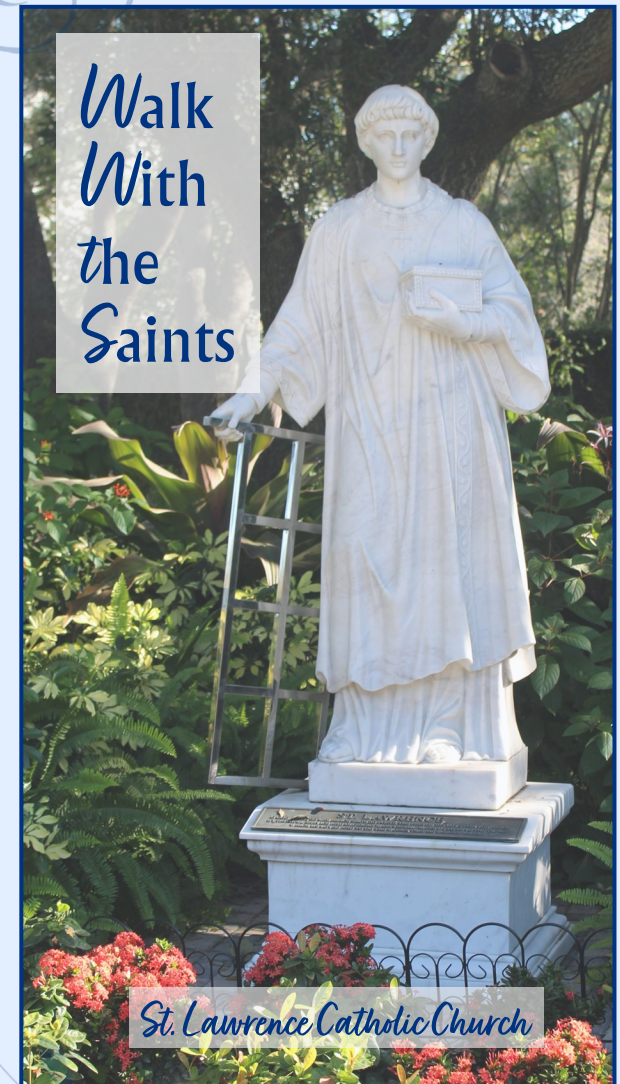


Map of Walk With the Saints




*Be perfect, therefore,
as your heavenly Father is perfect.*
(Mt. 5:48)



For an audio-guided meditation
and a campus map of
Walk With the Saints,
please scan the QR code.






St. Lawrence Parish's founding pastor, Monsignor Laurence E. Higgins, had been working on a plan for years to secure statues of saints he considered among the most important heroes of the Catholic faith. Thanks to the generosity and dedication of several long-time parishioners and friends, Monsignor's vision for a "Walk With the Saints" has come to fruition.

One day, after saying Mass, the Holy Spirit inspired Msgr. Higgins to refer to a book he hadn't read in years, St. Augustine's *The City of God*. St. Augustine wrote that life is a "tale of two cities," the Earthly City and the City of God. The earthly is consumed by a love of self and suppression of God, and the heavenly by the love of God and suppression of self.

"In reflecting on St. Augustine's thoughts, I could see our parishioners coming into the lot, parking their cars, getting out, leaving their worldly thoughts behind, and entering into the City of God," said Higgins. He envisioned a statue of St. Augustine outside the walls, his hands welcoming everyone through the piazza gates and into The City of God.

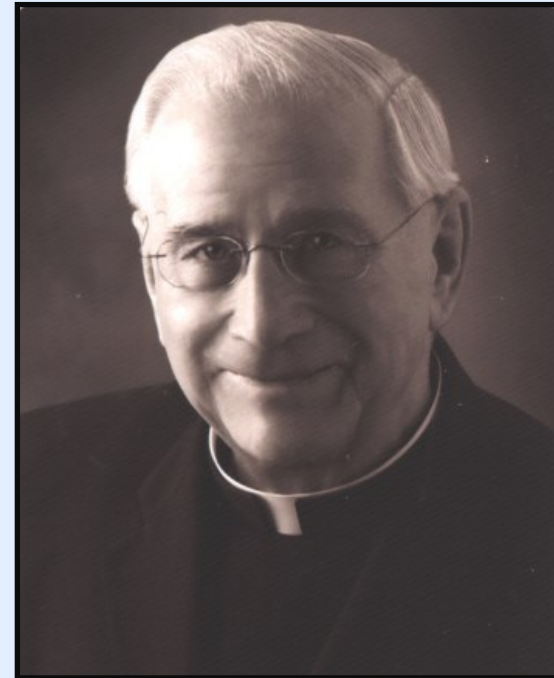
With nine other statues strategically placed inside the walls, families would be able to "walk and pray with the saints" before entering God's house in the church. Msgr. Higgins had long and carefully considered the saints he thought should be included. Thanks to Msgr. Higgins' vision for his "Walk With the Saints," we are all invited to experience the power of intercessory prayer and communion with these saints.

Be merciful, *spare us, O Lord!*
Be merciful, *graciously hear us, O Lord!*
From all evil, *O Lord, deliver us.*
From all sin, *O Lord, deliver us.*
From anger and hatred, *O Lord, deliver us.*
Through your death and resurrection, *O Lord, deliver us.*
In the day of judgment, *O Lord, hear us.*
That you would forgive us and all those we love, *O Lord, hear us.*
That you would grant peace and unity to all, *O Lord, hear us.*
That you would give rest to those who have died, *O Lord, hear us.*
That you would lift up our minds to heavenly desires, *O Lord, hear us.*
Son of God, *O Lord, hear us.*
Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world, *Spare us, O Lord.*
Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world, *Graciously hear us, O Lord.*
Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world, *Have mercy on us.*
Say the Lord's Prayer (*Our Father...*)
and
The Glory Be (*Glory Be to the Father...*).



The Litany of Saints

Lord have mercy. *Christ have mercy on us.*
Christ hear us. *Christ graciously hear us.*
God the Father, *have mercy on us.*
God the Son, *have mercy on us.*
God the Holy Spirit, *have mercy on us.*
Holy Trinity, *have mercy on us.*
Holy Mary, *pray for us.*
St. Michael, *pray for us.*
St. Gabriel, *pray for us.*
St. Raphael, *pray for us.*
All you holy angels and archangels, *pray for us.*
St. John the Baptist, *pray for us.*
St. Joseph, *pray for us.*
St. Abraham, *pray for us.*
All you holy Patriarchs and prophets, *pray for us.*
St. Peter, *pray for us.*
St. Paul, *pray for us.*
St. Andrew, *pray for us.*
St. James, *pray for us.*
St. John, *pray for us.*
St. Jude, *pray for us.*
St. Mary Magdalen, *pray for us.*
All you holy apostles and evangelists, *pray for us.*
All you holy martyrs, *pray for us.*
St. Anthony of Egypt, *pray for us.*
St. Sixtus, *pray for us.*
St. Lawrence, *pray for us.*
St. Ambrose, *pray for us.*
St. Monica, *pray for us.*
St. Augustine, *pray for us.*
St. Francis of Assisi, *pray for us.*
St. Anthony of Padua, *pray for us.*
St. Thomas More, *pray for us.*
St. Teresa of Ávila, *pray for us.*
St. Gianna Beretta Molla, *pray for us.*
All you men and women, Saints of God, *make intercession for us.*



Monsignor Laurence E. Higgins



St. Augustine of Hippo

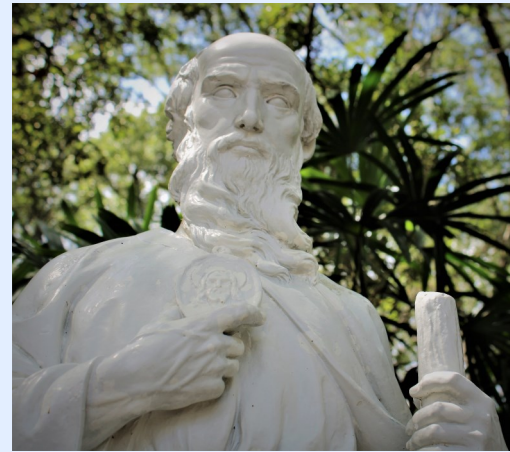
St. Augustine was born to a Latin-speaking, Berber family in the year 354 in the region of modern-day Algeria. His mother, St. Monica, was Christian, and his father pagan. Although his mother desired for him to become Christian, he was not baptized in his youth. At the age of 17, Augustine moved to Carthage, in modern-day Tunisia, to continue his education. He became a professor, took a mistress, and entered the cult of Manichaeism. His mother pleaded with him to marry in the Church, but instead he left for Rome, and then for Milan.

In Milan, St. Augustine met the learned and holy bishop St. Ambrose. After studying Plato, he left the Manichees, and at the urging of his mother, he left his mistress. Impressed by St. Ambrose but not yet convinced of the truth of Christianity, he moved to a house outside Milan to live with friends in prayer and study. While there he heard the story of St. Anthony of Egypt. He was moved to tears by the story and converted to Christianity. Along with his friends and his son Adeodatus, St. Augustine was baptized by St. Ambrose at the Easter Vigil in 387.

After the deaths of his son and his mother, St. Augustine returned to his homeland to live as a monk. He was ordained a priest and later, due to popular demand, the bishop of Hippo, where he died in 430 during the final stages of the Roman Empire. His vast writings have made him one of the greatest of the Doctors of the Church. The most important of his works include *City of God*, which inspired the courtyard of St. Lawrence parish, his autobiographical *Confessions*, and *On the Trinity*. His feast is celebrated on August 28th.

*"You have made us for yourself, O Lord,
our hearts are restless until they rest in You."*

St. Jude



St. Jude is the patron saint of desperate cases and lost causes. His feast is celebrated on October 28th.

*Saint Jude, help of the
hopeless, aid me in my
distress.*

*That by your intercession,
both priests and people of
the Church may obtain an
ardent zeal for the Faith of
Jesus Christ, we beseech you,
hear us. Amen.*

St. Francis of Assisi



Francis is the founder of all Franciscan orders and the patron saint of animals, ecologists, and merchants. His feast is celebrated on October 4th.

*Lord, make me an instrument of your peace:
where there is hatred, let me sow love; where there is injury, pardon;
where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope;
where there is darkness, light; where there is sadness, joy.
O divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled as to console,
to be understood as to understand, to be loved as to love.
For it is in giving that we receive, it is in pardoning that we are pardoned,
and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life. Amen.*

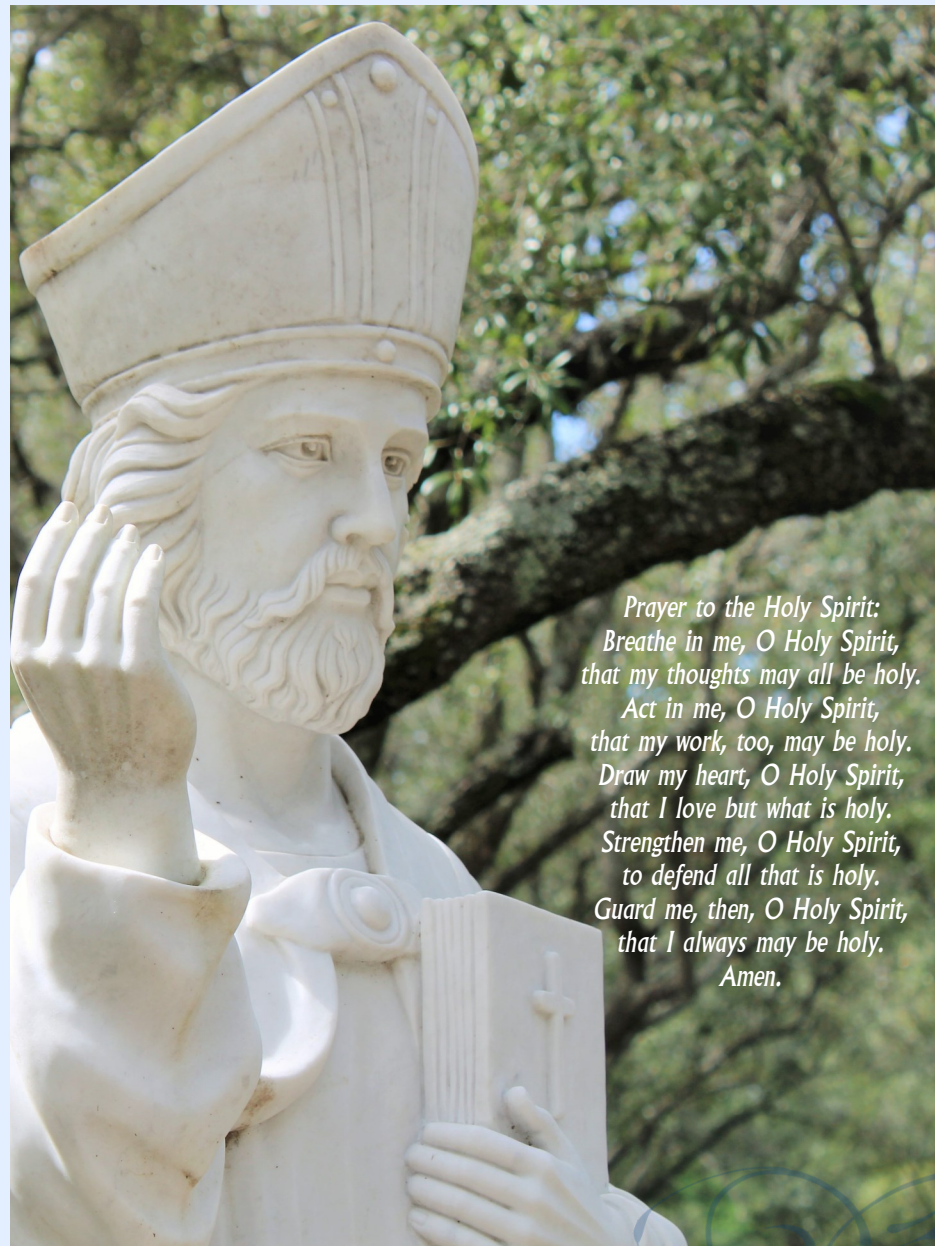
There are three additional statues on the grounds of St. Lawrence. They are of St. Jude, St. Francis of Assisi, and Mary, the Blessed Mother. These statues were installed years before a "Walk With the Saints" had begun as a project. Because of our close relationship with these saints, we include them in here and ask them to intercede for us.

Mary, the Blessed Mother



On December 8th, we honor Mary, our Mother. The Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception is a feast celebrating Mary's conception without sin.

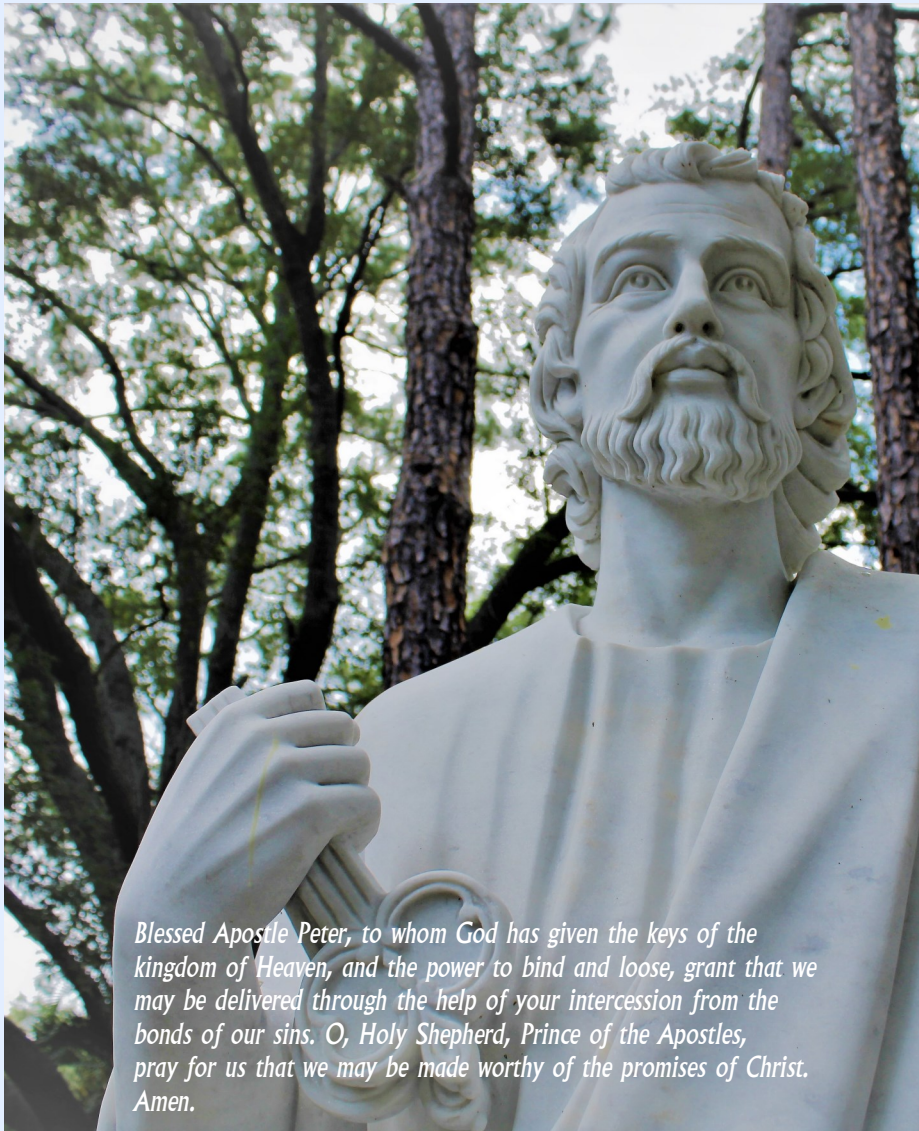
*Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee;
blessed art thou among women
and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.
Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners,
now and at the hour of our death.
Amen.*



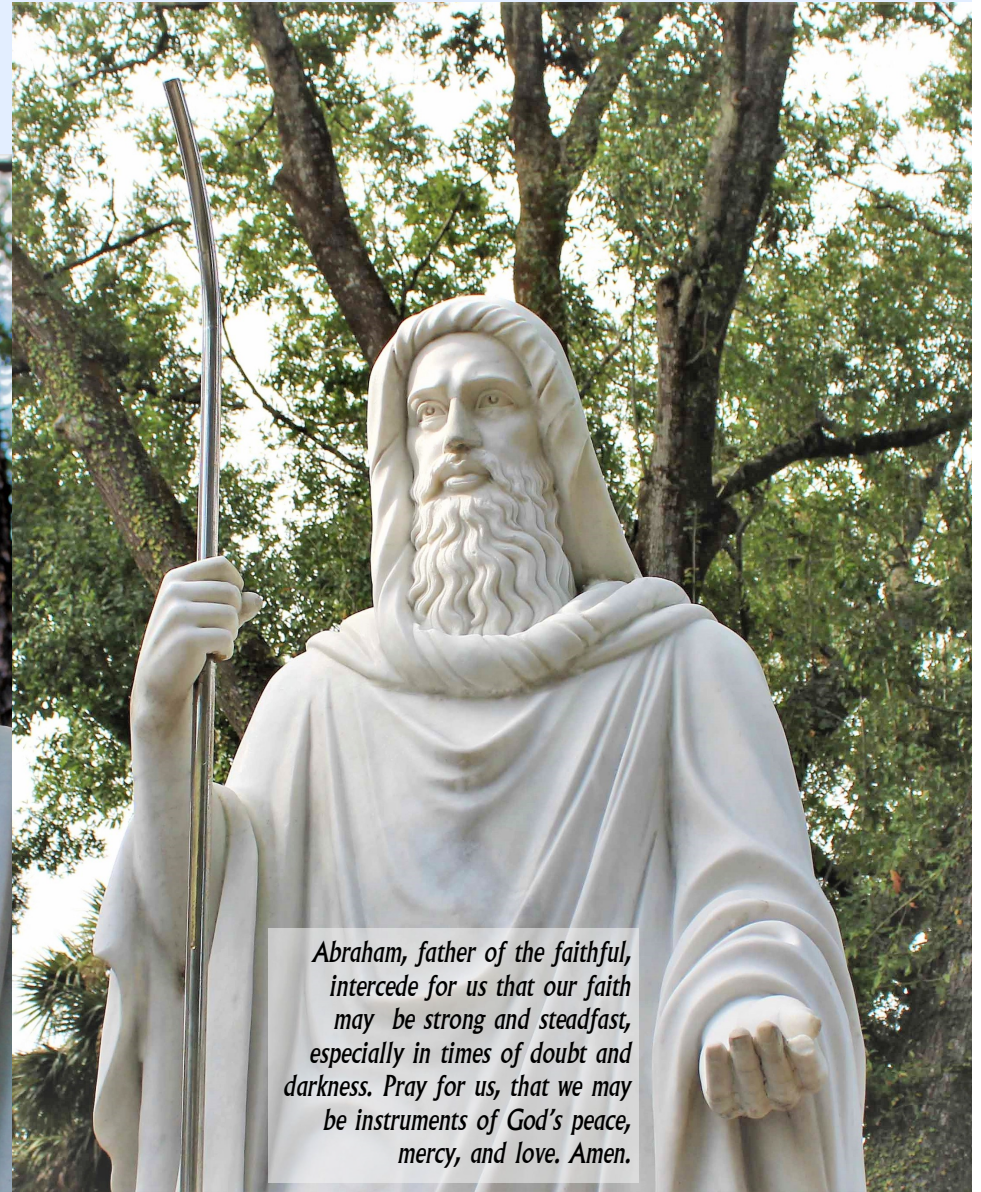
*Prayer to the Holy Spirit:
Breathe in me, O Holy Spirit,
that my thoughts may all be holy.
Act in me, O Holy Spirit,
that my work, too, may be holy.
Draw my heart, O Holy Spirit,
that I love but what is holy.
Strengthen me, O Holy Spirit,
to defend all that is holy.
Guard me, then, O Holy Spirit,
that I always may be holy.
Amen.*

"He is the father of us all."
-Rom. 4:16

St. Peter



Blessed Apostle Peter, to whom God has given the keys of the kingdom of Heaven, and the power to bind and loose, grant that we may be delivered through the help of your intercession from the bonds of our sins. O, Holy Shepherd, Prince of the Apostles, pray for us that we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ. Amen.



Abraham, father of the faithful, intercede for us that our faith may be strong and steadfast, especially in times of doubt and darkness. Pray for us, that we may be instruments of God's peace, mercy, and love. Amen.

Abraham

Abraham was born about 2000 years before Christ in the city of Ur in the region of modern-day Iraq and was named Abram. At the age of 75, God called him to leave his homeland and to journey west to the land of Canaan, which He would give to Abram's descendants; yet Abram had no children. Abram, with his wife Sarai and his nephew Lot, moved to Canaan as the Lord had told him and there made a covenant with the Lord who promised to bless him with countless descendants, to deliver them from slavery, and to establish them forever in the land of Canaan.

Abram brought with him great wealth. He intervened in the politics of the land. He prayed with Melchizedek, the priest-king of Salem, and gave to Melchizedek one tenth of his possessions. At the age of 86, he fathered by his wife's maid, Hagar, a son named Ishmael, who became the father of all Arabs. Such a practice was common at the time. Abram pleaded with God on behalf of the sinful cities of Sodom and Gomorrah, which God destroyed.

When Abram was 99, God named him Abraham, asked him and all the men of his household to be circumcised as a sign of the covenant, and blessed him with a son named Isaac by his wife, whom God renamed Sarah and who was 90 years of age. Some years later, God tested Abraham by asking him to take Isaac to Mt. Moriah and to sacrifice Isaac as a burnt offering, for child sacrifice was customary then in Canaan. Even though God had promised Abraham descendants through Isaac, Abraham obeyed God and prepared to sacrifice Isaac. Yet, at the last moment, God commanded him not to kill His son and commended Abraham for his faith.

After the death of Sarah, Abraham arranged for Isaac's marriage to his grandniece Rebekah. Abraham married again. He died at the age of 175 and was buried next to Sarah in the land of Canaan. Because he was willing to give up even his beloved son Isaac, he is considered the father in faith to all Christians, Muslims, and Jews.

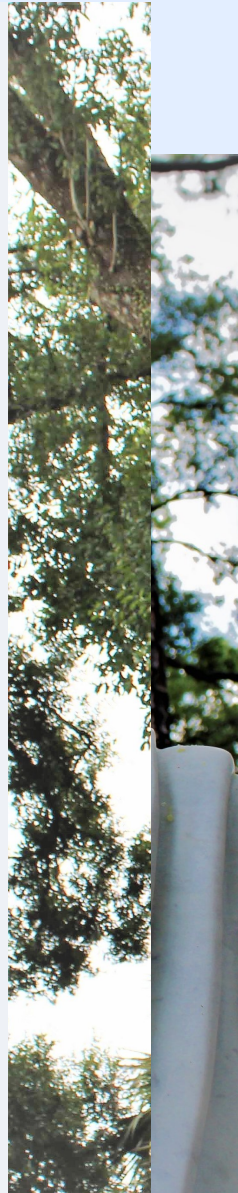
St. Peter was a Jewish fisherman, born with the name Simon, around the same time as Christ, from the northern part of what is today Israel. He was among the earliest and closest followers of Jesus, accompanying Him at the Transfiguration and the Garden of Gethsemane. When Jesus asked His disciples who He was, Simon answered, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." Jesus replied, "Blessed are you, Simon, son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father who is in heaven." Jesus renamed him Peter, which means "rock," and said to him, "On this rock I will build my church."

Although he had declared his faithfulness to Christ at the Last Supper, that very night St. Peter denied knowing Jesus three times, just as Jesus had foretold. After the Resurrection, Jesus reconciled St. Peter to Himself, asking him three times if he loved Him. Each time, St. Peter replied, "Yes, Lord, you know that I love you," and each time Christ commanded him, "Feed my sheep."

After Pentecost, St. Peter preached the Gospel boldly and brought many into the Church. As leader among the Apostles and the whole Church, he participated in the Council of Jerusalem. He welcomed Gentiles into the Church and permitted Christians to eat foods that the Mosaic Law had forbidden, having been corrected by St. Paul when he wavered in this decision. For seven years, St. Peter served as the first bishop of Antioch, and later as the first bishop of Rome, the first pope.

According to legend, upon hearing that the Roman Emperor Nero had ordered his execution, St. Peter set out to flee Rome. At the edge of the city, he saw Christ walking into Rome. He asked, "Where are you going, Lord?" Jesus answered, "I am going to be crucified again." St. Peter immediately returned to face his own crucifixion. Because he considered himself unworthy to be crucified like Christ, he was crucified upside down. His feast, shared with St. Paul, is celebrated on June 29th.

"You are Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it." (Mt. 16:18)

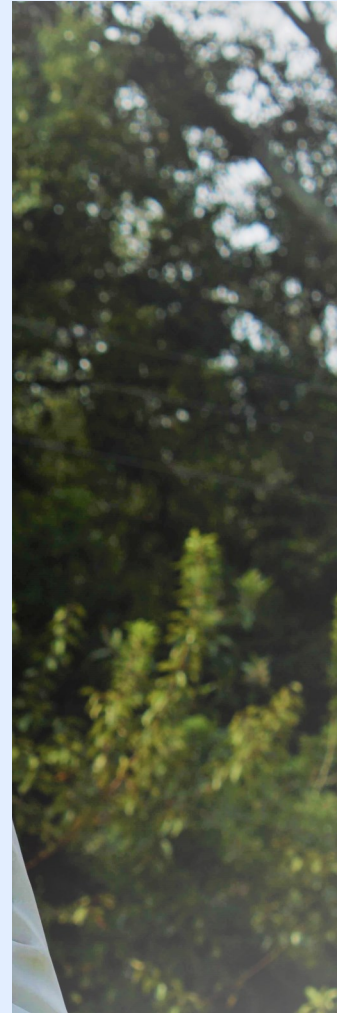


St. Lawrence

St. Lawrence is believed to have been born in the region of modern-day Spain in 225. He was ordained a deacon by Pope Sixtus II and made treasurer of the Church in Rome. In the year 258, the Roman Emperor Valerian had Pope Sixtus put to death, and the prefect of Rome demanded that Lawrence surrender the treasures of the Church. According to St. Ambrose, St. Lawrence requested three days to assemble the Church's treasures. During those days, he distributed the wealth of the Church among the poor, and then he presented to the prefect the sick and the poor of Rome, saying that these were the true treasures of the Church. In anger, the prefect ordered St. Lawrence to be grilled to death. Shortly before dying, St. Lawrence cried out, "Flip me over! I'm done on this side!" For his humor in the face of great suffering and death, he is honored as the patron of cooks and comedians. He is the patron of St. Lawrence Parish, and his feast is celebrated on August 10th.

O God, blessed Lawrence showed forth the fire of his love for You. Both by faithful service and glorious martyrdom. Make us to love the things which he loved and do the works that he taught. Amen.

"Whoever has God lacks nothing. God alone suffices."
- St. Teresa of Avila



St. Teresa was born in 1515 in Ávila, Spain. Zealous from her youth, she and her brother ran away from home when she was seven seeking to die as martyrs among the Moors, but they were prevented by their family. When she was grown, St. Teresa entered the Carmelites. She adopted rigorous practices of asceticism and prayer and studied the writings of mystics, as well as St. Augustine's *Confessions*. She also enjoyed many mystical and miraculous experiences and wrote extensively on these experiences and on her interior life. She grew dissatisfied with the laxity of her order later in her life. Against significant opposition, St. Teresa went on to found dozens of new Carmelite convents and monasteries which would observe greater poverty and a far stricter rule of life. In time, these became a new religious order called the Discalced Carmelites.

St. Teresa died in October 1582. Because in that year much of Europe switched from the Julian calendar to the Gregorian calendar, the dates from October 5th to October 14th were skipped. Consequently, St. Teresa died either late on October 4th or early on October 15th. Today, her feast is celebrated on October 15th.

For her extensive writings on prayer and mysticism, St. Teresa, became in 1970, the first woman named a Doctor of the Church.

St. Teresa of Avila



Lord, grant that I may always allow myself to be guided by You, always follow Your plans, and perfectly accomplish Your Holy Will. Grant that in all things, great and small, today and all the days of my life, I may do whatever You require of me. Help me respond to the slightest prompting of Your Grace, so that I may be Your trustworthy instrument for Your honor. May Your Will be done in time and in eternity by me, in me, and through me. Amen.



O Glorious Saint Lawrence, Martyr and Deacon, who, being subjected to the most bitter torments, did not lose your faith nor your constancy in confessing Jesus Christ, obtain in like manner for us such an active and solid faith, that we shall never be ashamed to be true followers of Jesus Christ, and fervent Christians in word and in deed, even in spite of trials, persecutions, or the sword. Amen.

St. Paul

O glorious St. Paul, who from a persecutor of Christianity, did become a most ardent apostle of zeal; and who to make known the Savior Jesus Christ to the ends of the world did suffer with joy imprisonment, scourging, stoning, shipwrecks and persecutions of every kind, and in the end did shed your blood to the last drop, obtain for us the grace to receive, as favors of the Divine Mercy, infirmities, tribulations, and misfortunes of the present life, so that the vicissitudes of this our exile will not render us cold in the service of God, but will render us always more faithful and fervent. Amen.



"If God is for us, who can be against us?" (Rom. 8:31)

*"The life of the body is the soul; the life of the soul is God."
- St. Anthony*



Dear Saint Anthony, I extend my prayer to you, confident in your compassionate goodness, which can listen and console everyone: be our intercessor before the Lord. You who led an evangelical life, help us to live ours with faith and Christian hope; you who preached the message of charity, inspire the whole of humanity to search for peace and brotherhood; you who supported, even through miracles, the suffering and all those who were facing injustice, please sustain the poor and the forsaken of this world. Bless especially our work and our families, taking away illnesses of body and soul; make us capable of always remaining close to God, both in times of joy or sorrow, with the faith and the love of a son. Amen.

St. Anthony of Padua

St. Anthony was born with the name Fernando in Lisbon, Portugal, in 1195. He entered religious life as a canon regular at the age of 15. Upon meeting friars of the newly founded Franciscan Order and hearing of the first martyrdoms among its members, he chose to become a Franciscan. He took the name Anthony, after St. Anthony of Egypt, and set out to become a missionary in Morocco. Because of poor health, he was sent to Italy.

One day, at an ordination, none of the priests had prepared a homily, so Anthony was asked to preach. He astonished everyone with his eloquence and deep learning. He soon became widely known for his preaching and for the working of miracles and was entrusted by St. Francis of Assisi with teaching new members of the Franciscan Order. He died at the young age of 36 at Padua in 1231. He is considered the patron saint of lost articles, for once a departing member of the Franciscan Order stole his annotated book of psalms; he prayed to find it, and the departing friar brought back his book and returned to the Order.

St. Anthony's feast is celebrated on June 13th.



St. Paul was born around the same time as Christ to a Greek-speaking, Jewish family of Pharisees from the city of Tarsus on the southern coast of what is modern-day Turkey. At first, he was opposed to Christianity and zealously persecuted the early Church, even approving the stoning of St. Stephen, the first Christian martyr.

While he journeyed to Damascus to imprison the Christians there, he saw a bright light and heard the voice of Jesus. For three days he was blind, and neither ate nor drank, and waited in Damascus. Then the Lord sent to St. Paul the Christian Ananias who laid his hands on him. Scales fell from Paul's eyes; he regained his sight and was baptized. After his conversion, St. Paul left Damascus to pray in the desert, to visit the Apostles in Jerusalem, and to live among the Christians of Antioch. From Antioch, he set out upon a series of missionary journeys to Cyprus, the region of modern-day Turkey, Macedonia, and Greece, and perhaps even as far west as Spain. He brought the Gospel to the Jews in these regions and also to many Gentiles. Conflict arose between Jewish and Gentile Christians about whether Gentile Christians ought to adopt Jewish customs; to settle the conflict, St. Paul was sent to consult with the Apostles at the Council of Jerusalem around the year 50.

In the year 57, St. Paul was arrested in Jerusalem and imprisoned for two years. When his case was reopened in 59, St. Paul exercised his right as a citizen of the Roman Empire to have his case heard in Rome.

After surviving a shipwreck at Malta, St. Paul spent two more years under house arrest in Rome, until he was beheaded, which was the form of execution reserved for citizens of the Empire, at the order of the Roman Emperor Nero.

As many as fourteen books of the New Testament are attributed to St. Paul, mostly letters that he wrote to the Christians in the cities he visited. Among the most zealous of evangelists, St. Paul spread the Christian faith among Greek-speaking Gentiles and throughout the Mediterranean world. His conversion is celebrated on January 25th, and his martyrdom, along with that of St. Peter, is celebrated on June 29th.

St. Gianna Beretta Molla

St. Gianna was born in northern Italy in 1922. She became a doctor and desired to join her brother as a missionary in Brazil, though poor health prevented her from this. She married Pietro Molla in 1955, and the two had three children. During her fourth pregnancy, a fibroma, or benign tumor, was discovered on her uterus. Although Church teaching permitted her to receive a hysterectomy, she chose to have the only fibroma removed, saving her child, but putting her life at risk from subsequent complications. She died one week after the birth of her fourth child. For her heroic choice, she is honored as the patroness of mothers, physicians, and the unborn.



*Blessed Monica, mother of St. Augustine, we give thanks to our Father in Heaven
Who looked with mercy upon your tears over your wayward son.
His conversion and heroic sanctification were the fruit of your prayers.
Dear St. Monica, we now ask you to pray with us for all those sons and daughters
that have wandered away from God, and to add your prayers to those of all mothers
who are worried over their children. Pray also for us that, following your example,
we may one day enjoy the eternal vision of our Father in Heaven. Amen.*



*Teach us how to remain close to our children, even those who have gone
astray, and to draw them to God through prayer. Amen.*

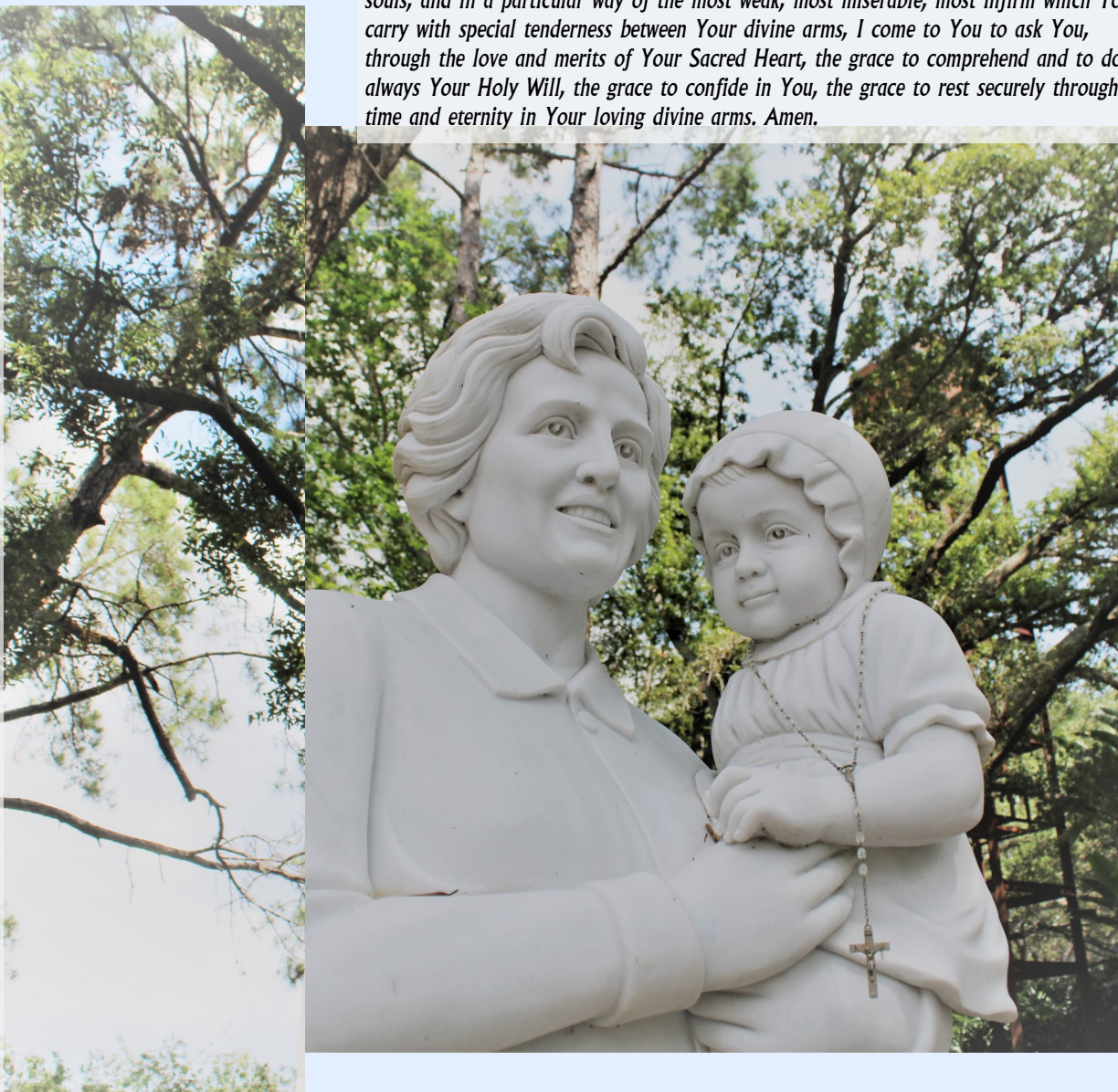
St. Monica

Jesus, I promise You to submit myself to all that You permit to befall me, make me only know Your will. My most sweet Jesus, infinitely merciful God, most tender Father of souls, and in a particular way of the most weak, most miserable, most infirm which You carry with special tenderness between Your divine arms, I come to You to ask You, through the love and merits of Your Sacred Heart, the grace to comprehend and to do always Your Holy Will, the grace to confide in You, the grace to rest securely through time and eternity in Your loving divine arms. Amen.

St. Monica was born to a Berber family in the region of modern-day Algeria in the 4th century. Though devout, she married in her youth a pagan official of the Roman Empire. She suffered from his immoral living, yet won his respect for her religious practice and his conversion upon his deathbed. They raised three children, the oldest of whom, St. Augustine, became one of the greatest thinkers in the history of the Church.

When Augustine, who was not yet baptized, imitated the immorality of his father, took a mistress, and joined the cult of Manichaeism, St. Monica sought the advice of a local bishop. The bishop told her that he himself had joined and then left the Manichees in his youth, that her son would not then be receptive to correction but would find his way out of the cult through his own study. Dissatisfied, she persisted. He told her to pray for Augustine, saying, "the son of such tears shall not perish." She prayed for him unceasingly, often pleading with him to abandon his immoral ways and to accept the Christian faith.

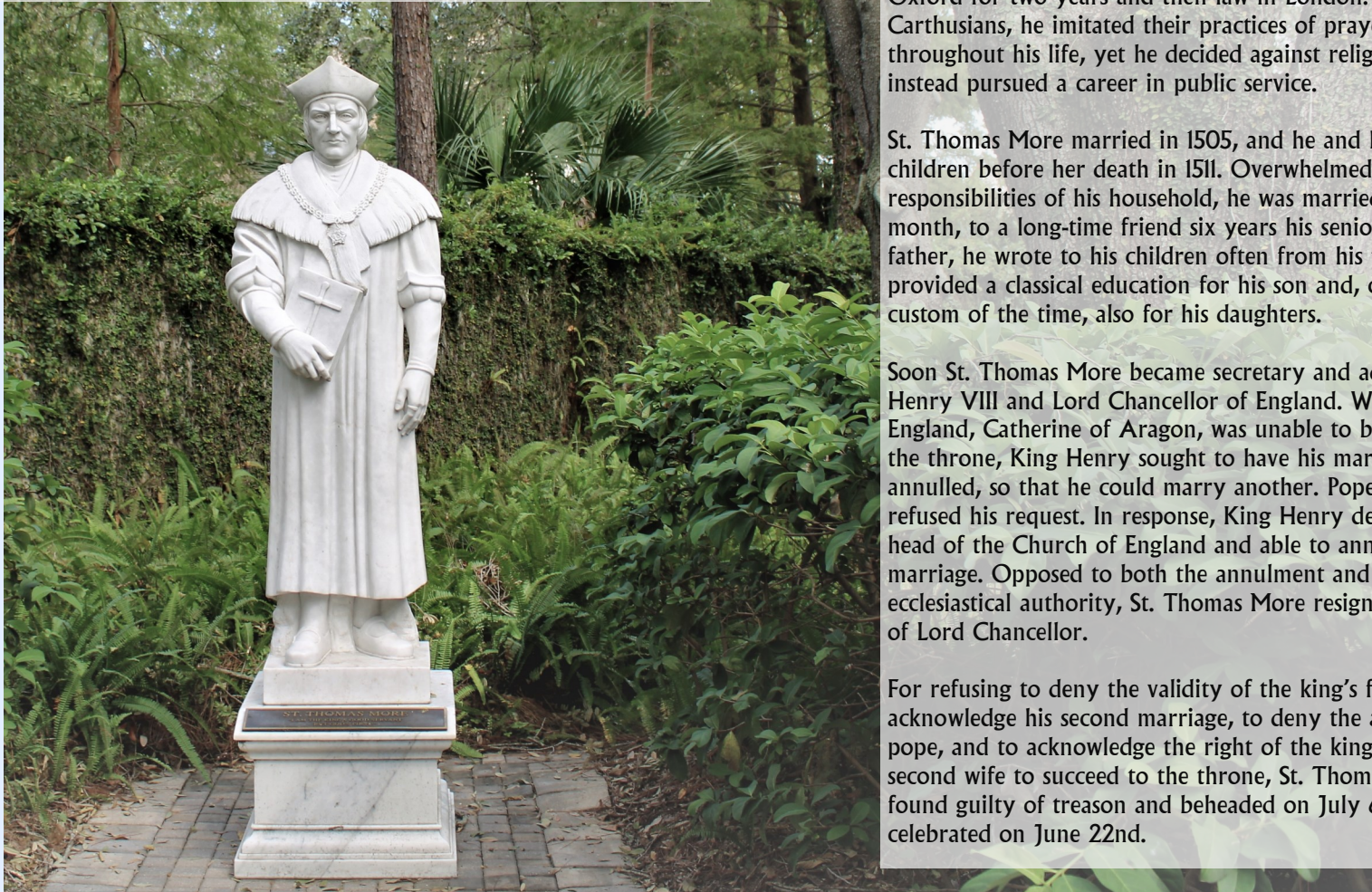
Wishing to escape her attention, Augustine even deceived his mother and departed for Rome without her. She followed him to Rome and then to Milan, where at last St. Augustine converted to Christianity. St. Augustine and St. Monica enjoyed deep friendship in the last months of her life. On their journey back to their homeland, St. Monica died in Ostia, Italy in the year 387. Her feast is celebrated on August 27th, the day before the feast of her son.



Patroness of Life: wife, mother, and physician

St. Thomas More

O Lord, give us a mind that is humble, quiet, peaceable, patient and charitable, and a taste of your Holy Spirit in all our thoughts, words and deeds. O Lord, give us a lively faith, a firm hope, a fervent charity, a love of You. Take from us all lukewarmness in meditation and all dullness in prayer. Give us fervor and delight in thinking of You, your grace, and your tender compassion toward us. Give us, good Lord, the grace to work for the things we pray for. Amen.



St. Thomas More was a lawyer and statesman born in London in 1478. In his youth, he served as a page to the Archbishop of Canterbury. He studied Greek and Latin at the University of Oxford for two years and then law in London. Impressed by the Carthusians, he imitated their practices of prayer and asceticism throughout his life, yet he decided against religious life and instead pursued a career in public service.

St. Thomas More married in 1505, and he and his wife had four children before her death in 1511. Overwhelmed with the responsibilities of his household, he was married again within a month, to a long-time friend six years his senior. An affectionate father, he wrote to his children often from his travels and provided a classical education for his son and, contrary to the custom of the time, also for his daughters.

Soon St. Thomas More became secretary and advisor to King Henry VIII and Lord Chancellor of England. When the Queen of England, Catherine of Aragon, was unable to bear a male heir to the throne, King Henry sought to have his marriage to her annulled, so that he could marry another. Pope Clement VII refused his request. In response, King Henry declared himself head of the Church of England and able to annul his own marriage. Opposed to both the annulment and the usurpation of ecclesiastical authority, St. Thomas More resigned from the office of Lord Chancellor.

For refusing to deny the validity of the king's first marriage, to acknowledge his second marriage, to deny the authority of the pope, and to acknowledge the right of the king's children by his second wife to succeed to the throne, St. Thomas More was found guilty of treason and beheaded on July 6, 1535. His feast is celebrated on June 22nd.

"I am the King's good servant but God's first." – St. Thomas More