

Lesson 8: All Saints

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<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=J-vOfFWUyIs&t=342s>

As Catholics, we begin November by remembering those who have died. We call the first two days of November All Saints Day and All Souls Day.

From the first centuries after Christ, Christians who died a martyr's death were considered saints, who live in God's presence forever. Every year, on the anniversary of the martyrs' deaths, Christians would visit their tombs and celebrate the Eucharist. This practice grew throughout the centuries to include remembering other outstanding Christians on the days they died. Soon the entire calendar was filled with memorials of the saints. In the ninth century, Pope Gregory IV designated November 1 as the day to remember all the saints living in God's presence.

November 1 is All Saints Day. The night before was called All Hallows' Eve, which was eventually shortened to Halloween. All Saints' Day celebrates both known and unknown saints. Saints are those who are believed to have reached heaven.

All Souls' Day, November 2, is dedicated to those who still have not reached heaven.

Some Famous Saints

St. Peter is a fisherman who became the head of the Church.

St. Paul of Tarsus, formerly named Saul, persecuted Christians before he became a preacher of the Gospel.

St. Francis of Assisi established the Order of Friars Minor called Franciscans. He was blessed with stigmata, the five wounds of Christ.

St. Dominic founded the Order of Friars Preachers known as Dominicans. His motto is the Latin word *veritas* meaning 'truth'.

St. Anthony of Padua was called the "Hammer of Heretics" because of his oratory skills. He is the patron saint of lost objects.

St. Thomas Aquinas is dubbed as the greatest intellectual mind of the Church. He is known for writing the *Summa Theologica*, volumes of books written about God.

St. Patrick of Ireland successfully converted paganism to Christianity during his time as a bishop in Ireland.

St. Therese of Lisieux is a Carmelite who entered the monastery at a young age and showed great spiritual maturity.

SAINTS FUN FACTS

by mario d. macari

IN SAINT MARK'S GOSPEL ACCOUNT, SAINT LONGINGUS WAS THE ROMAN CENTURION WHO EXCLAIMED "INDEED, THIS WAS THE SON OF GOD!" HAVING BEEN WOUNDED IN A PAST BATTLE, HE WAS CRUELLY MOCKED BY HIS FELLOW SOLDIERS FOR HIS NEAR BLINDNESS. WHEN HE PIERCED OUR LORD'S SIDE WITH HIS LANCE AND WAS SPATTERED BY THE HOLY BLOOD, LONGINGUS' SIGHT WAS MIRACULOUSLY RESTORED. LONGINGUS LEFT THE ARMY, CONVERTED, BECAME A MONK AND DIED A MARTYR FOR HIS LOVE AND DEVOTION TO OUR LORD.



SAIN'TS FUN FACTS

by mario d. macari

SAIN'T MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL, DEFEND US IN THE DAY OF BATTLE; BE OUR SAFEGUARD AGAINST THE WICKEDNESS AND SNARES OF THE DEVIL. MAY GOD REBUKE HIM, WE HUMBLY PRAY, AND DO YOU, O PRINCE OF THE HEAVENLY HOST, BY THE POWER OF GOD, CAST INTO HELL, SATAN AND ALL THE OTHER EVIL SPIRITS, WHO PROWL THROUGH THE WORLD, SEEKING THE RUIN OF SOULS!
AMEN!!

POPE LEO XIII PENNED THIS PRAYER IN 1884 IMMEDIATELY AFTER BEING ALLOWED BY GOD TO HEAR A CONVERSATION BETWEEN OUR LORD AND THE DEVIL.



SAIN'TS FUN FACTS

by mario d. macari

SAIN'T VINCENT DE PAUL WAS ONCE ACCUSED OF STEALING OVER 400 CROWNS BY HIS ROOM MATE, A JUDGE. THE SAINT REPLIED THAT HE WAS INNOCENT, THAT HE HAD BEEN BEDRIDDEN ALL DAY WITH ILLNESS, AND THAT GOD KNEW THE TRUTH. INCENSED, THE JUDGE SPREAD THE LIE ALL OVER PARIS.

SOMETIME LATER, THE REAL THIEF CONFESSED. HE HAD MADE A DELIVERY TO THEIR RESIDENCE, SAW THE MONEY IN THE CUPBOARD, AND TOOK IT.

THE JUDGE WAS SO EMBARRASSED AND FRAZZLED BY HIS MISTAKE AND HIS RUMOR MONGERING THAT HE INSTANTLY WROTE A LETTER OF APOLOGY TO THE GREAT SAINT OFFERING TO GET DOWN ON HIS KNEES AND BEG FORGIVENESS.



SAINTS FUN FACTS



St. Maximilian Kolbe was born in Poland and was a Franciscan. He founded the Immaculata Movement devoted to Our Lady.

While imprisoned by the Nazis, ten men were chosen to die in reprisal for a prisoner escape.

He offered himself in place of a young husband and father. He was the last of the ten to die after enduring two weeks of starvation, thirst and neglect.