

**Saint Thérèse of the Child Jesus (B2c)**



Thérèse Martin was born in 1873 in France to a devout Catholic family. She was the youngest of five sisters, all of whom became nuns! At 13, she had a great Christmas conversion, then feeling "the need to forget myself to please others". She asked the Pope for permission to enter the convent at 15, and in April, 1888, she got her wish. Thérèse was a very simple saint who realized that God did not expect miracles of her. She wrote her autobiography, *Story of a Soul*, not long before she died.

*Saint Thérèse, draw us into your great life of love. Teach us that no act is too small to fill with love. Give us great respect for all others. Remind us everyone is a child of God especially loved by Him. Draw us into the very respect of God Himself for us all. Draw us into His big heartedness - widen the horizons of my mind and heart. Then we may be able to think nothing, feel nothing, wish nothing, do nothing except what will build up someone else. Amen.*

**Saint Maria Goretti, Virgin & Martyr (B2a)**



The daughter of humble sharecroppers, Maria and her family moved to Ferriere, Italy in 1899 in search of work. Desperately seeking to support his family, Luigi Goretti struck up a bargain to live with Signor Serenelli family. Their son was Alessandro. As Maria quickly matured in grace and holiness, with a cheerful obedience and charming modesty, Alessandro propositioned and harassed her. On July 5, 1902, she again rebuffed his advance, shouting, "No! It is a sin! God does not want it!". Alexander stabbed Maria 14 times. After many hours of suffering, during which she forgave and prayed for Alessandro, she died on July 6. On June 24, 1950, Maria was declared a saint and martyr. She is the Patroness of Modern Youth.

*Oh Saint Maria Goretti who, strengthened by God's grace, did not hesitate even at the age of twelve to shed your blood and sacrifice life itself to defend your virginal purity, teach us, especially youth, with what courage and promptitude we should flee for the love of Jesus anything that could offend Him or stain our souls with sin. Obtain for us from our Lord victory in temptation, comfort in sorrow, that we may one day enjoy with you the imperishable glory of Heaven. Amen.*

**Saint Christopher (C2a)**



Although one of the most popular saints, there is little known about the life of St. Christopher. Legend has it that he was born the son of a heathen king acquiring extraordinary size and strength as he grew. A hermit instructed him in the Faith, and baptized him Christopher, and although he would not promise fasting or praying, he accepted the task of carrying people across a raging stream. One day he was carrying a child who continued to grow heavier, making him feel he had the whole world on his shoulders. The child made himself known as the Creator and Redeemer of the world, and as proof, he ordered Christopher to place his staff in the ground. The next morning it had grown into a palm-tree bearing fruit. This miracle converted many, but upset the king, who threw him in jail and had him beheaded.

*Saint Christopher, holy patron of travelers, protect us and lead us safely to our destiny. Amen.*

**Saint William, Abbot (C3)**



Saint William was born to noble parents at the beginning of the twelfth century. He was orphaned while still an infant and was raised by relatives. When it was time for him to decide what he should become, William prayed to God to help him make the right choice. Then, on his uncle's advice, he made up his mind to become a priest. William was sent to Denmark, and for thirty years he lived in peace and fervor with many monks who imitated his virtues and love of God. He built a monastery on the summit of Monte Vergine near Naples, and established a community of hermits, to whom he gave a rule inspired in great measure by that of Saint Benedict. He died in 1142.

*Saint William pray for us that we may see with the eyes of our hearts and souls God's presence in and around us. Teach us to nourish our spiritual journeys with prayer so that we too might be instruments of God's light and love to others. In the spirit of St. Benedict help us to be people of hospitality who let our work become prayer.*



**Cathedral of St. John Berchmans**  
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**John Cardinal Neumann (C2b)**



This young immigrant from Bohemia was ordained a priest for the Diocese of New York on June, 1836, first serving in the Buffalo and Rochester areas. He became a Redemptorist in 1842, the first person in the U.S. to profess his vows in the Congregation of the Most Holy Redeemer. He was consecrated a bishop in 1852 in Baltimore and went to Philadelphia. He traveled for eight years all over the largest Catholic diocese in the nation, and he died on Jan. 5, 1860. Five days later, they buried him in the dirt floor basement of St. Peter's Church with other Redemptorists.

*Lord, the humble ways of Your servant, Bishop Neumann, inspire us to imitate Your own divine example.*

*Teach us to be like Your servant, the holy bishop, intent on pleasing You first and on performing good deeds free from the desire to be seen and glorified by others. That his holy example may continue to influence others, we ask through his intercession. Amen*

**Blessed Francis Xavier Seelos (C4a)**



Father Seelos was born in Fussen, Germany, in 1819 and entered the Augsburg diocesan seminary after completing his studies in philosophy. He joined the Congregation of the Most Holy Redeemer in North America in 1843, and was ordained in 1844. He served in parochial ministry and in the formation of the Redemptorist seminarians, and was considered an expert confessor. After being dismissed as a candidate for bishop, he became a full-time itinerant missionary preacher, ending up in New Orleans. While there, he died of the yellow fever epidemic while caring for the sick and the poor of New Orleans on October 4, 1867, at the age of 48. He was beatified in 2000.

*O Lord, our strength and our Redeemer, let the words of our mouth and the meditation of our heart be pleasing in Your sight. We offer praise to You for the grace You have bestowed on Your humble missionary, Father Francis Xavier Seelos. May we have the same joyful vigor that Father Seelos possessed during his earthly life to love You deeply and live faithfully Your gospel. Amen.*

*Byron Miller, C.Ss.R.*

*Special Thanks to:  
Michael & Susan Gable,  
Constructors of our Reliquary*

Our Reliquary  
**Saints of the Church**



A relic of a saint or blessed is an expression of our piety. We venerate the saints, we honor them, and we pray through their intercession. May they assist us in our pursuit of holiness.

**Relic from the Holy Cross (A2)**



Jerusalem laid in ruin after the war of the Romans and the places made holy by the Passion, Death and Resurrection of Christ were deserted. Around 327, the Bishop of Jerusalem ordered excavations of the holy sites and at that time the wood of the Cross was recovered, authenticated and has now been mentioned throughout the Church's history (read St. Cyril's writings on the sacred wood).

*We adore You, O Christ, and praise You.*

*Because by Your holy cross you have redeemed the world.*

*Jesus, as you accepted your cross, you knew it wouldn't be easy, but you accepted it and carried it just the same.*

*Help us think of the cross you carried and to remember the love you showed us by dying upon the Cross. Amen.*

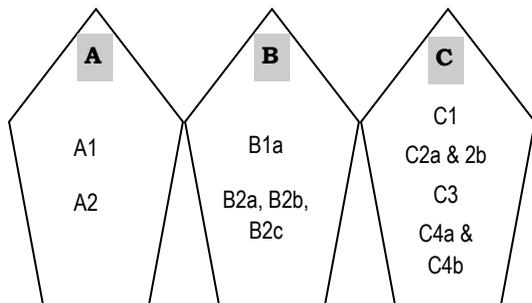
**Saint Barnabas, Apostle (A1)**



Barnabas was a Jew of Cyprus who was closely associated with St. Paul, giving him a second chance after his conversion, served as a mediator, an official representative of the Church of Jerusalem, as instructor in Antioch for one year, and then, with Paul, journeyed to preach the Word to the Gentiles. After a short separation, Barnabas and Paul continued their missionary work together (read Acts 4).

*Grant, O God, that we may follow the example of your faithful servant Barnabas, who, seeking not his own renown but the well-being of your Church, gave generously of his life and substance for the relief of the poor and the spread of the Gospel; we ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.*

Reliquary Diagram



**Pope Saint Pius X (B2b)**



Giuseppe Melchiorre Sarto was born on June 2, 1835, in Riese, Province of Treviso, Venice. As our 259th pope, two of his most outstanding accomplishments were the introduction of liturgical renewal and the restoration of frequent communion from childhood. He also fought against the heresy and evils of Modernism, encouraged biblical studies, and brought about the codification of Canon Law. He died on August 20, 1914, and on May 29, 1954, he was canonized St. Pius X.

*Glorious Pope of the Eucharist, Saint Pius X, you sought "to restore all things in Christ."*

*Obtain for us a true love of Jesus so that we may live only for Him. Help us to acquire a lively fervor and a sincere will to strive for sanctity of life, and that we may avail ourselves of the riches of the Holy Eucharist in sacrifice and sacrament. Amen.*

**Saint John Berchmans (B1)**



St. John was born on March 13, 1599, in Diest, in Brabant, Belgium. As a young student, he was always eager to learn, naturally endowed with a bright intellect and a retentive memory, devoting much time to study. What further distinguished him from his companions was his piety and faith; John performed ordinary actions with extraordinary perfection, purity, obedience and admirable charity. He died in Rome on

August 13, 1621, was declared Blessed in 1865, and canonized in 1888. He is the patron saint of altar servers and an ideal patron for students who are eager to learn and deepen their faith. His statues represent him with hands clasped, holding his crucifix, his book of rules, and his rosary. In 1902, the Jesuit community in Shreveport established our parish and a high school (now Loyola College Prep) and had the church consecrated in memory of their newly canonized saint, John Berchmans (note our altar also has a relic of St. John).

*Dear Saint John, you died at a very young age, but in that short time you learned to live an exemplary life as a member of the Society of Jesus.*

*Directed by your Guardian Angel, whom you confidently invoked, you learned to be a most humble server at the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass.*

*Help altar servers imitate you in their service at Eucharistic celebrations as well as in their conduct with others. Amen.*

**Saint Ignatius of Loyola (C1)**



St. Ignatius was born in 1491 at the castle of Loyola above Azpeitia in Guipuscoa. Baptized Iñigo, he was brought up in the household of a *contador mayor* to Ferdinand and Isabella and then joined the army. It was at that time he had a turning point in his life in 1521, when the French were besieging the citadel of Pampeluna, a cannon ball tore his left calf and broke his right shin, giving him many hours of convalescence and with lack of other reading, turned to the books on the lives of Christ and the saints. In his writings, he states "he saw clearly ...the image of Our Lady with the Holy Child Jesus".

He then left Loyola, made a general confession at the famous sanctuary of Montserrat, gave all his rich clothing to the poor, and put on sack-cloth. He began to make notes of his spiritual experiences which became the little book of "The Spiritual Exercises". He wanted to lead a life of Christ in the Holy Land, and drew many followers who studied with him and then turned to the Pope for a mission, being sent in pairs to university cities. On his way to La Storta, Ignatius had a vision of the Father associating him with His Son, saying: *Ego vobis Romae propitius ero*, to which Ignatius interpreted it as: "I do not know whether we shall be crucified in Rome; but Jesus will be propitious." The society grew, with the mission of educating the youth, instructing the ignorant and poor, and ministering to the sick and imprisoned. Ignatius died in Rome on July 31, 1566, beatified on July 27, 1609, and canonized on May 22, 1622 (read St. Ignatius' The Spiritual Exercises).

*Dearest Lord, teach us to be generous; teach us to serve You as You deserve; to give and not to count the cost, to fight and not to heed the wounds, to toil and not to seek for rest, to labor and not to ask for reward save that of knowing we are doing Your Will. Amen.*

**Relic of Nineteen Jesuit Martyrs**

(See next column for details.)



**Jesuit Martyrs, Blesseds & Saints (C4b):**

- |                         |                        |
|-------------------------|------------------------|
| Bl Francis Aranha       | Bl Anthony Francisco   |
| Bl Peter Berno          | Bl Alphonsus Pacheco   |
| Bl Rudolph Acquaviva    | Bl William Saltemouche |
| Bl James Salès          | St Joseph Pignatelli   |
| St Bernardino Realino   | Bl Anthony Balducci    |
| St Claude La Colombiere | Bl Charles Spinola     |
| Bl Leonard Kimura       | St Andrew Bobola       |
| St Edmund Campion       | St John de Brito       |
| St Marek Krizin         | St Melchoir Grodziecki |
| St Stephen Pongrácz     |                        |

**Excerpts from a Litany of the Saints and Blessed of the Society of Jesus**

Lord, have mercy, *Lord, have mercy.*  
 Christ, have mercy, *Christ, have mercy.*  
 Lord, have mercy, *Lord, have mercy.*  
 Christ, hear us, *Christ, graciously hear us.*

Holy Father Ignatius, *pray for us.*  
 St. Francis Xavier, first companion and missionary, *R*  
 St. John Berchmans, model and patron of our scholastics, *R*  
 St. Edmund Campion, martyr of Christ in England, *R*  
 St. Bernardine Realino, missioner to people in town and country, *R*  
 St. John de Brito, martyr of Christ in India, *R*  
 St. Andrew Bobola, martyr of Christ in Poland, *R*  
 Sts. Melchior Grodziecki, St Marek Krizin & Stephen Pongrácz, martyrs of Christ in Košice, *R*  
 St. Claude La Columbière, faithful friend and apostle of the Sacred Heart, *R*  
 St. Joseph Pignatelli, hallowed link of the old and restored Society, *R*

**All you Saints of the Society of Jesus, Pray for us.**

Blessed Rudolph Acquaviva, Francis Aranha & companions, martyrs in India, *R*  
 Bl. James Salès & William Saultemouche, martyrs of the Eucharist in France, *R*  
 Bl. Charles Spinola, Sebastian Kimura and companions, martyrs in Japan, *R*  
 Bl. Anthony Balducci, zealous preacher of God's Word, *R*

**All you Blessed of the Society of Jesus, Pray for us.**

As we remember the Jesuit martyrs, we pledge to follow their Gospel example, that we may work with a generous heart as we come to know how God's generosity exceeds our own.