and India at his death. Ignatius was consumed with ardent zeal for the greater glory of God. He died in 1556. He is the patron saint of retreatants and soldiers.

AUGUST

1. Commemoration of the Holy Maccabees; and St. Alphonsus Liguori; and St. Stephen.
The Second book of Maccabees, chapter 6 and 7, in the Old Testament, describes how seven brothers and other Jews, known as the Maccabees, were put to death by King Antiochus who had conquered Israel, for their fidelity to the Law and refusal to participate in pagan idolatry. They are the only martyrs of the Old Testament who are liturgically venerated in the Western Church, for their relics were brought to Rome and venerated in the church of St. Peter's Chains.
St. Peter's Chains. The chains with which St. Peter was bound in prison are preserved in the church in Rome built in the fifth century by the Princess Eudoxia. Today is the feast of the dedication of this church.
St. Alphonsus Liguori, Bishop, Confessor and Doctor, was born at Naples in 1696. Alphonsus took up the profession of lawyer, but became a priest and devoted himself to preach the Redemption of Jesus Christ to the poor. He established a congregation of priests to carry on his work. He wrote many works on moral and ascetical theology which had powerful influence in spreading true devotion and sound moral doctrine throughout the Church. Appointed to the office of bishop, he was the pattern of pastoral zeal and simplicity. He died in 1787.
St. Stephen, Pope and Martyr, was Pope from 253 to 257. The question whether baptism conferred by heretics was to be recognized as valid arose in his time, and his decision, though at first contested, soon prevailed. He was beheaded in the Catacombs while in his episcopal chair before the altar.
2. St. Peter Julian Eymard, priest, died on 1 August 1868; born at la Mure d'Isere, France, 4 Feb 1811; founded in 1856 the Congregation of the Blessed Sacrament, today numbering some 1,000 members, devoted to the worship and apostolate of the Holy Eucharist as the center of the life of the Church and of society. In 1858 he founded the Servants of the Blessed Sacrament, a contemplative women's community; influenced the founding of the Eucharistic Fraternity for the laity, the Association of Priest adorers, and international Eucharistic Congresses.
3. Finding of relics of St. Stephen, First martyr. On 5th Dec, 415, the remains of St. Stephen, first martyr, were miraculously discovered near Jerusalem and years later were brought to Rome on the 3rd Aug. We in the Eternal Virgin Eucharistic Church celebrate his feast on this day.
4. St. Dominic, Confessor, was born Dominic Guzman, in Spain in 1170 and became a secular priest. Having witnessed the evils caused by heresy in the South of France, he established the Order of Preachers to combat error and ignorance by preaching. It was approved by Innocent II in 1215, and with the Franciscan Order was the instrument of a great religious revival. Dominic died at Bologna, 1221.
5. Dedication of St. Mary Major. This is the largest and most important of the many churches in Rome dedicated to the Blessed Virgin, and is also called "*St. Mary of the Snow*," because according to popular tradition, its site was designated to Pope Liberius by a miraculous fall of snow during the intense heat of August. It was rebuilt and enlarged by Pope Sixtus III in 432 in honor of the decree of the Council of Ephesus, 431, whereby Mary is to be called Mother of God.
6. The Transfiguration of Our Lord Jesus Christ. St. Sixtus II, Felicissimus and Agapitus Martyrs.
The Transfiguration of Our Lord Jesus Christ, commemorates the Transfiguration of our Lord on Mount Tabor, when he showed Himself to three privileged disciples in glory, conversing with Moses and Elijah. Pope Calixtus III established the feast on this day, on which the great victory of Christian armies at Belgrade over the Turks in 1457 was announced. This feast was celebrated by 5th century in Syria.
St. Sixtus II succeeded St. Stephen in the Chair of St. Peter in 257. He and three deacons were arrested on August 6, 258 while celebrating the Eucharist in the cemetery of Callistus.

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By order of Valerian, Sixtus, Felicissimus and Agapitus were decapitated that same day. Deacon Lawrence was executed four days later.

7. St. Cafetan; St. Donatus.
St. Cafetan, (also known as Cajetan, Gaetano) Confessor, born 1480 of a noble family in Northern Italy. After ordination he renounced the dignities offered him at Rome to devote himself to the sick and poor. With Bishop Paul Carafa, later Pope Paul IV, he established the Order of Priests called Theatines, which had a great part in the Catholic revival in the sixteenth century. Cafetan died at Naples in 1547. He was distinguished for his absolute trust in the Divine Providence of Almighty God.
St. Donatus, Bishop and Martyr, was Bishop of Arezzo, in Tuscany, and suffered martyrdom under Julian the Apostate in 361.
8. SS. Cyriacus, Largus and Smaragdus, Martyrs. Cyriacus was a Roman deacon who with twenty others was tortured and finally beheaded in the persecution under Diocletian, 303.
9. St. John Mary Vianney, Confessor, was born near Lyons in France in 1786, and ordained priest at Grenoble in 1815. Appointed Cure of the small parish of Ars, he devoted himself with such zeal and austerity to the conversion of souls that the fame of his sanctity soon spread abroad and drew multitudes from all parts to seek his spiritual help and advice. He died in 1859 and was canonized in 1925.
10. St. Lawrence, Deacon and Martyr. St. Lawrence died in 258, just four days after two other deacons and Pope Sixtus II were martyred. He was archdeacon to Pope Sixtus II, and was entrusted with the temporalities of the Holy See. When Sixtus was put to death with most of his clergy, Lawrence was spared a few days in order to make him give up the treasures of the Church. When asked for the treasures of the Church, he pointed to the poor and said that these were the treasures of the Church. But when it was found that he had distributed it all to the poor, he was condemned to death by roasting on a gridiron. He bore excruciating torments for several hours, and died with a prayer for the conversion of pagan Rome on his lips. After Peter and Paul, Lawrence is venerated as patron of Rome.
11. St. Philomena; Tiburtius and Susanna.
St. Philomena, Martyr. A devotion began with the discovery of the bones of a young girl, a small vial containing what was believed to be blood, and a tablet nearby with an inscription that when translated read, "peace be with you, Philomena" in St. Priscilla catacomb in Rome. When the remains were moved in 1805 to the church of Mugnano del Cardinale near Nola, miracles were reported at her tomb, and devotion to Philomena became widespread. Her cult was authorized by Pope Gregory XVI in 1837, with a feast day of August 11. However, her name was removed from the Roman calendar of saints in 1961, since nothing was known of her beyond the facts listed here to justify sainthood, man's pride and understanding replaced faith.
SS. Tiburtius and Susanna, Martyrs.
Tiburtius, the son of a highly-placed official of Rome, was put to death for being a Christian in the year 286.
Susanna, a Christian virgin, was condemned to death for refusing to marry a pagan relative of the Emperor Diocletian about 295.
12. St. Clare, Virgin, was born at Assisi of noble parents. Clare was the first woman to adopt the ideal of poverty and austerity preached by her townsman St. Francis. Having taken her vows, she established the Order which is known as Poor Clares, or Second Order of St. Francis. She governed the first convent for forty-two years with unswerving devotion to the Franciscan rule, and died in 1253.
13. St. Pontian; St. Hippolytus and St. Cassian.
St. Pontian, Pope and Martyr, banished by Maximinius Thrax to Sardinia where he was reconciled with Hippolytus. Before dying, he abdicated his office (first pope to do so) to make way for a successor. He died in 235 and is buried in the cemetery of Callistus.

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St. Hippolytus, Priest and Martyr, a priest at Rome known for his learning, he may have been a disciple of St. Irenaeus and became a major theological writer of the early Church. He denounced Pope St. Zephyrinus for his leniency to the Christological heresies abroad in Rome, especially Modalism and Sabellianism. When Pope St. Callistus I was elected Pope in 217, Hippolytus allowed himself to be elected anti-pope by his small band of followers and opposed Callistus' successors, Popes Urban and Pontian as well. He was the first anti-pope. He was banished to Sardinia during Emperor Maximinus' persecution of the Christians in 235 with Pope Pontian, who reconciled him and brought him back into the Church. He died on Sardinia, a martyr from the sufferings he endured. His most important work was: "A Refutation of All Heresies." He also wrote commentaries on Daniel and the Song of Songs and "The Apostolic Tradition."

St. Cassian, Martyr, was a schoolmaster at Imola in Central Italy. The savage official who passed the sentence of death on him for the crime of being a Christian, had him murdered by his own pupils, armed only with their "Styli," or iron writing pencils.

14. St. Maximilian Mary Kolbe; and St. Eusebius.

St. Maximilian Mary Kolbe, Priest, (O.F.M. Conv.), and Martyr, died in 1941 by lethal injection after offering his life in exchange for a father of a family. He was born near Lodz, Poland. He founded Militia of Mary Immaculate and was a missionary in Japan.

St. Eusebius of Vercelli, Confessor, was a Roman priest who died in prison in 357, because of his zeal in defending the Christian faith against Arianism, which taught that Christ was not really God.

15. The Assumption of Blessed Virgin Mary. According to tradition, the Blessed Virgin survived Her Son for twelve years. When She died, Her body and soul were taken up into Heaven. The feast of Her Assumption, or Dormition (falling asleep) has been celebrated as early as the 5th century in the East and in Rome, and from the 6th century as the principal feast of our Lady. She is patroness of France, Paraguay, Jamaica, South Africa and New Caledonia.

16.

17. St. Hyacinth, Confessor, was born near Breslau in 1185, and having completed his studies, became a canon in Cracow. On a journey to Rome he met St. Dominic and joined his Order. Returning to Poland, he founded several monasteries and induced many Christians to reform their lives. He undertook many apostolic journeys through Norway, Sweden, Russia and as far as China. He died in Cracow in 1257.

18. St. Agapitus, Martyr, was a youth of noble birth who at the age of 15 was arrested as a Christian and thrown to the wild beasts in the amphitheater; but the fierce beasts refused to harm him. Many of the spectators were converted by the miracle, whereupon the judge ordered him to be beheaded. He is the patron saint of Palestrina, where his martyrdom took place in 274.

19. St. John Eudes, Confessor, was born in Normandy in 1601 and educated by the Jesuits. He joined the Congregation of the Oratory. In 1643 he founded the Congregation of Priests of Jesus and Mary, who were employed in giving missions and directing seminaries. In the following year he founded the Daughters of Our Lady of Charity, to work for penitents. He devoted himself to promoting devotion to the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary. He died in 1680, and was canonized in 1925.

20. St. Bernard, St. Pius X.

St. Bernard Abbot, Confessor and Doctor of the Church, was born in Burgundy in 1091 and joined the monks of Citeaux in 1112. After a few years he was sent to found a new abbey at Clairvaux, whence the Order of Citeaux, or the Cistercians, spread rapidly through Europe. St. Bernard exercised a wonderful influence in Western Europe, and was chiefly responsible for the Second Crusade. He helped to repress schism and heresy (authored "On Loving God," 86 sermons on the Canticle of Canticles, preached against Albigensians, founded 68 monasteries), and was the counselor of Popes and Kings. By his writings and sermons he

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spread devotion to the Blessed Virgin. St. Malachy died in his arms on Nov 2, in 1148. Bernard died in 1153 at Clairvaux. He is the patron of Gibraltar.

St. Pius X, Pope, undertook liturgical and canonical reforms, especially communion for children and frequent communion for adults. He condemned Modernism and wished to “renew all things in Christ.” He died 20 August, 1914. He is the patron of sick pilgrims.

21. Apparition of Our Lady of Knock. St. Jane Francis deChantal.

On August 21, 1879, Mary McLoughlin, housekeeper to the local priest, thought that the three figures outside the church were holy statues purchased by the priest. A passer by thought the same thing, and a third person noticed “something luminous” by the south gable, but rain discouraged her from looking further. When Mary McLoughlin passed by the church again that evening with Mary Beirne, the sixteen year old daughter of a friend, the young lady realized that the figures were not statues and that they seemed to be floating on air. Two of the figures were recognized as the Blessed Virgin Mary and St. Joseph. Mary Beirne assumed the third figure was St. John the Evangelist because it resembled a statue of the saint she had recently seen. To one side and slightly behind the figures there was an Altar with a Cross and a Lamb on it. The apparition, which was silent the entire time, lasted from about eight p.m. to nine-thirty p.m. The Virgin wore a large cloak of a white color, hanging in full folds and had a large crown on her head. In spite of the rain the ground under and the apparition remained completely dry. Soon after, miraculous cures were reported. This apparition is apocalyptic in nature.

St. Jane Frances de Chantal, Widow and Religious, was born Jane Remiot from Dijon, was married to Baron de Chantal, and was the mother of six children. As a widow with Francis de Sales, her spiritual director, she founded in 1610 at Annency in Savoy the Visitation nuns. She established some 85 monasteries before her death 13 December, 1641.

22. The Immaculate Heart of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Since the 17th century devout souls have honored the stainless purity and immense love of our Blessed Lady under the symbol of Her Immaculate Heart. In the 19th century Pius VII approved of liturgical honor to the Heart of Mary. In 1942, when the scourge of war enveloped the world, Pius XII dedicated the human race to the Immaculate Heart of Mary, and appointed this feast to be celebrated on this day in all lands. In a sinful world we find help from Her whose heart was stainless. In a sorrowful world we fly to that heart, whose love is boundless for her adopted children.
23. St. Philip Benizi, Confessor, was a nobleman of Florence in the thirteenth century, he joined the newly founded Servite Order, and became its General-Superior. He devoted himself to missionary labors throughout Italy, France and Germany; in particular he endeavored to moderate the party conflicts that then raged. His reputation for learning and sanctity was so widespread that the Cardinals elected him to succeed Pope Clement IV, but he declined the dignity. He died in 1285.
24. St. Bartholomew, Apostle, or son of Tholomeas, is thought to be the same as Nathaniel, mentioned in St. John’s Gospel as a friend of Philip and praised by our Lord as a “Israelite without guile.” He preached the Gospel in North-West India and in Armenia, where he was eventually put to death by pagans, according to tradition, by being flayed alive. His remains were later brought to Rome and laid in a church dedicated to his honor.
25. St. Louis, King and Confessor. The Son of Louis VIII of France and Blanche of Castille, he was born in 1215 and became King of France in 1226. In his private life he was as austere and prayerful as a monk, becoming a Franciscan tertiary, but as a king he was energetic and passionately devoted to justice and the public good. He was a father of 11 children. He cared especially for lepers, built Saint Chapelle in Paris as a reliquary for the crown of thorns. While on his second crusade he died of the plague near Tunis in 1270. He is patron of masons and sculptors.
26. St. Zephtrinus; and St. Joseph Calasanz.
St. Zephtrinus, Pope and Martyr, succeeded St. Victor in 202 and reigned until 218, when he

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was martyred in the reign of the cruel Emperor Heliogabalus.

St. Joseph Calasanz (Calasanctius), Confessor, is one of the Apostles of Christian education. Born at Aragon, Spain, in 1556, even from childhood he loved to help his companions in their catechism. Ordained priest, he found inspiration to establish the order of clerics of Pious Schools of the Mother of God. His life was one of great devotion and sacrifice. He died in 1648. He is patron of all Christian schools dedicated to assisting the poor.

27. St. Monica, Widow, was born in Tagaste in Roman Africa. After 30 years of prayer she obtained the conversion first of her husband, who was an idolater, and then of her son, St. Augustine, whom she followed from Africa to Milan, where he was baptized by the holy Bishop Ambrose (7 Dec). On the return journey, she died at Ostia in 387. She is the model and patroness of all Christian mothers.
28. St. Augustine, Bishop Confessor and Doctor, was born in Northern Africa of a pagan father and Christian mother, Monica. He became a teacher of rhetoric in Carthage, Rome, and Milan, but led a sinful life until he came under the influence of St. Ambrose at Milan. He was converted and baptized at age 33. He returned to Africa, was ordained, and consecrated Bishop of Hippo. There he devoted himself to writing in defense of the Church against pagans, combating the Manichees, the Donatists and Pelagians and Arians. He is the greatest Doctor of the Western Church. He is noted for his "Confessions" and "City of God." Over 500 homilies are extant. He is considered a founder of monastic life in the West, his rule observed by some 150 religious communities today. He is called the "Doctor of Grace." He died in 430. When Africa was invaded by the Vandals his remains were removed and are now in Rome.
29. Beheading of St. John the Baptist, Martyr. The greater feast of St. John the Baptist is held on June 24th, but the Church has also from early ages celebrated the memory of his martyrdom by King Herod, which is recounted in the Gospel, and a feast in his honour is held today, the anniversary of the Transference of his head to Rome.
30. St. Rose of Lima, Virgin, was born Isabel de Oliva and was a Peruvian mystic, nicknamed, "Rosa" because of her beauty. She resisted her parents' efforts to have her marry and practiced great austerities, taking St. Catherine of Siena as her model from her childhood days. She became a Sister of the Third Order of St. Dominic and took the name Rose of St. Mary. She lived as a recluse in a shack in the garden she had worked to help her parents, who had fallen on difficult times, and experienced mystical gifts and visions of such an extraordinary nature that a commission of priests and doctors was appointed to examine her. They decided they were of supernatural origin. Stories of her holiness spread, and her garden became the spiritual center of the city. When earthquakes struck nearby, her prayers were credited with sparing Lima. In ill health, she accepted the offer of Con Gonzalo de Massa and his wife to take care of her, and she spent the last three years of her life in their home in Lima and died there on 24 August, 1617 at age 31. She was canonized in 1671 by Pope Clement X, the first saint of the New World. She is patroness of South America, especially Peru, of the Philippines, and also of florists and gardeners.
31. St. Raymund Nonnatus, Confessor, was born in Spain about 1204, and became one of the first members of the Order of Our Lady of Ransom (*see Sept 24th*). He devoted himself to redeeming Christian captives who had fallen into the hands of the Moors of North Africa and Spain and were in great danger of body and soul. When all his money was exhausted he gave himself as a slave in exchange for a Christian, and suffered terrible hardships till he was himself ransomed. On his return, he was received with great veneration and was made a Cardinal by Pope Gregory IX, but he continued to live as a poor religious till he died, worn out by his sufferings at the age of 34.

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1. St. Giles, Abbot, by birth an Athenian, lived as a hermit in the South of France during the seventh century. He became famous throughout Western Europe for the miracles wrought by him, and many churches were dedicated in his honor.
2. St. Stephen, King and Confessor, was the Apostle and first Christian King of Hungary. He was an able and victorious ruler, just and charitable to his people, made good laws and strove zealously for their conversion to the Christian faith. He was given by Pope Sylvester II the title of Apostolic King and the right of having an archbishop's cross borne before him. He died in 1038 on the feast of the Assumption of Our Lady, to whom he dedicated his kingdom.
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- 4.
5. Mother Teresa of Calcutta, Missionary Founder,
- 6.
- 7.
8. The Birth of the Blessed Virgin Mary. The feast of our Lady's nativity has been celebrated by the Church since the seventh century. Our Lady and St. John the Baptist are the only saints whose birthday is honored by the Church, because they alone were born without original sin. The Church simply accepts the traditional date and honors the event that our Lady was born on September 8th.
9. St. Nicholas of Tolentino, Confessor, was born in 1244. He joined the Order of St. Augustine and died in the odor of sanctity in 1308.
- 10.
11. SS. Protus and Hyacinth, Martyrs, were brothers martyred at Rome in the third century.
12. The Most Holy Name of Mary. As we hold the feast of the Name of Jesus within the octave of His Nativity, so a special feast is held within the octave of her nativity (Sept 8th) in honor of the Name of Mary. This feast was established for the Universal Church to commemorate a great Christian victory when on September 12th, 1683, the Turks were defeated, under the walls of Vienna and their project of overrunning western Europe with an immense army was defeated.
- 13.
14. The Exaltation of the Holy Cross. This feast originally commemorated the finding of the Holy Cross on September, 14th, 335, but when the feast of May 3rd was established today's feast was retained to give thanksgiving for a second recovery of the Holy Cross. Chosroas, the King of Persia, invaded Palestine about the year 608 and carried off the Holy Cross. Heraclius, the Christian Emperor of Constantinople, though twice beaten, assembled a third army, relying on God's favor, and defeated Chosroas. The first condition of peace was the restoration of the Holy Cross. It was borne back in great splendor to Jerusalem by the Emperor, who carried the cross on his shoulders. But as he approached the chapel of Calvary he could proceed no further till, at the instruction of the Bishop of Jerusalem, he laid aside his splendid robes and walked barefooted with a common cloak.
15. The Seven Sorrows of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Devotion to the sorrows of our Lady was fostered during the Middle Ages by the Fathers of the Servite Order, who were the first to enumerate the Seven Dolours. The feast was extended to the Universal Church by Pius VII in 1817, to recall the sufferings which the Church had undergone in the troubled period after the French Revolution.
The seven sorrows of Mary are: the prophecy of Simeon in the Temple, the flight into Egypt, Jesus being lost in Jerusalem, the meeting with her Son Jesus on the way to Calvary, the crucifixion, the taking down of the Body of Jesus from the Cross, and His burial.
16. St. Cornelius, Pope and Martyr, and St. Cyprian, Bishop and Martyr.
These two great saints were contemporaries and friends.
Cornelius was Bishop of Rome, famous for resisting the Novatianist heretics, who wished to restrict the administration of Penance. He was beheaded on September 14th, 252.
Six years later, Cyprian, the Bishop of Carthage, won his martyr's crown. His writings are

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of great theological value. They insist on unity as one of the marks of the True Church.

17. The Imprinting of the Holy Stigmata on St. Francis, Confessor. In Sept, 1224, two years before his death, while St. Francis was making a fast of forty days on Mount Alvernia, God imprinted on his hands, feet and side the likeness of the Sacred Wounds of Christ. From these imprints, blood flowed at times.
18. Joseph of Cupertino, Confessor, was born at Cupertino in Southern Italy in 1602. With some difficulty, he obtained admission to the conventual Franciscans as a lay-brother, but on account of his spiritual gifts was ordained priest. His life was remarkable for penance, mystical graces and miracles. He died in 1663. He is noted for his charity, humility and ecstasies.
19. Apparition of Our Lady of La Salette, France, 1846, to Melanie Calvat, Shepherdess of La Salette (who entered the convent and took the name, Sr. Maria of the Cross), and also to her neighbor boy Maximin. The Blessed Mother Mary said: "The sins of consecrated persons cry out to Heaven and bring down vengeance, and now, here, vengeance is at the doors, because no one can be found to implore mercy and pardon for the people. The leaders, the shepherds of the people of God, have carelessly forsaken prayer and penitence, and the devil has beclouded their intelligence. The Vicar of my Son will have much to suffer, because during a certain time, the Church will be delivered to great persecutions. It will be a time of darkness. The Church will be in a terrible crisis."
St. Januarius, Bishop and Martyr, was Bishop of Beneventum, and in the persecution of Diocletian, AD 305, he was beheaded near Naples with several of his clergy. His body was taken to Naples, and he became the patron saint of that city. Some of his blood is preserved in a glass vial, and when on certain feasts the vial is placed near the reliquary containing the Martyr's head the blood liquefies and becomes bright red. The fact is attested by numberless witnesses, and has led to the conversion of many sinners.
20. St. Andrew Kim of Taegu, first native priest of Korea, martyred in 1846.
St. Paul Chong of Ha sang, seminarian and catechist and martyr (1846).
Remembering also 101 martyred companions between 1839-1867.
St. Eustace and Companions, Martyrs, are said to have suffered at the beginning of the second century.
21. St. Matthew, Apostle, one of the twelve, and Evangelist. From being a publican, that is, a tax-gatherer, he was called by our Savior to the Apostleship, in that profession his name is Levi. (*Lk 5:27, and Mk 2:14*). We read in the Gospel of Saint Matthew's own account of his conversion. He was the first of the Evangelists that wrote the Gospel, and that in Hebrew or Syro-Chaldaic which the Jews in Palestine spoke at that time. The original is not now in existence, but it was translated in the time of the Apostles into Greek, that version was of equal authority. He wrote about six years after the Lord's Ascension (about 39 AD). He begins with the line of ancestors from whom Jesus descended as man, and gives the first account of the life and preaching of Jesus. He portrays Christianity as consistent with Jewish prophets and traditions and is the fulfillment of it.
His Gospel may be divided into 7 parts:
 1. The preparation in the Child Messiah. Ch 1-2.
 2. The Charter. Sermon the Mount. Ch. 5-7.
 3. The Preaching. (Missionaries and signs). Ch 8-10.
 4. Obstacles which the Kingdom will meet. Ch 11-13:52.
 5. Embryonic existence. (Peter as head). 13:53-18.
 6. Crisis (Hostility of Jewish leaders). Ch 19-25.
 7. The Coming (effected through suffering and triumph, through the Passion and Resurrection) Ch. 26-28.His Gospel is represented in Christian art as a human face. According to tradition, he preached the Gospel in Judea and later in Ethiopia where he was martyred.

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22. St. Thomas of Villanova, Bishop and Confessor, was a religious of the Order of St. Augustine who was appointed Archbishop of Valentia. He is renowned for his charity to the poor, among whom he distributed everything he owned to the last penny, and died on a borrowed bed, in 1555.
23. St. Linus; St. Padre Pio.
St. Linus a native of Tuscany. Pope and Martyr AD. 76. First successor of St. Peter and ruled the Church for about 9 years. St. Irenaeus says that he is the Linus mentioned by St. Paul in 2 Tim 4:21 “Make haste to come before winter. Linus and Claudia and all the brethren, salute thee,” and that he was consecrated bishop by St. Paul.
St. Padre Pio, Confessor, Stigmatist, was born 25 May 1887 in Pietrelcina, Italy. He was tutored privately until his entry to the novitiate of the Capuchin Friars at the age of 15 and was ordained a priest on 10 August 1910. Starting on 7 September 1910, the stigmata would appear and disappear alternate weeks until on September 1918, the visible wounds appeared permanently. He spent his whole life praying and suffering for souls the world over. His letters to his spiritual directors reveal his sufferings, physical and spiritual, and also his very deep faith. He died on 23 September 1968, and canonized on 16 June, 2002.
24. Our Lady of Ransom. The Order of Ransom was founded in 1218 by St. Peter Nolasco (1256), St. Raymond Nonnatus of Pennafort (1238) and King James I of Aragon (1276) for the purpose of redeeming Christians held in captivity by the Saracens who then ruled Spain. This very urgent work of charity had been inspired by the Blessed Virgin Mary, who appeared to these holy men in visions.
- 25.
- 26.
27. SS. Cosmas and Damian, Martyrs. Two brothers, Syrian Arabs by birth, and by profession physicians. They never accepted any remuneration for their services, and were known as “moneyless ones.” They were arrested and put to death as Christians during the great persecution of Diocletian. Patrons of physicians, surgeons, druggists, barbers and the blind.
28. St. Wenceslaus, Martyr, died at age 22 in 929. He was Duke of Bohemia, and did much to bring about the conversion of his subjects to Christianity. He was killed by the order of his pagan mother and brother while praying in a church he had built at Prague. Patron of the Czech Republic and Slovakia.
29. 1st Mass Virgin Eucharistic Church.
The Seven Archangels, Saints Michael, Gabriel, Raphael, Sadiel, Ariel, Jophiel and Gratiel.

Michael (meaning “Who is like God?”) is mentioned in Daniel 10:13 as one of the chief princes of Heaven, and is chief of all the archangels. In the Apocalypse he is the leader of the Heavenly host of angels in their battle and triumph over the forces of hell. In St. Jude he is described as rebuking the devil. Saint Michael protects the virtue of Faith, and the Sacrament of Extreme Unction, against the deadly sin promoted by the arch-demon of Pride. He is the champion of faith, and servant of departed souls. He is the patron of the Sacrament of Extreme Unction, of the sick, and also the patron of the Eternal Virgin Eucharistic Church.

Gabriel (God’s Strength) (*see also Mar 24*) is the special messenger of the Incarnation. He was sent to the prophet Daniel to tell him the time when Christ would be born. He announced to Zachary the birth of St. John the Baptist, the precursor of the Messiah, and then to Our Lady at the annunciation of the Incarnation of the Messiah Himself. He protects the virtue of Hope, and helps us overcome temptations to despair, and the deadly sin promoted by Asmodeus (*Tb 3:8*) the arch-demon of Lust. He is the patron of the Sacrament of Baptism, and breathes life into every soul who is baptized in the Name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost. He is also the patron of communication.

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Raphael (Medicine of God) is one of the seven Archangels who stand before the Lord, according to *Tobit 12:15*. He advised Tobit and Tobias to “*praise God forever*” (*Tb 12:17*). He helps us shoulder the pains and difficulties of life, through the sacrificial love of Christ. He protects the virtue of Charity, and the Sacrament of Confirmation, against the deadly sin promoted by the arch-demon of Greed. He is the patron of Sacrament of Confirmation, of doctors, wanderers, travelers, and those in distress and the blind.

By tradition the other four Archangels are:

Sadiel (The Almighty of God) protects the virtue of Temperance, and the Sacrament of the Holy Eucharist, against the deadly sin prompted by the arch-demon of Gluttony. It is only in the Eucharist can one be in Holy Communion with God. Through the Angel of Temperance, man receives the selfless gift of God Himself, in the Paschal Sacrifice. He is the patron of the Sacrament of the Holy Eucharist, sacristans, and those devoted to the holy liturgy.

Ariel (Young Lion of God) protects the virtue of Prudence, and the Holy Sacrament of Matrimony against the deadly sin promoted by the arch-demon of Anger. Through the Angel of Prudence streams the cherished gift of the Wisdom of God, passed through the Church, to husband and wife. He is the patron of the Holy Sacrament of Matrimony, of families and musicians.

Jophiel (The Plough of God) protects the virtue of Justice, and the Sacrament of Confessions, against the deadly sin promoted by the arch-demon of Envy. He teaches that souls need to repent and do penance for offences against God Almighty, through the Holy Sacrament of Confessions. Through the Angel of Justice comes the undeserved gift of the Mercy of God in Confessions. He is the patron of the Sacrament of Confessions, and of penitents.

Gratiel (The Ardent of God) protects the virtue of Fortitude, and the Sacrament of Holy Orders, against the deadly sin promoted by the arch-demon of Sloth. He provides courage for those called to Holy Orders. Through the Angel of Justice, comes the support for all those who surrender everything to God for the sake of His love. He provides the courage to give witness to Jesus without reservation, and sustains all martyrs for the Lord. He is the patron of the Sacrament of Holy Orders, and those who offer themselves as sacrificial and victim souls.

30. St. Jerome, Confessor and Doctor. Born in Dalmatia (Croatia), studied at Rome, Athens and Treves (Trier in SW Germany), and became one of the greatest scholars of his age. Ordained priest, he became secretary of Pope Damasus (366-384), on whose request in 382, he devoted himself to preparing a reliable translation of the Bible into the Latin “Vulgate” from Hebrew, Chaldaic, and Greek. He finished the New Testament in 384, and the Old Testament between 400 and 404. The Latin Vulgate was approved with its 73 books as the official Bible of the Church at the Council of Hippo in 393; at the Council of Carthage in 420; at the Council of Florence in 1442; and at the Council of Trent in 1546. It remained the official Bible of the Roman Catholic Church, until Pope John Paul II replaced it with the New Vulgate translation in 1979. St. Jerome was the greatest scripture scholar of the Church. He said: “Ignorance of Scripture is ignorance of Christ.” Died in 420 at Bethlehem.

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1. St. Remy, Bishop and Confessor, was born in Roman Gaul about 437, and when only 22 years of age was consecrated Bishop of Reims. When the Franks invaded Gaul he converted and baptized their king, Clovis, and is honored as Apostle of the Franks. He was bishop for seventy years; and labored zealously for the conversion of heretics and infidels. He died in 533.
2. The Holy Guardian Angels.
It has been the universal teaching of fathers and theologians expounding the Gospel of St. Matthew 18:10,14. "See that you despise not one of these little ones, for I say to you, that their angels in Heaven always see the face of My Father Who is in Heaven. Even so it is not the will of your Father, Who is in Heaven, that one of these little ones should perish." It is not merely kingdoms, churches, communities and families, but individuals, have each their guardian angel, who is the minister of Divine Providence. (St. Thomas Aquinas in his Summa, I.Q. 113). A feast in honor of the Guardian Angels was extended to the universal Church in 1670.
3. St. Theresa of the Child Jesus, Virgin. Mary Frances Martin, the "Little Flower," was born of a pious French family at Alencon in 1873. She entered the Carmelite convent at Lisieux when only fifteen and sanctified herself by the way of simple obedience and humility. Her autobiography, *The Story of a Soul*, urged all to follow the "little way." Her great desire was to merit for missionaries and priests. She died due to tuberculosis at the age of twenty-four on 30th September, 1897, promising to intercede in Heaven for those on earth. Since her death she has obtained countless great favors for those who sought her intercessions. She was canonized in 1925 by Pius XI. She is considered the patroness of florists, the missions, and of France.
4. St. Francis of Assisi, Confessor, was the son of a rich merchant of Assisi in Italy, led at first a careless life, but, converted by illness, he gave himself entirely to prayer and the service of the poor. With a few companions, he began to preach the Gospel to the poor and to practice the most complete poverty. His rule of life was approved by Innocent III in 1210, and disciples flocked to him. He was remarkable for his gentleness, burning charity and chivalrous devotion to "Lady Poverty." He insisted that his disciples, called "Friars Minor," or little brethren, should own nothing, but live entirely on alms and by begging. St. Francis is one of the greatest heroes of Christian asceticism, whose example has most powerfully influenced the world. He also founded the Poor Clares and the Third Order. He wrote the Canticle of the Sun and received the stigmata 14 September, 1224. He died in his 45th year, 1226, and was canonized only two years later. He is considered the patron of ecologists and of Italy.
5. St. Placid and Companions, Martyrs. St. Placid was one of the first disciples of St. Benedict. He founded a monastery in Sicily which was attacked by infidel pirates and all the monks murdered.
6. St. Bruno, Confessor, the founder of the Carthusian Order, was born in Cologne about 1030, and entering the clerical life became canon at Reims. Later, with six companions desiring solitude, he retired to the mountain called Chartreuse in south-eastern France, and established a monastery and order there which have taken their name from the place. The order is a contemplative one devoted to penance and solitude and of such austerity that it was officially recognized as the strictest in the Church. Summoned to Rome by Pope Urban II, a former disciple, Bruno refused all honors and at length obtained permission to retire to the mountains of Calabria, where he resumed the life of Chartreuse and died in 1101. The motto of the Carthusians is: "While the world changes, the cross stands firm."
7. Feast of the Most Holy Rosary of the Blessed Virgin Mary.
Like the ancient Romans, medieval noblemen used to wear wreaths of flowers, called chaplets, and these were offered as a symbol of homage to distinguished people. Our Blessed Lady is Queen of Heaven and earth, angels and men, and has a right to our homage. She is the daughter of the Father, Mother of the Son, and Spouse of the Holy Ghost, and the Church

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urges us to offer Her a triple crown of roses, called the Rosary, whose beauties we recall in particular this day.

The feast of the Most Holy Rosary is a summary of the liturgical year, as we meditate on the mysteries of the joyful, sorrowful, and glorious events in the lives of Jesus and Mary. In the Eucharistic Church, we recall these mysteries, as we contemplate the Annunciation of Jesus coming to live in His new creation, Eucharistic man, and the succession of events taking place until the final glorious event when Almighty God gives us a crown of glory, that is, He gives us His very Self, the Most Holy Trinity, Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, living in Eucharistic Oneness in us. It is stated in the Gospel of Saint John 21:11: "Simon Peter went up and drew the net to land, full of great fishes, one hundred and fifty-three." These are the one hundred and fifty-three Hail Mary's recited in the Rosary; the three Hail Mary's in the introduction, and the one hundred and fifty Hail Mary's in the full body of the Rosary, which recall the one hundred and fifty Psalms in the Bible.

In the twelfth century, when the Albigensian heresy was spreading rapidly, our Blessed Lady, appearing to St. Dominic, ordered him to spread everywhere the recital of the Rosary. Devotion to the Rosary spread rapidly throughout Christendom. After the fall of Christian Constantinople in 1452, the Turks were threatening to overrun and destroy Europe, and establish the Muslim religion of Islam, which denies the Triune God, the Christians had recourse to the Rosary to implore God's aid. The defeat at Lepanto, on October 7th, 1571, broke the forces of Islam in their threatened overrun of Europe. This great victory is attributed to Our Blessed Mother's intercession and answer to the prayers of the Holy Rosary. In 1572, Pope Gregory VIII ordered the feast to be celebrated in certain churches. When the Saracens (Muslims) again invaded Europe and were defeated at the Battle of Peterwardein, Hungary, in 1716, this victory was seen as answers to the Holy Rosary. Pope Clement XI (1700-21), extended the feast of the Holy Rosary to the whole world. So when the Holy See established a feast in grateful memory of these victories, it was appropriately named after the Rosary of the Blessed Virgin. The feast was raised in rank by Leo XIII, (1878-1903), in order to increase devotion to the Rosary as the means of defense against the modern foes of the Church, Rationalism, and Socialism.

8. St. Bridget of Sweden, Widow. Brigitta was born in Sweden, was the mother of eight children, a mystic, prophet, and foundress of the Order of the Most Holy Savior (Bridgettines). She sought an end to the luxury and dissipation of the Avignon papacy and the return of the pope to Rome. Her Revelations record her spiritual experiences and life. She died in 1373 in Rome and is the patroness of Sweden.
9. SS. Denis, Bishop and Martyr, and companions, martyrs.
Denis, or Dionysius, was the first bishop of Paris. In 258 he was martyred by beheading near Paris on Montmartre with the priest, Eleutherius, and the deacon, Rusticus. Over his grave King Dagobert built the famous abbey of St. Denis. He is considered the patron of Paris and of France.
9. St. John Leonardi, Confessor, born 1609 at Lucca, founded the Congregation of Clerics of the Mother of God to further education in Christian doctrine. He was associated with the first society of priests dedicated to the foreign missions, which later became the Society for the Propagation of the Faith.
10. St. Francis Borgia, Confessor, was born of a princely Spanish family in 1510. He followed the career of a nobleman at the court of the Emperor Charles V. Having as a court official to view the decomposing corpse of the Empress Isabella in its last resting place, he was so impressed with the vanity of the world that he vowed to become a religious. In 1551 he resigned the Viceroyalty of Catalonia to enter the Society of Jesus, of which he later became the third General. He died in 1572 while on an embassy for the Pope to the Kings of France and Spain.
11. Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God.

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In 431 the Council of Ephesus solemnly declared that the divine and human natures were united in the person of Jesus the Son of God. Mary is the Mother of Jesus, the Son of God. He is her Son, because she gave Him His flesh and blood, He became incarnate in her. It follows that Mary, His Mother, may rightly be called the Mother of God. We honor our Lady therefore, as Mother of our Lord; but we love her too as our Mother in our life of grace, for she gave us this life, in giving us the Author of life. All of us who are united to Christ and members of His body are born of Mary, and obey what Jesus told us, "Behold thy Mother." (*Jn* 19:27). Ever since 431 this title "Mother of God" has become sacred to Christians, for it expresses a sublime dogma of the Incarnation. In 1931, the 15th centenary of the Council of Ephesus Pope Pius XI established this feast on October 11th.

12.

13. Apparition of Our Lady of Fatima. And St. Edward.

The apparitions at Fatima began on May 13, 1917 as ten year old Lucia and her younger cousins Jacinta and Francisco were tending sheep in a vale known as the Cova da Iria. When they ran for shelter during a storm, they saw, hovering over the branches of an oak tree, "a Lady dressed all in white, more brilliant than the sun, shedding rays of light clearer and stronger than a crystal glass filled with the most sparkling water and pierced by the burning rays of the sun." When Lucia asked where she came from, the Lady said she came from Heaven. The Blessed Virgin Mary appeared six times in all on the thirteenth of the month. She asked the children to continue saying the rosary. She showed the children hell and warned of God's threatened punishment. The end of World War I and the beginning of World War II were foretold, and she spoke of a sign, "a night illuminated by an unknown light," that will mean that God "is going to punish the world for its crimes by means of war, hunger, and persecution of the Church and of the Holy Father." This was the first secret. The second secret was both a request and a prophecy. She said to prevent the punishment she came to ask the consecration of Russia to Her Immaculate Heart and the Communion of reparation on the first Saturdays. She said if they listened to her requests, Russia would be converted and there would be peace. If not, Russia would spread her errors through the entire world, provoking wars and persecutions of the Church. The good would be martyred and the Holy Father would have much to suffer, and various nations would be annihilated. Our Lady also said that in the end Her Immaculate Heart would triumph. The Holy Father would consecrate Russia to Her and it would be converted and a certain period of peace would be granted to humanity. The third secret has never been revealed. On October 13th our Lady asked for a chapel to be built there in Her honor. She showed Herself as the Lady of the Rosary, as Our Lady of Sorrows with a sorrowful Christ by her side, and as Our Lady of Mount Carmel with her infant son on her knee, crowned as the Queen of Heaven and the Queen of the World. There was also a tableau of the Holy Family: St. Joseph held the Christ Child, Mary was dressed in white with a blue mantle. As proof of all, the miracle that the Virgin Mary had promised took place. First, the sun "danced" and whirled, then it plunged in a zigzag course toward the earth, before resuming its original place in the sky. Francisco died of influenza a year and a half later on April 4, 1918 the day after he received his First Communion. Jacinta also fell victim to the epidemic and died on February 20, 1920. Lucia entered a boarding school run by the Sisters of St. Dorothy in 1922, and in 1926, she joined the order's novitiate. She stayed with the Sisters of St. Dorothy until 1948, when she became a Carmelite sister. She died on 13th Feb 2005 at the age of 98.

St. Edward, the Confessor, was grandson of St. Edward, king and martyr, and ascended the throne of England in 1042. He was remarkable for his sanctity and his charity to the poor, his wisdom and justice as a ruler endeared him to his subjects. He died in 1066, was canonized in 1161, and his feast allotted to 13th Oct, the day when his relics were transported to Westminster Abbey, where they still rest.

14. St. Callistus I, Pope and Martyr, was a Roman by birth and is the 15th successor after St.

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Peter. Callistus ruled the Church of God for five years. He fixed the rules of penitential discipline, established the Ember fasts and repressed heresy. Heretics attacked him bitterly, but the charges they brought against him have been proved false by modern research. He met his death in 223.

15. St. Teresa of Jesus, Virgin and Doctor, was born at Avila in Spain in 1515. At the age of 18 she entered the Carmelite convent. She devoted herself ardently to contemplative prayer and was favored by Christ with extraordinary mystical gifts and graces. She showed indefatigable energy and remarkable commonsense all through her life. She brought about reform of many Carmelite houses and founded 32 convents. Teresa authored "Way of Perfection," "Interior Castle," and an autobiography. She died in October 1582. Pope Gregory XIII, in order to reform the Roman Calendar, had ordered the suppression of ten days in the year 1582; the day after October 4th was to be called October 15th. It was during this historic night of October 4th -15th that the great reformer Teresa died. She was the first woman declared "Doctor of the Church" in 1970. She is the patroness of Spain.
16. St. Hedwig, Widow, was the daughter of the Duke of Carinthia, was married when only a young girl to Henry, Duke of Poland, to whom she bore three sons and three daughters. She practiced great austerity of life and charity to the poor. After the death of her husband she retired to a Cistercian monastery, and died in 1242.
17. St. Margaret Mary Alacoque, Virgin, was a French nun in the Visitation Convent at Paray-le-Monial, whose one desire was to become like Christ. Margaret was favored with visions of our Lord in which He bade her to spread devotion to His Sacred Heart. She promoted the First Friday Devotion. Against great opposition she carried out His wishes until her death on 17 Oct, 1690. She was canonized in 1920.
18. St. Luke, Evangelist, was a native of Antioch, the capital of Syria. He was by profession a physician, and some ancient writers say, that he was very skillful in painting. The painting of the "Black Madonna" is said to have been painted by him on a table made by Jesus, in the carpenter shop of St. Joseph. He was converted by St. Paul and became his disciple and companion in his travels, and fellow-laborer in the ministry of the Gospel, and remained with him during his imprisonment in Rome. He wrote a Gospel in Greek, about twenty-four years after our Lord's Ascension (about 57 AD), which in many places supplements the first two Evangelists, and is directed principally to the Gentiles, to show that Jesus brought salvation for all men. He also wrote the Acts of the Apostles, which is the history of the first years of the Church.

His Gospel may be divided into 7 parts.

- 1) Birth and hidden life of the Baptist and Jesus. (Ch 1 & 2).
- 2) Prelude to public ministry of Jesus. (Ch 3 - 4: 13).
- 3) Galilean ministry. (Ch 4:14 - 9:50).
- 4) Journey to Jerusalem. (9:51 - 19:28).
- 5) Teaching in Jerusalem. (19:29 - Ch 21).
- 6) Passion. (Ch 22,23).
- 7) After the Resurrection. (Ch 24).

His Gospel sets Jerusalem as the predestined stage for the drama of Salvation:

- 1) It is from Jerusalem that the evangelization of the world must begin, 24:47; Ac 1:8.
- 2) His Gospel starts there, 1:5 and sequence.
- 3) His Gospel is brought to a close there, 24:52 and sequence.

He is the chronicler of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

19. St. Peter of Alcantara; and SS Isaac Jogues, John de Brebeuf, and companions.
St. Peter of Alcantara, Confessor, was born at Alcantara. He entered the Franciscan Order at the age of 16 and devoted himself to the most austere observance of the primitive rule. A contemporary friend of St. Teresa, he supported her in the work of reformation in his own order and outside. He died in 1562.

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SS. Isaac Jogues and John de Brebeuf, priests, and companions, martyrs. They were French Jesuit and oblate missionaries to the Hurons and Iroquois of North America, 1642-1649. Isaac was tomahawked to death by Iroquois on Oct. 18, 1646 near Albany, New York. John was savagely mutilated and slain March 16, 1649 near Georgian Bay. The other martyrs were Antony Daniel, Gabriel Lalemant, Charles Gamier, Noel Chabanel, and oblates Rene Goupil and Jean de la Lande. They are secondary patrons of Canada.

20. St. John of Kanty, (Cantius), Confessor, was a dean of philosophy and professor of theology at the University of Cracow. For some time he took charge of a parish, but alarmed at the responsibilities, returned to his University and taught there till his death. He is noted for his austerity, humility, and charity toward the poor, and several times gave away all he possessed to the poor. He died in 1473 and is a patron of Poland.

21. St. Ursula; and St. Hilarion.

St. Ursula, Virgin and Martyr. The tradition is that when the pagan Saxons invaded Britain many of the Christian Britons were forced to fly to the Continent. A party of them, led by Ursula, the daughter of a chieftain, had taken refuge near Cologne, when they were massacred by the pagan Huns, who were then ravaging Western Europe. A celebrated shrine is dedicated to them in Cologne.

St. Hilarion, Abbot, born in Gaza of pagan parents about 291, was baptized at the age of 15. After visiting St. Anthony in the desert near Alexandria, Egypt, returned to practice the solitary life in the desert of Gaza. The fame of his austerity and miraculous powers drew many disciples, with whom he formed *laurae*, (*or colonies*), of anchorites, in which each lived his life of prayer and toil in a cell apart. This institution spread widely in the East, and led to the development of monasticism. He died in 371.

22.

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24. St. Raphael, Archangel; St. Anthony Mary Claret.

St. Raphael is one of the seven who stand before the Lord, according to Tobit 12:15, and is one of the three angels venerated in name by the Church. His name means “the medicine of God” and his special office is to help those in distress. The book of Tobit tells how he helped the young Tobit to cure his father from blindness, and to deliver his future wife from the power of the devil.

St. Anthony Mary Claret, Bishop and Confessor, was born on December 23, 1807, in Sallent, Spain. He was the son of a weaver and also became a weaver himself. He entered the seminary in 1829 and was ordained in 1835. Ill health caused him to leave a Jesuit novitiate in Rome and returned to pastoral work at Sallent in 1837, preaching missions and retreats in Catalonia for the next decade. He spent 15 months in the Canary Islands with Bishop Codina, then returned to Vich and founded the Missionary Sons of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, (the Claretians). He was dedicated to preaching missions. He was appointed archbishop of Santiago, Cuba, in 1850, incurred enemies in his efforts to reform the see, and was wounded in an assassination attempt at Holguin in 1856. He returned to Spain in 1857, became confessor of Queen Isabella II. He resigned his see in 1858, and was appointed Director of the Escorial, and actively encouraged literature, the arts, and the sciences. He followed Isabella to France during a revolution in 1868. After attending Vatican Council I (1869-70), he retired to Prades, France, but was forced to flee to a Cistercian monastery near Narbonne, when the Spanish ambassador demanded his arrest. He died there on October 24, 1870. Anthony Claret was a leading figure in the revival of Catholicism in Spain. He was canonized in 1950.

25. SS. Chrysanthus and Darias, Martyrs. Chrysanthus and his wife Darias came from the east to Rome, where they suffered martyrdom about 283.

26. St. Evaristus, Pope and Martyr (97-105) was the fourth successor after St. Peter, and was martyred in 105. He divided the city of Rome into parishes and appointed seven deacons to

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assist the Pope, thus originating the Sacred College of Cardinals.

27.

28. SS Simon and Jude, Apostles.

St. Simon was surnamed the Cananean, because he came from Cana in Galilee. He preached the Gospel in Northern Africa and then in Persia, where he was martyred.

St. Jude, or Thaddeus, was son of Cleophas and Mary, relations of Jesus and brother of James the Less. The Gospel speaks of them as brethren, i.e., Cousins of our Lord. He preached in Persia with St. Simon, and was martyred there with him. He wrote one of the canonical Epistles of the New Testament, in which he warns the faithful against false teachers. He is considered the patron of those in despair, or in hopeless situations.

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31. Vigil of All Saints.

Last Sunday of October:

FEAST OF THE KINGSHIP OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST.

This feast was instituted by Pope Pius XI in 1925, in order to remind the faithful in these days of indifference and irreligion, that Christ is the King of all men, endowed with all kingly power to rule and to judge. Individuals, families and nations, are bound by the moral and religious law of Christ. It is only by acknowledging His supreme authority in public and private life, that society will attain liberty, peace and order, and that individuals will attain Eternal Life. The Kingdom of Christ is not just territorial or terrestrial, but is one of Truth, Holiness and Justice, to be on earth as it is in Heaven.

NOVEMBER

1. Feast of All Saints. On 13th May 610, Pope Boniface IV, converted the pagan temple of Agrippa in Rome, called the Pantheon (i.e. Temple of all the gods), into a Christian church, dedicated to “the Blessed Virgin and all the martyrs.” There he had brought from the Catacombs, the bones of countless unknown martyrs. Pope Gregory IV established this commemoration for all the Church in 835. Originally celebrated on Easter Friday, it came to be held on May 13. Later, in the 9th century, it was transferred to 1st November, the date of its celebration in Ireland, where it countered the Celtic pagan feast of the Druids. All Saints Day, commemorates Christ’s triumph over the false gods of the pagans.
2. Feast of All Souls. There is a natural close commemoration between the feast of All Saints, and the thought of the holy souls who are for ever securely established in grace, and will one day enter Heaven, but are detained in Purgatory to expiate their venial sins or suffer the temporal punishment due to sin. These other members of the Communion of Saints, known as the Church Suffering, fill the thoughts of the Church Militant, as they await their celebration of arrival into the glory of the Church Triumphant. Having celebrated with praise all the souls already in Heaven on the Feast of All Saints, today we commemorate and intercede with our Lord and Spouse, Jesus Christ, to come to the aid of all souls still suffering in Purgatory, that they may come as quickly as possible to the company of the inhabitants already in Heaven.

Rooted in ancient Christian tradition since the 2nd century, St. Odilo, fourth abbot of the Benedictine Abbey of Cluny, established a memorial of all the faithful departed in 998. It was accepted in Rome in the 13th century. The privilege of saying three Masses on this day, formerly granted to Spain, was extended to the whole Church by Pope Benedict XV in 1915.

3. St. Martin de Porres; and St. Malachy.

St. Martin de Porres, Religious, was born in 1579 in Lima, Peru of a Spanish father, who was a knight, and Anna, a freed black slave. He was apprenticed to a barber-surgeon when he was twelve. In 1594 he became a Dominican lay brother at Rosary Convent in Lima. He served in various offices in the convent and was active in caring for the sick throughout the city. He founded an orphanage and foundling hospital, was put in charge of the convent’s food distribution to the poor, and ministered to African slaves brought to Peru. A close friend of St. Rose of Lima, his efforts to help the poor, and his holiness, and penances, caused him to be venerated by all. He is reputed to have been gifted with supernatural gifts, among them bi-location and aerial flights. He died at Rosary Convent on 3rd November, and was canonized in 1962. He is patron of inter-racial justice.

St. Malachy (1095-1148).

Malachy O’More (Mad Maedoc Ua Morgair) was the son of a schoolteacher, and was born and raised in Armagh, Ireland. When his parents died, he became a disciple of Eimar, a hermit, and was ordained by St. Celsus when he was twenty-five. He was assigned the abbacy of the rundown Bangor Abbey, and in 1125 was named bishop of Connor, using Bangor as his headquarters. He soon restored religious fervor to the people of his see. When marauding Norsemen overran Bangor in 1127, he and his monks fled to Lismore and then established a monastery at Iveragh, Kerry. On his deathbed in 1129, St. Celsus named Malachy his successor as metropolitan of Armagh, but instead Celsus’ family installed his cousin Murtagh, as the archbishopric had been hereditary for generations. Malachy refused to try to occupy the see, but after three years was ordered to do so by the papal legate and others. He governed the see, but would not enter the city until 1134, when Murtagh died, naming Celsus’ brother Niall as his successor. Armed conflict broke out between the followers of the two, but Malachy finally obtained his cathedral. When Niall fled with two relics that were supposed to be in the possession of the true archbishop, a book (probably the Book of Armagh), and a crozier, both reputed to have been St. Patrick’s, the division and conflict continued, as many of the people turned to Niall as possessor of these all important symbols. Malachy eventually recovered them, restored peace and discipline to the see, and became uncontested archbishop. He then resigned the archbishopric of Armagh in 1131, and returned

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to Connor in 1137. He then divided Connor into two dioceses, Connor and Down, became bishop of the latter, and established a monastery on the ruins of Bangor. He went to Rome two years later, met St. Bernard on the way, and wanted to become a monk at Clairvaux, but was refused permission to resign his see by Pope Innocent II. Instead his actions in Ireland were approved and he was appointed papal legate to Ireland. He returned to his native land in 1142, founded Mellifont Abbey with four of his companions, who had become Cistercian monks at Clairvaux, on their return trip from Rome, and in 1148 was appointed by a synod on Inishpatrick to go to Rome to secure *pallia* for the two metropolitans from Pope Eugene III. Delayed in England by King Stephen for political reasons, Malachy set off for Rome, and when he found that the Pope had left France and returned to Rome, decided to stop off on the way to see Bernard at Clairvaux. Malachy was stricken there and died in Bernard's arms on November 2. Bernard proclaimed him a saint at his requiem Mass, an action formally confirmed by Pope Innocent III in 1190, the first papal canonization of an Irish saint. Malachy was one of the great saints of Irish history, being responsible for the unification of the Irish clergy, the restoration of discipline, the revival of religious fervor, and the restoration of morality by his determination, humility, and lack of any desire for self-aggrandizement. He is reputed to have performed many miracles, among them curing Henry, son of King David of Scotland, of a grave disease, but is probably best known for the so called Prophecies of Malachy, a list of Popes from Celestine II (d. 1144) "to the end of the world." The Popes are not identified by name, but are described in symbolic terms. It is thought that Malachy wrote them while he was in Rome, showed them to Pope Innocent II, and then they were buried in the papal archives until found by Dom Arnold de Wyon, a Benedictine in 1597, 449 years after Malachy's death.

4. St. Charles Borromeo, Bishop and Confessor, was nephew of Pope Pius IV, and while still a young man was made Cardinal Archbishop of Milan. He devoted himself entirely to the reformation of the Church, implementing reforms of Trent in his diocese of Milan. He held 5 provincial councils and 11 diocesan synods, was a founder of seminaries, and reformed communities. He restored ecclesiastical discipline, cared for the poor and plague stricken. He was considered the perfect pastor, by St. Francis de Sales. He died in 1584. He is considered the patron of catechists and of catechumens.
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9. St. Theodore, Martyr, was a Roman soldier who was burnt alive, because he was a Christian, at Amasea, in Asia Minor in 306.
10. St. Andrew Avellino, Confessor, was a Neopolitan who joined the Theatine Order, and by his fervor and zeal for souls won the veneration of the people. He died in 1608 when about to begin Mass, with the words (in Latin) "I will go onto the altar of God" on his lips.
11. St. Martin of Tours; and St. Mennas.
St. Martin of Tours, Bishop, and Confessor, was born in Hungary, and while serving as a young Roman soldier in Gaul he became a disciple of St. Hilary, a monk, and finally became Bishop of Tours. He became renowned for his austere life and missionary zeal. His influence on the spread of Christianity and monasticism in the West was immense. He died in 397 and was the first non-martyr to receive the honors of a saint in the Western Church.
St. Mennas, Martyr, was a soldier, a native of Egypt, was beheaded in Phrygia in 304.
12. St. Martin, Pope and Martyr, having condemned a heresy which was favored by the Emperor at Constantinople, was treacherously seized and exiled to the Crimea, where he died from the treatment he had received, 655. In those days, Rome was subject to the Byzantine Empire and the temporal power of the Pope, as a means to his protection and independence, had not been developed. He is the last Pope to have suffered martyrdom, (as of 2011).

November

13. Our Lady of Garabandal. St. Didacus.
The Blessed Ever Virgin Mary appeared to four children at Garabandal, near Santander in Northern Spain, over 2000 times between the years 1962 and 1965, during the time of the Vatican II Council. She said that: "Many cardinals, many bishops, and many priests are on the road to perdition, and leading many souls with them." This message of warning was given while many cardinals, many bishops, and many priests were in session during the Vatican II Council. The Catholic Church has discredited the apparition as having no supernatural qualities, this in spite of miraculous receiving of Holy Eucharist by the visionaries, from the unseen hands of an angel. Many miracles were reported of supernatural order.
St. Didacus, Confessor, was a Spanish Franciscan lay-brother who fulfilled almost perfectly the Franciscan ideals of poverty and divine love. He died in the odor of sanctity in 1463.
14. St. Josaphat, Bishop and Martyr, is the first of the Orientals to be formally canonized by Rome. Belonging to the Greek rite, he steadfastly defended the Primacy of the Holy See. He became a Basilian monk and later Archbishop of Polotsk in Lithuania. He labored indefatigably for souls, and was the fearless champion of the union of Greeks with Rome, thereby incurring the hatred of the schismatics, who cruelly murdered him at Vitepsk in 1623. Though he knew of the danger to his life, as a shepherd of souls he bravely faced it.
15. St. Albert the Great, Bishop, Confessor and Doctor, was born in Germany and entered the Dominican Order. He became a great scholar in natural science, philosophy and theology. St. Thomas Aquinas was for some years his pupil. He was made Bishop of Ratisbon by the Pope, but resigned after three years in order to resume teaching at Cologne, where he died at the age of 88 in 1280. He was a prolific writer, especially about the Sacred Heart of Jesus.
16. St. Gertrude, Virgin, was born in Thuringia, Saxony, and was a Benedictine mystic who wrote on the meaning of suffering, the *Sacred Heart*, the *Trinity* and *God's love*. Her most important work is "*The Herald of Divine Love*." She died November 17, 1302, at the age of 46.
17. St. Gregory the Wonder-Worker, Bishop and Confessor, was Bishop of Neo-Caesarea in Pontus (a province of Asia Minor bordering the Black Sea) in the third century, famous for his learning and sanctity, but still more, for the wonders which he wrought in the name of Christ. At his appointment as bishop there were only seventeen Christians in the city: at his death there were only seventeen pagans. It is related of him that, putting into practice our Lord's words, quoted in the Gospel of St. Mark, chapter 11, he commanded a mountain to move back sufficiently to give room for the building of a church, and the command was obeyed.
- 18.
19. St. Elizabeth of Hungary, Widow, the daughter of the King of Hungary, was given in marriage to the Landgraf of Thuringia while still a young girl. Like the valiant woman of the Epistle, she rose in the night to pray, gave alms to the poor and spun wool to make warm garments for them. Left a widow with three children at the age of twenty, she was driven from her husband's castle, but showed extraordinary patience, humility, and mortification. Having secured her son's rights, she had nothing for herself but the coarse garb of a Franciscan Tertiary and the poverty of Christ. She died in 1231 aged 24, and was canonized four years later. She is the patroness of the Franciscan Third Order and of Catholic charities.
20. St. Felix of Valois, Confessor, was a member of the French royal house of Valois. He led a most austere life as a hermit near Meaux, where he was joined by St. John of Matha (see Feb 8th). In consequence of a vision, they established the Trinitarian Order for carrying on the great work of charity of that age, the freeing of Christians held in captivity by the Moslems of Spain and Northern Africa. These Christian captives were treated as slaves and often in danger of becoming renegades to their faith. St. Felix died in 1212.
21. The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Our Lady's birthday was celebrated on September 8th, and four days later, the feast of her Holy Name. Today we keep the feast of

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her Presentation in the Temple, so that the three feasts commemorating the first events of our Lady's life, correspond to those of Christ's, His birth on December 25th, His Holy Name on January 1st, and His Presentation in the Temple on February 2nd. According to an ancient tradition, our Lady was presented in the Temple when a child of three. A feast in honor of the Presentation was held from early days in the East, and in 1372 approved for the West by Pope Gregory XI.

22. St. Cecilia, Virgin and Martyr. The most famous virgin martyr of Rome, of a noble Patrician family, Cecilia converted her betrothed husband and his brother. She was condemned to be suffocated in the hot bath of her own mansion, which was later converted into a church. In the Office of her feast it is said: "At the sound of musical instruments the virgin Cecilia sang to God in her heart." So she is the patroness of musicians. She is also known for her legend *Passio*, a poem which exalts Christian virginity. She died most probably in the 3rd century.
23. St. Clement I; and St. Felicity; and St. Columbanus.

St. Clement I, Pope and Martyr, was the third successor of St. Peter, and a disciple of St. Paul. He ruled the Church from about 92 to 102. A letter written by him to the Church of Corinth is one of the most valuable documents of the early ages of the Church. It shows clearly the authority of the See of Rome. He died an exile and martyr in the Crimea about 102 AD. His church is one of the most ancient and interesting in Rome, showing the altar facing the people, the separate places for the clergy, faithful and catechumens.

St. Felicity, Martyr, was a Roman widow whose seven sons (10th July) were put to death for the faith about 165. She encouraged them to suffer bravely, and followed them to the crown five months later.

St. Columbanus, Abbot, was one of the great patriarchs of monasticism in Western Europe, whose influence equaled at one time that of St. Benedict. Born about 545 in Leinster; Ireland, he was trained in the monastic and missionary life in Bangor, Co. Down. Columbanus went to Gaul, founded a monastery at Luxeuil, and devoted himself to the evangelization of the people. There he wrote his Rule for Monks, which is characterized by its great severity. Driven from Luxeuil, he settled in Bobbio, and died there in 615. He was a man of great ability, as his writings show, and of great sanctity. He was ardent and fearless in the defense of God's law, and in speech as frank as he was fearless.
24. Andrew Dung-Lac and his companions; and St. John of the Cross; and St Chrysogonus.

Andrew Dung-Lac, Confessor, Martyr, and his companions, Martyrs. During the 17th - 19th centuries, especially in the reign of Emperor Minh-Mang (1820-1840), 117 Vietnamese Christians, clergy, religious, and lay suffered martyrdom. They were canonized 19, June 1988.

St. John of the Cross, Confessor and Doctor, was born near Avila in Spain, and entered the Carmelite Order. Under the influence of St. Teresa he founded the Barefooted (Discalced) Carmelites. In addition to persecution and imprisonment, he underwent many spiritual and interior trials. He wrote a number of works on mystical theology including, "The Ascent of Mount Carmel," "The Dark Night of the Soul," "The Spiritual Canticle," and "The Living Flame of Love." He, is known as the "Mystical Doctor." He died in 1591.

St. Chrysogonus, Martyr, was a Roman priest who co-operated with St. Anastasia in her work of comforting Christians imprisoned and awaiting trial for the faith. He was tried by the Emperor Diocletian, tortured and beheaded in 304.
25. St. Catherine, Virgin and Martyr, was a rich, noble and intellectually gifted maiden of Alexandria, Egypt. The Emperor Maximin, desirous of winning her from Christianity, assembled a number of the most learned men of the world famous schools of Alexandria, but she overwhelmed them with her arguments. Then he had recourse to torture. A spiked wheel was prepared to tear her body, the wheel broke, and her sufferings were ended by beheading, 310 AD. According to tradition, her body was borne by angels to the top of Mt. Sinai.
26. St. Sylvester; and St. Peter of Alexandria.

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St. Sylvester, Abbot, was converted by the sight of a decayed corpse of a handsome friend. He retired to the desert and gave himself to meditation and penance. Then he founded a congregation of monks following the rule of St. Benedict. He died in 1267.

St. Peter of Alexandria, Bishop and Martyr, was the first to detect the heretical tendencies of Arius. Martyred in 311 A.D.

27.

28. St. Catherine Labouré, Religious, daughter of a farmer, she was born at Fain-les-Moutiers, France, on May 2, 1806 and named Zoe. She never went to school, for her mother died when she was eight, and she cared for the family. She joined the Sisters of Charity of St. Vincent de Paul at Chatillon in 1830, taking the name Catherine, and was sent to the Rue du bac Convent in Paris. Almost at once she began to experience a series of visions of our Lady in the chapel of the convent, and in several of them was asked by the Lady in the vision to strike a medal showing the Lady, and honoring the Immaculate Conception. Her confessor, Fr. Aladel, secured permission from the Archbishop of Paris to have the medals struck, and in 1832 the first fifteen hundred, of what were to be millions, were minted, The Miraculous Medal. The visions were approved as authentic in 1836 by a special commission appointed by the archbishop, and the popularity of the medal spread all over the world. Catherine spent the years from 1831 until her death on December 31, 1876 performing menial tasks at the Hospice d'Enghien, revealing none of her visions to any but her confessor until a few months before her death. She was canonized in 1974.

29

St. Saturninus and St. Sernin.

St. Saturninus, was martyred at Rome about the year 303, in the persecution of the Emperor Maximinian the last great persecution.

St. Sernin (also known as Satuminus), the bishop and patron of Toulouse, suffered martyrdom there about 257.

30.

St. Andrew, Apostle, was a native of Bethsaida, elder brother of St. Peter, and a fisherman. He was one of the disciples of St. John the Baptist, and the first called by Christ. Tradition says that after the Ascension he preached the Gospel in Greece and the Balkan countries. He was condemned to death for the faith in Patras, a city of Greece, during the persecution of Nero. An ardent lover of the Cross of his Master, he was crucified, too, but on a cross of the shape of the letter X. His relics were brought in the fourth century to Constantinople, and in the thirteenth century to the West by the Crusaders. His head is in St. Peter's, Rome. He is the patron of Russia, and Scotland, and the patron of the fishing industry.

DECEMBER

- 1.
2. St. Bibiana, Virgin and Martyr, suffered martyrdom by scourging at Rome in the persecution under Julian the Apostate, 303. She was greatly honored especially in Spain and Germany during the Middle Ages.
3. St. Francis Xavier, Confessor, a native of Pampelona in Spain. He was a student of the University of Paris, when he joined St. Ignatius Loyola and became one of the first members of the Society of Jesus. He went as a missionary to India and Japan, Sri Lanka, Malaysia, and had extraordinary success in winning thousands over to Christ. He died in 1551 at the age of 46. He was made Patron of the Foreign Missions by Pius X.
4. St. Barbara and St. Peter Chrysologus.
St. Barbara, Martyr, was one of the most popular saints of the Middle Ages. Legend has her the daughter of a pagan in the time of Emperor Maximian, who resisted her father's demands that she marry. She lived in a tower, and during the absence of her father had three windows built into a bath house he was having constructed to explain the Trinity. Her father took her before a judge, who had her tortured. Her father then took her up a mountain, killed her, and was then destroyed by fire from Heaven as he came down from the mountain. The site of her martyrdom was described as at Antioch, Heliopolis, Nicomedia, or Rome. She is one of the Fourteen Holy Helpers and is the patroness of architects and builders.
St. Peter Chrysologus, Bishop, Confessor and Doctor, was appointed Bishop of Ravenna by the Pope, as a result of a vision. Ravenna was then a most important see, being the official residence of the Imperial Governor of Italy. Peter rendered great services to the Church by his writings and by his eloquence, whence the name was given to him, Chrysologus, Golden Speech. He died in 450.
5. St. Sabbas, Abbot, was a famous pioneer of monastic life in the Eastern Church, remarkable for the austerity of his life and the exactitude of his monastic observance. He died in 532.
6. St. Nicholas, Bishop and Confessor, called the Great, he was Bishop of Myra in Asia Minor (*present day Turkey*), and was famous for his defense of the true faith against the Arians, for the many miracles he wrought, and for his charity, especially to the young. Santa Claus is a corruption of his name, and that legendry figure is derived from St. Nicholas' unobtrusive acts of generosity to young people in need. He died about 340.
7. St. Ambrose, Bishop, Confessor and Doctor, was a son of a noble Roman family. He entered the public service, and at an early age was made Governor of Northern Italy. While still a catechumen, he was elected Bishop of Milan and was consecrated on December 7th, 374. He devoted himself to study and pastoral work. He is considered one of the four great Doctors of the Western Church. He converted and baptized St. Augustine. He died on April 4, 397.
8. The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary.
The feast of the Conception of the Virgin was celebrated in the East on December 9th since the eighth century, and in Ireland on May 3rd from the ninth century, and in England in the eleventh century. The feast of the Immaculate Conception on December 8th spread in the West after the twelfth century. In 1476 it was approved for the Universal Church, and in 1854 the doctrine of the Immaculate Conception was declared as an article of revealed faith by Pius IX.
From all eternity God had chosen Mary to be the Mother of the Word Incarnate ("In the womb, before the daystar, I begot Thee." Ps 109). He therefore decked her in holiness, and preserved from all stain of sin, making her a worthy dwelling place for His Son. The immaculate conception, preserved her from original sin, cannot therefore, be disassociated from our redemption by Christ, and so the feast of the Immaculate Conception, coming in the course of Advent, heralds the splendors of the Incarnation of the Redeemer, Who could not come to us through sin. The doctrine is summed up and contained in the Angel's salutation which we read in the Gospel of St. Luke chapter 1.
9. Blessed Juan Diego, Visionary of the Apparition of Our Lady of Guadalupe. Our Blessed Mother appeared to Juan Diego Cuatitlatotzin (meaning "the talking eagle"), at Tepayac,

December

near Mexico City four times, from December 9-12, 1531. At the last appearance, Our Lady sent Juan to the top of Tepayac hill, and there he found beautiful roses (in December). She arranged them in his tilma, and sent him to the Bishop, with a request that a Basilica be built there in her honor. When the Bishop saw the magnificent picture of our Lady in the tilma, he immediately believed, and consented to the Heavenly requests. Known for his holiness, Juan Diego devoted himself to the pilgrims who came to see the miraculous image of Mary imprinted on his cloak. (*See 12 Dec*).

10. St. Melchiades, Pope and Martyr, is honored as a martyr because of the torments he suffered for the faith in the reign of Diocletian. He was Pope when Constantine restored peace and toleration to the Church in 312, but died two years later.
11. St. Damasus I, Pope and Confessor, was born in Rome of Spanish parents. He became Pope in 366 and reigned 18 years. He confirmed the acts of the Second General Council. He combated the antipope Ursinus, the Arian and Donatist heresies, defended the Roman primacy, directed St. Jerome to produce the Latin Vulgate, developed the Roman liturgy and restored the tombs of the martyrs. He died in 384.
12. Apparition of Our Lady of Guadalupe. Our Blessed Mother appeared to Juan Diego at Tepayac, near Mexico City from December 9-12, 1531. She was known to the Aztecs as Teccoatlatlope (or de Guadalupe in Spanish), meaning "She will crush the serpent of stone." She was declared the Patroness of the Americas by Pope Pius XII. (*See 9 Dec*).
13. St. Lucy, Virgin and Martyr, was a rich Sicilian maiden who during the persecution under Diocletian distributed all her wealth to the poor. She was denounced as a Christian to the authorities, and bravely endured death under torments.
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- 15.
16. St. Eusebius, Bishop and Martyr, was bishop of Vercelli in Northern Italy from 340 to 370 and is honored as martyr because, though he did not die for the faith, he suffered great hardships at the hands of the Arians, against whom he defended the true faith in Christ's divinity. With St. Hilary of Poitiers (see Jan 14th) he devoted his last years to extirpating the Arian heresy. He was one of the first who introduced monasticism into the Western Church.
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21. St. Thomas, Apostle, also called Didymus, twin, was a Jew of Galilee chosen by our Lord as one of the Twelve. His refusal to believe in the resurrection of our Lord until he had seen and felt the print of the nails was of immense help to us, as it removed all grounds for disbelief. He made his famous declaration: "My Lord and my God!" (*Jn 20:28*). He preached to the Persians after the separation of the Apostles and then, it is said, went on to India and suffered death for the faith there.
- 22.
- 23.
- 24.
25. The Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ. We also remember the Feast of St. Anastasia. On Christmas Day the period of penance and preparation gives place to the festival of joy and light: the Church rejoices in the birth of the Divine Redeemer. In the early centuries the birth and manifestation to the Magi were celebrated in one feast, but now in the Western Church they are separated, and following an ancient tradition, the birth of our Lord is celebrated on December 25th.
In the Church of St. Mary Major at Rome is preserved the precious relic of the boards of the manger which formed a cradle for the Divine Infant when He was born in the cave at Bethlehem.

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The First Mass celebrates the human birth of the Baby Jesus, and the adoration of the shepherds. Christ came in the midst of darkness to illumine the world.

The Second Mass celebrates the Divinity of the newborn Child receiving the adoration of the shepherds.

The Third Mass celebrates the eternal generation of the Word, the Second Person of the Divine Trinity, Who is born of the Father, not in time, but from eternity and eternally by an ineffable mystery.

St. Anastasia, Martyr was a Roman Matron who died for the faith in the persecution of Diocletian.

26. St. Stephen, First Martyr, was selected by the Apostles as the first of the deacons, His zeal in preaching the Gospel aroused the fury of the Jews, and they put him to death. As the first of the martyrs, his feast is associated closely with that of our Lord.

27. St. John the Apostle and Evangelist was the son of Zebedee and Salome, brother to James the Greater. He was called the Beloved disciple of Christ and stood by at His Crucifixion. He was the disciple whom Christ specially loved, and gave His Mother into his care, and thus through him, Jesus gave His Mother to be our Mother too, the Mother of creation. St. John wrote the Fourth Gospel, three Epistles, and the Apocalypse. He was preserved miraculously from death when he was put in a pot of boiling oil. He lived to such a great age that there arose among the Christians the belief that he should not die.

He wrote the Gospel after the other Evangelists, about sixty-three years after our Lord's Ascension, that is in 96 A.D. Many things that they had omitted were supplied by him. The original was written in Greek, and by the Greeks he is titled: The Divine. St. Jerome relates that, when he was earnestly requested by the brethren to write the Gospel, he answered he would do it, if by ordering a common fast, they would all put up their prayers together to the Almighty God, which being ended replenished with the clearest and fullest revelation coming from Heaven, he burst forth into that preface: IN THE BEGINNING WAS THE WORD.

His Gospel emphasizes that Jesus is the Messiah and the Son of God. It may be divided into 7 parts 1. The Holy Ghost descends (to point out the Messiah) 1:31-34.

2. Christ's Glory is manifest in His work 1:35-12:50.

3. Christ's Glory is manifest in His word. Ch 13-17.

4. Death. Ch 18,19.

5. Resurrection 20:1-10.

6. Apparitions 20:11-20.

7. Apostles sent out with the gifts of the Spirit and power. 20:21-29.

The same vein of divine love and charity towards our neighbor, which runs throughout the Gospel, is found also in his Epistles. He confirms the two principal mysteries of faith: The mystery of the Trinity, and the mystery of the Incarnation of Jesus Christ the Son of God. The sublimity and excellence of the evangelical doctrine he declares: "And this commandment we have from God, that he, who loves God, love also his brother" (1Jn 4:21). And again: "For this is the charity of God, that we keep his commandments, and His commandments are not heavy" (1Jn 5:3). He shows how to distinguish the children of God from those of the devil, marks out those who should be called Antichrists. He describes the turpitude and gravity of sin. He shows how the sinner may hope for pardon. He exhorts us to love one another. But with heretics to have no society, even not to salute them. They were written, about sixty-six years after our Lord's Ascension, in 99 A.D.

28. The Holy Innocents, Martyrs. These were the little children who were massacred by Herod

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in order to destroy the predicted Messiah and King. Each of them received wounds and death intended for the Son of Mary. They were martyrs, but unknowing. By the holiness of our lives, we should bear witness to the Divinity of Christ, as these holy innocent children did by their death.

29. St. Thomas Becket, Bishop and Martyr, was the Archbishop of Canterbury in England and strenuously opposed the attempts of the King of England, Henry II, to exercise jurisdiction in the affairs of the Church. He was murdered in his cathedral at Canterbury on December 29th, 1170. Until the time of Henry VIII, his tomb was the center of pilgrimage, and still today the stain of his blood can be seen at the spot where he was murdered.
30. Feast of the Holy Family. In their lowly dwelling at Nazareth, by practicing the domestic virtues of charity, obedience, mutual help and regard, Jesus, Mary, and Joseph hallowed family life. There too they constantly found joy and peace in recollection and prayer in common. May the great family of believers, practice here on earth, the virtues of the Holy Family, so meriting a life in their blessed company in Heaven.
31. Patronage of Saint Joseph, the husband of Mary, Foster-father of Our Lord; and St. Sylvester
God the Father appointed Saint Joseph to be His representative and care for His family. He gave him the honor of paternity to the Incarnate Word, and willed that Joseph should call Jesus, by the Name of Son, the Name which is reserved in Heaven to the Uncreated Word. The Holy Trinity endowed Joseph with all the supernatural graces necessary for bearing the name of father of Jesus, with dignity and propriety. In giving to Joseph the name of father of the Son of God, the Trinity also gave him the heart of a true father, the love of a father, the authority of a father, and the care and solicitude of a father.
St. Sylvester I, Pope and Confessor, was pope from 314 to 335, during which time the Emperor Constantine put an end to the era of persecution, and granted freedom to the Church. He presided by legates over the first General Council at Nicea in 325, which condemned the Arians, and defined the Catholic Doctrine of the Trinity. Helped by the Emperor Constantine, he built the three great basilicas of Rome, St. John Lateran, St. Peter's, and St. Paul's.

Heresies

Albigensian heresy denies that the Holy Ghost dwells in man.

Arian heresy denies the true divinity of Christ.

Eutychian heresy (same as Nestorian), denies the union of human and divine natures in the person of Christ.

Jansenism heresy, was propagated by a French bishop who favored the Calvinist heresy which stated that grace was impressed upon man by God.

Monothelite heresy denies the Trinity and accepts only one God, but no Three Persons in One.

Nestorian heresy, denies the union of human and divine natures in the person of Christ.

Pelagian heresy stated that Adam's sin injured only himself, and that grace was not necessary or even possible. He made grace to consist simply in the gift of nature, and especially of free will. It said that infants might be baptized so that they could have union with Christ, but they did not have original sin.

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 Feast of Circumcision of Our Lord, *Jan 1*

Feast of Epiphany, *Jan 6*
 Feast of Exaltation of The Holy Cross, *Sept 14*
 Feast of Immaculate Heart of Mary, *May Sat, following 2nd Sunday after Pentecost*
 Feast of Immaculate Heart of the Blessed Virgin Mary, *Aug 22*
 Feast of Immaculate Conception of Blessed Virgin Mary, *Dec 8*
 Feast of Kingship of Our Lord Jesus Christ, *Last Sunday in Oct*
 Feast of Most Holy Name of Jesus, *(Jan 2nd - 5th), Jan*
 Feast of Most Holy Name of Mary, *Sept 12*
 Feast of the Holy Rosary of the Blessed Virgin Mary, *Oct 7*
 Feast of the Motherhood of Mary, *Jan 3*
 Feast of the Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, *Dec 25*
 Feast of Our Lady of Akita, *April 22*
 Feast of Our Lady of Fatima, *Oct 13*
 Feast of Our Lady of Garabandal, *Nov 13*
 Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, *Dec 12*
 Feast of Our Lady of Knock, *Aug 21*
 Feast of Our Lady of La Salette, *Sept 19*
 Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes, *Feb 11*
 Feast of Our Lady of Mount Carmel, *Jul 16*
 Feast of Our Lady of Ransom, *Sept 24*
 Feast of Our Lady of Medjugore, *June 24*
 Feast of Our Lady of the Snows, *Aug 2*
 Feast of Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary, *Nov 21*
 Feast of Presentation of Our Lord, *Feb 2*
 Feast of Purification of the Blessed Virgin Mary, *Feb 2*
 Feast of Queenship of Mary, *May 31*
 Feast of Sacred Heart of Jesus, *May Friday following Second Sunday after Pentecost*
 Feast of Seven Dolours of the Blessed Virgin Mary, *Mar 31*
 Feast of Seven Sorrows of The Blessed Virgin Mary, *Sept 15*
 Feast of Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God, *Oct 11*
 Feast of the Holy Trinity, *May First Sunday after Pentecost.*
 Feast of the Holy Family, *Dec 30*
 Feast of Transfiguration of Our Lord Jesus Christ, *Aug 6*
 Feast of Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary, *Jul 2*
 Felicissimus and Agapitus, *Deacons, Martyrs Aug 6*
 Felicity, *Martyr, Nov 23*
 Felix, *Priest and Martyr, Jan 14*
 Felix of Valois, *Confessor, Nov 20*
 Felix, *Pope and Martyr, May 30*
 Fidelis of Sigmaringen, *Priest and Martyr, Apr 24*
 Finding of the Holy Cross, *May 3*
 First Martyrs of the Church of Rome *Jun 30*
 Forty Martyrs, *Mar 10*
 Frances of Rome, *Widow, Religious, Mar 9*
 Francis of Assisi, *Confessor, Oct 4*
 Francis of Pallia, *Confessor, Apr 2*
 Francis Borgia, *Confessor, Oct 10*
 Francis de Sales, *Bishop, Confessor and Doctor, Jan 29*
 Francis Xavier, *Confessor, Dec 3*
 Gabriel of Our Lady of Sorrows, *Confessor, Feb 27*
 Gabriel, *Archangel, Mar 24*
 George, *Martyr, Apr 23*
 Gertrude, *Virgin, Nov 16*

Giles, *Abbot, Sept 1*
 Gregory the Great, *Pope, Confessor and Doctor, Mar 12*
 Gregory Nazianzen, *Bishop, Confessor and Doctor, May 9*
 Gregory the Wonder-Worker, *Bishop and Confessor, Nov 17*
 Gregory VII, *Pope and Confessor, May 25*
 Hedwig, *Widow, Oct 16*
 Hennas, *Martyr, Nov 11*
 Henry, King *Jul 13*
 Hennenegild, *Martyr, Apr 13*
 Hilarion, *Abbot, Oct 21*
 Hilary, *Bishop and Doctor, Jan 14*
 Hippolytus, *Priest and Martyr, Aug 13*
 Holy Guardian Angels, *Oct 2*
 Holy Innocents, *Martyrs, Dec 28*
 Holy Maccabees, *Martyrs Aug 1*
 Hyacinth, *Confessor, Aug 17*
 Ignatius of Antioch, *Bishop and Martyr, Feb 1*
 Ignatius of Loyola, *Confessor, Jul 31*
 Imprinting of the Holy Stigmata on St. Francis, *Confessor Sept 17*
 Innocent I, *Pope and Confessor, Jul 28*
 Irenaeus, *Bishop and Martyr, Jun 28*
 Isaac Jogues and John de Brebeuf, *Priests and Martyrs, Oct 19*
 Isidore, *Bishop, Confessor and Doctor, Apr 4*
 Isidore, *Farmer, May 15*
 James, *Apostle, Jul 25*
 James "the less," *Apostle May 3*
 Jane Frances de Chantal, *Widow and Religious, Aug 21*
 Januarius, *Bishop and Martyr, Sept 19*
 Jerome Emiliani, *Confessor, Jul 20*
 Jerome, *Confessor and Doctor, Sept 30*
 Joachim and Anne, *parents of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Jul 26*
 Joan of Arc, *Virgin, Mystic, Martyr and heroine, May 30*
 John and Paul, *Martyrs, June 26*
 John, *Apostle and Evangelist, Dec 27*
 John Baptist de la Salle, *Confessor, May 15*
 John before the Latin Gate, *May 6*
 John Bosco, *Confessor, Jan 31*
 John Chrysostom, *Bishop, Confessor and Doctor Jan 27*
 John Damascene, *Confessor and Doctor, Mar 27*
 John Eudes, *Confessor, Aug 19*
 John Fisher, *Bishop and Martyr, Jul 9*
 John Gulabert, *Abbot, Jul 12*
 John I, *Pope and Martyr, May 27*
 John Leonardi, *Confessor, Oct 9*
 John Mary Vianney, *Confessor, Aug 9*
 John Neumann, *Bishop, Jan 4*
 John of Kanty, (Cantius), *Confessor, Oct 20*
 John of Capistrano, *Confessor, Mar 28*
 John of Matha, *Confessor, Feb 8*
 John of God, *Confessor, Mar 8*
 John of the Cross, *Confessor and Doctor, Nov 24*
 John the Baptist, birth *Jun 24*
 John the Baptist, Beheading, *Martyr, Aug 29*

Josaphat, *Bishop and Martyr, Nov 14*
 Joseph Calasanz (Calasanctius), *Confessor, Aug 26*
 Joseph of Cupertino, *Confessor, Sept 18*
 Joseph, Feast of Saint, Guardian of Our Saviour, *Jan 4*
 Joseph, Feast of Saint, Solemnity, *Mar 19*
 Joseph, Feast of Saint, Spouse of the Virgin Mary, *Feb 3*
 Joseph Feast of Saint, the Worker, *May 1*
 Joseph, Feast of Patronage of Saint, Foster-father of Our Lord, *Dec 31*
 Juan Diego, *Visionary, Dec 9*
 Jude, *Apostle, Oct 28*
 Justin, *Martyr, Apr 14*
 Lawrence, *Deacon and Martyr, Aug 10*
 Lawrence of Brindisi, *Capuchin Confessor, and Doctor, Jul 21*
 Leo the Great, *Pope, Confessor and Doctor, Apr 11*
 Leo II, *Pope and Confessor, Jul 3*
 Linus, *Pope and Martyr, Sept 23*
 Louis, *King and Confessor, Aug 25*
 Lucius, *Pope and Martyr, Mar 4*
 Lucy, *Virgin and Martyr, Dec 13*
 Luke, *Evangelist, Oct 18*
 Malachy, *Bishop and Confessor, Nov 3*
 Marcellinus, *Pope and Martyr, Apr 26*
 Marcellinus, Peter and Erasmus, *Martyrs, Jun 2*
 Marcellus I, *Pope, Martyr, Jan 16*
 Margaret Mary Alacoque, *Virgin, Oct 17*
 Margaret, Queen, *Jun 10*
 Maria Goretti, *Virgin and Martyr, Jul 6*
 Marius, Martha, Audifax and Abachum, *Martyrs, Jan 19*
 Mark, *Evangelist, Apr 25*
 Martha, *Virgin, Jul 29*
 Martin of Tours, *Bishop and Confessor, Nov 11*
 Martin de Porres, *Religious, Nov 3*
 Martin, *Pope and Martyr, Nov 12*
 Martina, *Virgin and Martyr, Jan 30*
 Mary Magdalene, *Jul 22*
 Mary Magdalene de Pazzi, *Virgin, May 29*
 Matthew, *Apostle and Evangelist, Sept 21*
 Matthias, *Apostle, Feb 24*
 Maurus, *Abbot, Jan 15*
 Maximilian Mary Kolbe, *Priest and Martyr, Aug 14*
 Melchiades, *Pope and Martyr, Dec 10*
 Methodius, *Bishop and Martyr, Feb 14*
 Michael, Gabriel, Raphael, Sadiel, Ariel, Jophiel and Gratiel, *Archangels, Sept 29*
 Monica, *Widow, Aug 27*
 Most Precious Body and Blood of Our Lord, Jesus Christ, *Jul 1*
 Mother Teresa of Calcutta, *Missionary Founder, Sept 5*
 Nabor and Felix, *Martyrs, Jul 12*
 Nazarius and Celsus, *Martyrs, Jul 28*
 Nereus, Achilleus, Domitilla and Pancras, *Martyrs, May 12*
 Nicholas, *Bishop and Confessor, Dec 6*
 Nicholas of Tolentino, *Confessor, Sept 9*
 Norbert, *Bishop and Confessor, Jun 6*
 Oliver Plunket, *Bishop and Martyr, July 1*

Padre Pie, *Confessor, Stigmatist, Sept 23*
 Pancras, *Martyr, May 12*
 Pantaleon, *Martyr, Jul 27*
 Pascal Baylon, *Confessor, May 17*
 Patrick, *Bishop and Confessor, Mar 17*
 Paul Miki and Companions, *Martyrs, Feb 6*
 Paul Chong, *Martyr, Sept 20*
 Paul, *Apostle, Jun 29*
 Paul, the first Hermit, *Confessor, Jan 15*
 Paul of the Cross, *Confessor, Apr 28*
 Paulinus of Nola, *Bishop and Confessor, Jun 22*
 Perpetua and Felicity, *Martyrs, Mar 6*
 Peter, *Apostle, Jun 29*
 Peter Celestine, *Pope and Confessor, May 19*
 Peter's Chains, *Aug 1*
 Peter Chrysologus, *Bishop, Confessor and Doctor, Dec 4*
 Peter Damian, *Bishop, Confessor and Doctor, Feb 23*
 Peter Julian Eymard, *Priest, Aug 2*
 Peter, *Martyr, Apr 29*
 Peter Mary Chanel, *Confessor and Martyr, Apr 27*
 Peter Nolasco, *Confessor, Jan 28*
 Peter of Alexandria, *Bishop and Martyr, Nov 26*
 Peter of Alcantara, *Confessor, Oct 19*
 Philip, *Apostle, May 3*
 Philip Benizi, *Confessor, Aug 23*
 Philip Neri, *Confessor, May 26*
 Philomena, *Martyr, Aug 11*
 Pius I, *Pope, Martyr, Jul 11*
 Pius V, *Pope, Confessor, May 5*
 Pius X, *Pope, Aug 20*
 Placid and Companions, *Martyrs, Oct 5*
 Polycarp, *Bishop and Martyr, Jan 26*
 Pontian, *Pope and Martyr, Aug 13*
 Primus and Felician, *Martyrs, Jun 9*
 Prisca, *Virgin and Martyr, Jan 18*
 Protus and Hyacinth, *Martyrs, Sept 11*
 Raphael, *Archangel, Oct 24*
 Raymond of Pennafort, *Confessor, Jan 23*
 Raymund Nonnatus, *Confessor, Aug 31*
 Remy, *Bishop and Confessor, Oct 1*
 Robert Bellarmine, *Bishop, Confessor and Doctor, May 13*
 Romuald, *Abbot, Jun 19*
 Romuald, *Founder, Feb 7*
 Rose of Lima, *Virgin, Aug 30*
 Rufina and Secunda, *Virgins and Martyrs, Jul 10*
 Sabbas, *Abbot, Dec 5*
 Saturninus, *Martyr, Nov 29*
 Scholastica, *Virgin, Feb 10*
 Sebastian, *Martyr, Jan 20*
 Sernin (Saturninus), *Bishop and Martyr, Nov 29*
 Seven Holy Brothers, *Martyrs, Jul 10*
 Seven Holy Founders of the Order of Servites, *Feb 12*
 Silverius, *Pope and Martyr, Jun 20*

Simeon, *Bishop and Martyr, Feb 18*
 Simon, *Apostle, Oct 28*
 Sixtus II, *Pope and Martyr, Aug 6*
 Soter and Caius, *Popes and Martyrs, Apr 22*
 Stanislaus, *Bishop and Martyr, May 7*
 Stephen, *First Martyr, Dec 26*
 Stephen, *First Martyr, Finding of his bones and removal to Rome Aug 3*
 Stephen, *King and Confessor, Sept 2*
 Stephen, *Pope and Martyr, Aug 1*
 Susanna, *Martyr, Aug 11*
 Sylvester, *Abbot, Nov 26*
 Sylvester I, *Pope and Confessor, Dec 31*
 Teresa of Jesus, *Virgin and Doctor, Oct 15*
 Theodore, *Martyr, Nov 9*
 Theresa of the Child Jesus, *Virgin, Oct 3*
 Thomas, *Apostle, Dec 21*
 Thomas Aquinas, *Confessor and Doctor, Mar 7*
 Thomas Becket, *Bishop and Martyr, Dec 29*
 Thomas More, *Martyr, Jul 9*
 Thomas of Villanova, *Bishop and Confessor, Sept 22*
 Tiburitus, Valerian and Maximus, *Martyrs, Apr 14*
 Tiburtius, *Martyr, Aug 11*
 Timothy, *Bishop and Martyr, Jan 24*
 Titus, *Bishop and Martyr, Jan 24*
 Turibius de Mogrovejo, *Bishop, Mar 23*
 Ubald, *Bishop and Confessor, May 16*
 Urban I, *Pope and Martyr, May 25*
 Ursula, *Virgin and Martyr, Oct 21*
 Valentine, *Priest and Martyr, Feb 14*
 Venantius, *Martyr, May 18*
 Victor I, *Pope and Martyr, Jul 28*
 Vincent de Paul, *Confessor, Jul 19*
 Vincent, *Deacon and Martyr, Jan 22*
 Vincent Ferrer, *Confessor, Apr 5*
 Wenceslaus, *Martyr, Sept 28*
 William, *Abbot, Jun 25*
 Zephtrinus, *Pope and Martyr, Aug 26*