



St. Michael Niche Saint Descriptions

Saint Padre Pio (1887-1968) Feast Day: September 23

Saint Padre Pio is the Patron Saint of civil defense volunteers and adolescents.

Saint Pio (Pius) of Pietrelchina was a Capuchin Catholic Priest from Italy. During his lifetime, he became known for bearing the stigmata (wounds of Christ). Despite being scrutinized by the church for much of his life, his reputation rose during the papacy of John Paul II; Padre Pio was canonized on June 16, 2002.

Saint Sebastian (c. 256-287) Feast Day: January 20

Saint Sebastian is the Patron Saint of soldiers and athletes.

Sebastian entered the Roman army because only there could he assist the martyrs without arousing suspicion. Finally, he was found out, brought before Emperor Diocletian and delivered to Mauritanian archers to be shot to death. His body was pierced with arrows, and he was left for dead. But he was found still alive by those who came to bury him. He recovered but refused to flee.

St. Thomas the Apostle (Didymus) (1st Century AD) Feast Day: July 3

Saint Thomas is the Patron Saint of architects and construction workers.

Thomas was born a Jew and was called to be one of the twelve Apostles. Best known for doubting the resurrection of Jesus and demanding to feel Jesus' wounds before being convinced (John 20: 24-29). After seeing Jesus alive, Thomas professed his faith in Jesus, exclaiming, "My Lord and my God!" presenting one of the first clear declarations of Christ's divinity.



Saint Veronica (1st Century AD) Feast Day: July 12

Saint Veronica is the Patron Saint of photographers and laundry workers.

Veronica was so moved by the sight of Christ carrying the cross to Golgotha, that she gave him her kerchief to wipe his brow, after which he handed it back imprinted with the image of his face. In Roman Catholicism, she is honored at the sixth station in the meditative Stations of the Cross.

Saint Joan of Arc (Jeanne d'Arc) (1412-1431) Feast Day: May 30

Saint Joan of Arc is the Patron Saint of soldiers and of France.

Joan was born to the French peasant class and was said to have heard the voices of St. Michael, St. Catherine, and St. Margaret. She is honored as a defender of the nation and for her role in the siege of Orléans and her insistence on the coronation of Charles VII. Joan was captured and burned at the stake at the age of 19. Her last word was, "Jesus". She was canonized as a Roman Catholic Saint more than 500 years later, on May 16, 1920.

Saint Kateri Tekakwitha (Lily of the Mohawks) (1656-1680) Feast Day: July 14

Saint Kateri is the Patron Saint of ecology and the environment.

Kateri is the Native American daughter of a Christian Algonquin woman and a non-Christian Mohawk warrior chief. Scarred during the smallpox epidemic that killed her family, she converted to Catholicism at age 19. Taking a vow of perpetual virginity, she left her village and lived the remaining 5 years of her life in a Jesuit mission village. She is the first Native American to be declared a Saint. Canonized on October 21, 2012.



Saint Lawrence (225-258 AD) Feast Day: August 10

Saint Lawrence is the Patron Saint of the poor, cooks, and firefighters.

Lawrence was one of the seven Deacons in charge of giving help to the poor and needy under Pope Sixtus II, who were martyred during the persecution of the Emperor Valerian in 258 AD. Serving as Archdeacon of Rome, he cared for the treasury and riches of the Church and the distribution of alms to the indigent.

Saint Monica (Monica of Hippo) (322-387 AD) Feast Day: August 27

Saint Monica is the Patron Saint of married women, mothers, and abuse victims.

Monica was born in Algeria, North Africa. She led a prayerful life dedicated to the reformation of her son, St. Augustine of Hippo and is honored for her virtues and pious acts.

Saint Nicholas (of Myrna) (280-343 AD) Feast Day: December 6

Saint Nicholas is the Patron Saint of children and sailors.

Nicholas was a Christian Bishop who provided for the poor and sick. Over the years, stories of his miracles and work for the poor spread to other parts of the world. He is associated with gift-giving.