

Saint Rose of Lima  
August 23

Rose was born in Peru, South America. She was very obedient to her parents. She did all her tasks with a happy smile. She always tried to do little things that were pleasing to others. Rose was very pretty. Her mother wanted her to wear beautiful clothes. But Rose would say, "Mother, only beauty of the soul is worthwhile." A rich young man wanted to marry Rose. He offered her a large home and many servants, but she refused. She wanted only to love and serve only God. When her parents lost all their money, Rose went out every day to work and did sewing at night to help them. Rose visited the homes of the poor and brought them food. She offered all her sufferings and good works to God for sinners. Our Lord often appeared to her like a little child to tell her how pleased He was with her kind deeds. Rose died in 1617 when she was only thirty-one years old. She is the first saint of the Americas.

*Psalm 148:12-13 - Young men and women; praise the name of the Lord.*

### THE APOSTLES

**Mark 3:13-19** - *Jesus went up the mountain and called to him those whom he wanted, and they came to him. And he appointed twelve, whom he also named apostles, to be with him and to be sent out to proclaim the message and to have authority to cast out demons. So he appointed the twelve: **Simon whom he named Peter, James** son of Zebedee and **John** the brother of James whom he named **Boanerges**, that is, sons of thunder; **Andrew**, and **Phillip**, and **Bartholomew**, and **Matthew**, and **Thomas**, and **James** son of Alphaeus, and **Thaddaeus** and **Simon** the Cananaean, and **Judas Iscariot**, who betrayed him.*

Saint Peter  
June 29

Simon, a fisherman from Galilee, was led to Jesus by his brother Andrew. Jesus gave him the name *Kepa/Peter*, which means rock (*John 1:42*). Peter was the leader of the disciples and with James and John, part of the inner circle around Jesus. He denied Jesus three times (*Matthew 26:69-75*). He spread the Gospel to the Gentiles and is honored as the founder of the See in Rome and the first pope. He was crucified around the year 64AD. *Matthew 16:18-19 - "And so I say to you, you are Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church, and the gates*

*of the netherworld shall not prevail against it. I will give you the key to the kingdom of heaven. Whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven; whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven."*

St. James  
July 25

James, of Zebedee, was a disciple of John the Baptist and a fisherman before becoming an Apostle. Also known as James the Greater, he was among the three witnesses at the Transfiguration of Christ. (*Matthew 17:1*) and the Agony in the Garden of Gethsemane (*Matthew 26:37*). Jesus called James and his brother, St. John the Apostle, "Boanerges," meaning "the sons of thunder" (*Mark 3:17*). James was the first Apostle to be martyred, having been beheaded in 44. *Mark 10:37-39* - *They answered him, "Grant that in your glory we may sit one at your right and the other at you left."* Jesus said to them, "You do not know what you are asking. Can you drink the cup that I drink or be baptized with the baptism with which I am baptized?" They said to him, "We can".

St. John  
December 27

John, son of Zebedee and brother of James the Greater, was a fisherman. With Peter and James, John was part of Jesus' inner circle. He is the "beloved disciple," the one who reclined next to Jesus at the Last Supper (*John 13:22*), and the only Apostle who did not forsake Jesus at the cross (*John 19:26*). It is believed he spent his later life in Jerusalem and at Ephesus and founded many churches in Asia Minor. He is considered the author of the three Letters, and the fourth Gospel. The Book of Revelation is also attributed to him. *John 19:26-27* - *When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple there whom he loved, he said to his mother, "Woman, behold your son."* Then he said to the disciple, "Behold, your mother." And from that hour the disciple took her into his home.

St. Andrew  
November 30

Andrew was a fisherman from Capernaum who became a "fisher of men." First a disciple of John the Baptist, Andrew was among the first of the apostles to follow Jesus after hearing John the Baptist call Jesus "the Lamb of God" (*John 1:35*). After spending time with Jesus, Andrew declared to his brother Simon (Peter), "We have found the Messiah" (*John 1:41*). *Matthew 4:18-20 - As he was walking by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon who he called Peter, and his brother Andrew, casting a net into the sea-for they were fisherman. And he said to them, "Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men." At once they left their nets and followed him.*

Saint Philip  
May 3

Phillip, born in Bethsaida, Palestine, was among the first of Jesus' disciples and brought Bartholomew (Nathaniel) to Jesus (*John 1:43-46*). Philip is mentioned in connection with the feeding of the 5000 (*John 6:5-7*), Jesus' meeting with the Greeks (*John 12:21-23*) and with Jesus' discourse at the Last Supper (*John 14:9*). He is believed to have preached in Greece and Asia Minor. *John 14:8-9 - Philip said to him, "Master, show us the Father, and that will be enough for us." Jesus said to him, "Have I been with you for so long a time and you still do not know me, Philip? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, 'Show us the Father?'"*

Saint Bartholomew  
August 24

Also known as Nathanael, Bartholomew was brought to Jesus by Phillip. At their meeting, he recognized Jesus as the Son of God, and Jesus proclaimed Bartholomew would see great things in his life (*John 1:47-50*). According to tradition, Bartholomew preached in Ethiopia, India, Persia, and Armenia, where he was beheaded. *John 1:49-51 - Nathanael answered him, "Rabbi, you are the Son of God; you are the King of Israel." Jesus answered him and said, "Do you believe because I told you that I saw you under the fig tree? You will see greater things than this. I say to you, you will see the sky opened and the angels of God ascending and descending on the Son of Man."*

Saint Matthew  
September 21

Matthew, also known as Levi, was a tax collector before answering the call of Jesus to follow him. Matthew's Gospel shows the Jewish people how the promised one of the Old Testament is Jesus - whose good news of salvation was not just for them but for the whole world. *Matthew 9:9 - As Jesus was walking along, he saw a man called Matthew sitting at the tax booth; and he said to him, "Follow me." And he got up and followed him.*

St. Thomas  
July 3

Thomas was with Jesus at the raising of Lazarus from the dead, but he is best known when he refused to believe that Christ had appeared to the Apostles (*John 20:24-29*), saying he would only believe when he could see and touch the holes from the nails and put his hand into Jesus' side. When Christ appeared to him, he declared "My Lord and my God...acknowledging the divinity of Christ. He preached in Parthia and was martyred in India. *John 14:2-6 - "In my Father's house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I am going to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and I will take you to myself, so that where I am you may be also. And you know the way to the place where I am going." Thomas said to him, "Master, we do not know where you are going, how can we know the way?" Jesus said to him, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."*

St. James  
May 3

James, the Less, was the son of Alphaeus, and believed to be a cousin of Jesus and a brother of St. Jude Thaddeus the Apostle. His mother Mary was at the cross when Jesus was crucified (*Mark 15:40*). *Mark 15:40 - There were also women looking on from a distance. Among them were Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of the younger James and Joses, and Salome.*

St. Jude (Thaddeus)

October 28

Brother of St. James the Less and "cousin" to Jesus. St. Jude is the patron saint of hopeless causes. He is considered the author of the Epistle of St. Jude. He is thought to have preached the Gospel in Mesopotamia, Syria, and Persia, where he and St. Simon were martyred. *John 14:22-23 - Judas (not the Iscariot) said to him, "Lord, how is it that you will reveal yourself to us and not to the world?" Jesus answered, "Those who love me will keep my word, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them."*

St. Simon (the Cananean)

October 28

Simon was called Simon the Canaanite or Simon the Zealot. He was thought to have evangelized in Egypt, Mesopotamia and Persia where he suffered martyrdom. *Acts 1:12-15 - ...and Simon the Zealot and Judas son of James. All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus.*