

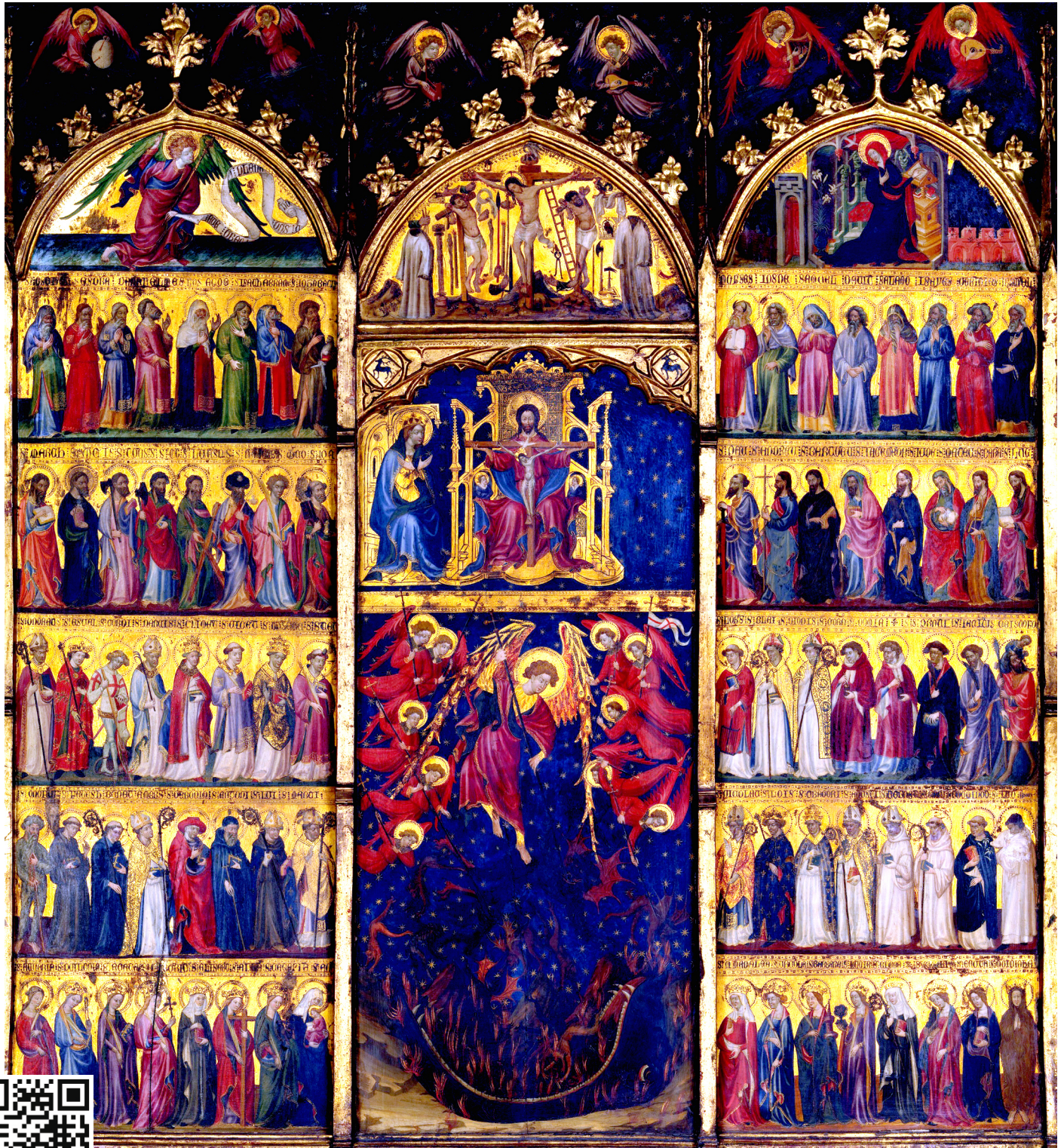
WITH ALL THE ANGELS AND SAINTS



Heaven and Earth United in the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass

Each time we gather for Mass, we enter into something far greater than what we can see around us.

We join in the worship of heaven, united with the angels and saints in giving glory to God.



Scan for digital copy.

WITH ALL THE ANGELS AND SAINTS

One Mass, One Church, Heaven and Earth



This year, All Saints Day falls on Sunday, when the Church gathers to celebrate the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass. For this special occasion, St. Mark has brought together a collection of sacred relics intentionally chosen to reveal the profound connection between Christ, the Eucharist, the saints and the worship of heaven.

These are not simply names from the distant past. They are real men and women who lived, struggled, suffered, loved and followed Christ. Some walked beside Him. Others gave their lives rather than deny Him. Some helped shape the prayers and teachings of the Church, while others found holiness in the ordinary responsibilities of daily life.

Among these relics are those of the Apostles who walked with Christ, the martyrs whose names we hear at every Mass in the Roman Canon, and saints whose lives were transformed by their love for the Eucharist.

At St. Mark, we pray the Roman Canon, Eucharistic Prayer I, at nearly every Mass. The names of saints such as Linus, Cletus, Clement, Lawrence, Perpetua, Felicity, Agatha, Lucy, Agnes and Cecilia are therefore familiar words in our liturgy, even if their stories are less familiar to us.

This All Saints Day, those names become more than words we hear. We encounter the lives behind them.



The Mass Unites Heaven and Earth

At every Mass, the Church on earth joins the worship of heaven. We do not worship alone. We are united with the angels and saints who stand before the throne of God.

In the Sanctus, we sing their hymn of praise:

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts. Heaven and earth are full of Your glory.

The saints are not absent from our worship. They are members of the same Church, now sharing in the glory toward which we journey.



Why We Venerate Relics

The Church has honored the relics of saints since the earliest centuries of Christianity. Relics remind us that holiness is lived through real human lives, in bodies that prayed, worked, suffered and served God.

We do not worship relics or saints. Worship belongs to God alone. We venerate the saints because God's grace was at work in them, and we ask for their prayers as members of the one Body of Christ.

As you visit these relics, take time to learn about the people whose lives they represent. Their stories are not only part of the Church's history, they are an invitation to learn how God is calling each of us to holiness today.



Transfer of the relics of St. Gregory Gebhard Fugel

Relics: A Tradition from the Earliest Church

Christians have honored the remains of the saints since the earliest centuries of the Church. The faithful gathered at the tombs of martyrs to pray and celebrate the Eucharist, remembering those who had given their lives for Christ. This ancient tradition continues today in the placement of saints' relics beneath Catholic altars—St. Maria Goretti, St. Richard of Chichester and St. John Neumann all have relics beneath our altar at St. Mark.

The Church recognizes three traditional classes of relics:

First-Class Relics: Part of a saint's physical remains, such as a fragment of bone or hair.

Second-Class Relics: An object personally used or worn by a saint, such as clothing or a personal possession.

Third-Class Relics: An object that has been touched to a first-class relic or a saint's tomb.

Almost all of our relics are First-Class Relics.

Relics are not worshipped, nor do they possess magical powers. They are tangible reminders that holiness is lived through real human lives and that those who have gone before us in faith remain united with us in the Communion of Saints.



The Relics Of The Passion - Two Angels And The Four Evangelists, Pierre-Jules Jollivet



HOW TO USE THIS GUIDE

Walking Among the Communion of Saints

Six tables of sacred relics are arranged around the sanctuary, beginning on the left and continuing to the right, numbered 1 through 6. Additional relics associated with the life and Passion of Our Lord are displayed at the altar.

Each table brings together saints whose lives tell a particular part of the story of our faith. Some walked with Jesus. Others are named in the prayers of the Mass. Still others show us how holiness can be lived through courage, prayer, mercy and ordinary daily life.

Each saint's story includes a For Our Lives reflection, connecting their witness to the challenges, choices and opportunities we encounter today. As you read, consider what their example might teach you about following Christ in your own life.

You are invited to move prayerfully from table to table, pausing to learn about the saints, venerate their relics and ask for their intercession.

There is no need to rush or visit every table. Perhaps one saint's story will speak especially to your own life.

These are not simply figures from history. They are members of the same Church, now sharing in the glory of heaven and praying for us.



Table 1: They Knew Him

The Apostles, Evangelists and First Witnesses

Before there were magnificent churches, there were men and women who encountered Jesus and followed Him. They were not perfect. They misunderstood, doubted and sometimes failed. Yet Christ entrusted them with the Gospel. Through their witness, the Good News was carried into the world and handed down to us.

About These Relics

The Twelve Apostles are represented in two ornate reliquaries, each containing a sealed theca with relics of six Apostles. A separate cross-shaped reliquary holds relics of the four Evangelists, Matthew, Mark, Luke and John, surrounding a relic of the True Cross.



St. Peter — The Saint Who Failed and Began Again

Peter promised he would never abandon Jesus, but denied knowing Him three times after the arrest. After the Resurrection, Jesus asked Peter three times whether he loved Him and entrusted Him with the care of his flock. Peter's failure was real, but it was not the end of his story.

For our lives: A mistake does not have to define your life. Admit it, seek forgiveness and begin again.

St. Andrew — Bringing Someone Else to Jesus

Andrew first brought his brother Peter to Jesus. In John's account of the feeding of the multitude, he also notices the boy with five loaves and two fish. Andrew often appears helping someone else take a step toward Christ.

For our lives: A quiet invitation to Mass, a kind conversation or a faithful example can change another person's life.

St. James the Greater — Learning to Serve

James and his brother John wanted places of honor in Jesus' Kingdom. Jesus taught them that greatness meant service and sacrifice, not privilege. Acts records that James was killed by order of Herod Agrippa I.

For our lives: Achievement matters less than what we do with our gifts. Real greatness makes room for others.

St. John — Love That Remains

John's Gospel places the beloved disciple near the Cross beside Mary; Christian tradition identifies him with the Apostle John. At that painful moment, Jesus entrusted them to one another.

For our lives: When someone is grieving or ill, you may not be able to fix the situation. Staying beside them can be an act of profound love.

St. Thomas — The Saint Who Had Questions

Thomas struggled to believe the other Apostles had seen the risen Lord. Jesus met him in that struggle and invited him to see His wounds. Thomas answered, "My Lord and my God!"

For our lives: Questions do not have to drive you away from faith. Bring them to prayer, study and conversation.

St. Philip — When We Want Answers

At the Last Supper, Philip asked Jesus to show the Apostles the Father. Jesus responded that whoever had seen Him had seen the Father. Even those closest to Jesus were still learning.

For our lives: You do not have to understand everything before you follow Christ. Understanding often grows along the way.

St. Bartholomew — Known by God

Bartholomew is believed to be Nathanael, who initially doubted that anything good could come from Nazareth. When he met Jesus, he discovered that Jesus already knew him. This encounter led him to recognize Jesus as the Son of God.

For Our Lives: First impressions can keep us from recognizing something wonderful. Remain open to others, remembering that God knows us even before we recognize Him.

St. Matthew — A Changed Direction

Matthew was a tax collector, a profession widely resented in his society. Jesus called him anyway. Matthew rose and followed, leaving behind the life by which others judged him.

For our lives: Do not reduce people to their reputation or their past. Christ sees what they can become.

St. James the Less — Faithful Without Recognition

James son of Alphaeus is named among the Twelve, but Scripture tells us little about his individual life. Not every witness to Christ receives a dramatic biography.

For our lives: The good you do without an audience still matters. Faithfulness is not measured in applause.

St. Simon the Zealot — More Than a Label

Simon bears the title "the Zealot," though scholars debate exactly what it meant in his case. Jesus gathered followers from different backgrounds into one community.

For our lives: See the person before the label. Christ calls us to a deeper unity than our differences.

St. Jude Thaddeus — Hope in Difficult Causes

Jude, one of the Twelve, has long been invoked as a patron of desperate or seemingly hopeless causes. That devotion speaks to people who are afraid or running out of answers.

For our lives: Hope is not a guarantee that everything will unfold as we wish. It is trusting God even when we cannot see the way forward.

St. Matthias — Ready When Called

After Judas's death, Matthias was chosen to join the Twelve. Acts tells us he had accompanied Jesus' followers from the beginning, even though he was not originally one of the Twelve.

For our lives: Ordinary, unnoticed faithfulness prepares us for responsibilities we cannot yet imagine.

St. Paul — No One Is Beyond Grace

Paul persecuted Christians before his encounter with the risen Christ transformed his life. He became a missionary and writer whose letters still shape the Church. He never pretended his past had not happened.

For our lives: People can change, including someone you have given up on, or even yourself.

St. Mary Magdalene — Hope at the Empty Tomb

Mary Magdalene came to the tomb grieving and discovered that Jesus had risen. When He called her by name, she recognized Him and announced the news to the disciples. She is honored as the Apostle to the Apostles.

For our lives: Grief can make the future seem closed. Her story reminds us that God can bring hope where we least expect it.

The Four Evangelists and the True Cross

St. Matthew and St. John were among the Twelve Apostles who followed Jesus. St. Mark, the patron saint of our parish, and St. Luke were not among the Twelve, but they helped spread the Good News of Christ.

Together, these four Evangelists gave us the Gospels, which tell of Jesus' life, teachings, Death and Resurrection.

Their relics surround a relic of the True Cross, the Cross on which Jesus gave His life for our salvation. Its place at the center reminds us that everything the Evangelists proclaimed leads us to Christ.

For Our Lives: The Gospels are not simply stories from long ago. Jesus continues to speak to us through His Word. Listen for His voice when the Gospel is proclaimed at Mass.



The Birds of the Air and the Lilies of the Field, Gebhard Fugel



Table 2: Their Names Are in the Mass The Early Popes and Martyrs of the Roman Canon

At every Mass, St. Mark prays the Roman Canon, Eucharistic Prayer I. Among the saints named in this ancient prayer are five early popes, a bishop, a deacon and two brothers who were physicians. They helped build the Church through their faith, courage and service, even when following Christ meant risking their lives. Their names remind us that we belong to the same Church they loved and served.

St. Linus — Carrying the Faith Forward

Linus was one of the first popes, serving the Church after St. Peter. He helped guide Christians at a time when the Church was still small and often faced persecution.

For Our Lives: Faith is something we receive and something we pass on. Our words, actions and example can help others come to know Christ.

St. Cletus — The Value of Quiet Faithfulness

Cletus, also called Anacletus, was another of the earliest popes. Although little is known about his life, the Church has remembered his name in the Roman Canon for centuries.

For Our Lives: We may never know how much good comes from a prayer, a kind word or a simple act of service. God sees what others may overlook.

St. Clement I — When a Community Is Divided

Clement was an early pope who wrote to Christians in Corinth when disagreements threatened their unity. He encouraged them to put aside pride, practice humility and restore peace.

For Our Lives: Disagreements happen in families, friendships and even parishes. Sometimes the most important step is being willing to make peace.

St. Sixtus II — Courage in the Face of Persecution

Pope Sixtus II led the Church during a time of fierce persecution under the Roman emperor Valerian. In 258, he was arrested while celebrating the liturgy and was martyred along with several of his deacons. His courage strengthened Christians who faced the same dangers.

For Our Lives: Faithfulness is not always easy. Ask God for the courage to do what is right, even when it comes at a cost.

St. Cornelius — Making Room for Mercy

As pope, Cornelius faced a difficult question: Could Christians who had denied their faith during persecution return to the Church? He supported their return through repentance and forgiveness.

For Our Lives: Mercy does not mean pretending that mistakes never happened. It means believing that people can repent, change and begin again.

St. Cyprian — Courage and Unity

Cyprian was the Bishop of Carthage in North Africa. He defended the unity of the Church and guided Christians through persecution and disagreement. He was martyred in 258.

For Our Lives: Unity does not mean we always agree. It means continuing to love and care for one another, even when things are difficult.

St. Lawrence — The Church's True Treasures

Lawrence was a deacon in Rome who cared for the poor and those in need. When Roman authorities demanded the Church's treasures, he presented the poor, showing that they were the Church's true riches. He was martyred in 258.

For Our Lives: Who do we treat as important? Look for Christ in those who are poor, lonely, suffering or easily overlooked.

St. Chrysogonus — Faithful Through Persecution

Chrysogonus was an early Christian martyr honored by the Church for centuries. Although little is known with certainty about his life, his name has remained in the Roman Canon, linking our worship today with the faith of the early Christians.

For Our Lives: We may never know how our faithfulness influences others. What matters is remaining true to Christ, even when no one notices.

Sts. Cosmas and Damian — Healing Without a Price

Cosmas and Damian were brothers and physicians who cared for the sick without accepting payment. Their generosity reflected their Christian faith and their love for those who suffered. During the persecution of Christians under Emperor Diocletian, they refused to deny Christ and were martyred.

For Our Lives: We all have gifts that can help others. Use yours generously, especially for those who cannot repay you.

Table 3: Blessed Are They

Seven Women Martyrs Named in Eucharistic Prayer I

These seven women lived in a world where following Christ could cost them their lives. Some were young, some were mothers, and some had little standing in society. Yet each showed extraordinary courage and faith. Their names have been spoken at the altar for centuries, reminding us that holiness is not measured by age, wealth or importance, but by our love for Christ and our willingness to follow Him.

St. Perpetua — A Young Mother's Courage

Perpetua was a young mother imprisoned for her Christian faith in Carthage in the year 203. Her imprisonment story tells of her infant son and her father's desperate pleas that she abandon Christianity. Despite her love for her family and the suffering she faced, Perpetua remained faithful to Christ and was martyred.

For Our Lives: Doing what is right can be difficult, especially when those we love disagree. Ask God for the courage to remain faithful while treating others with love and compassion.

St. Felicity — Dignity Beyond Status

Felicity was an enslaved woman imprisoned alongside Perpetua. She was pregnant and gave birth to her daughter shortly before their martyrdom. Though Perpetua and Felicity came from very different backgrounds, they shared the same faith and courage.

For Our Lives: Every person has dignity because each is created and loved by God. Wealth, position and circumstances do not determine anyone's worth.

St. Agatha — Worth That Cannot Be Taken Away

Agatha was a young Christian woman from Sicily who refused to abandon her faith. She endured imprisonment and suffering rather than surrender her commitment to Christ. Her courage made her one of the most beloved martyrs of the early Church.

For Our Lives: No one else can determine your worth or force you to abandon what is right. Your dignity comes from God, and no one can take it away.

St. Lucy — Light in Darkness

Lucy was a young Christian woman from Syracuse, Sicily, who gave her life rather than abandon her faith in Christ. Christians have honored her courage for centuries. Her name means "light," and she is also the patron saint of those with difficulties involving their eyesight. Her witness reminds us that faith can shine even in the darkest circumstances.

For Our Lives: A kind word, an honest decision or an act of courage can bring Christ's light into someone else's darkness.

St. Agnes — Holiness Has No Minimum Age

Agnes was a young Roman girl, believed to have been only twelve or thirteen when she was martyred for her faith. Her courage and love for Christ left such a deep impression on the early Church that her name became part of the Roman Canon. She reminds us that holiness is not reserved for adults.

For Our Lives: Young people are not simply the future of the Church. Their faith, choices and example matter right now.

St. Cecilia — Gifts Offered to God

Cecilia was an early Christian martyr whose courage and devotion to Christ inspired generations of believers. She is remembered as the patron saint of music and musicians, and her name has become closely associated with sacred music. Her witness reminds us that the most beautiful praise we offer God comes from a faithful heart.

For Our Lives: Whether through music, prayer or the way you live, your life can become an offering of praise to God.

St. Anastasia — Love That Is Remembered

Anastasia was an early Christian martyr remembered for her faith and compassion. Accounts of her life describe her bringing comfort and assistance to Christians who were imprisoned or suffering for their beliefs.

For Our Lives: Quiet acts of love are never wasted. Visiting someone lonely, caring for a sick relative or helping a person in need can be powerful expressions of faith.



Table 4: The Eucharist Changes Everything

Saints Who Help Us Draw Closer to Christ

The Eucharist is at the heart of our Catholic faith. Through the centuries, saints have helped the Church understand, celebrate and love this great gift. Some taught about the Real Presence of Jesus, some brought people back to the sacraments, and others showed how prayer and the Mass can transform our daily lives. Their example reminds us that the Eucharist is not simply something we receive. It is an encounter with Christ that changes how we live.

St. Ignatius of Loyola — Finding God in All Things

Ignatius was a Spanish soldier whose life changed after he was seriously wounded in battle. During his recovery, reading about Jesus and the saints inspired him to follow Christ. He later founded the Society of Jesus, known as the Jesuits, and developed the Spiritual Exercises to help people grow in prayer and recognize God's presence in their lives.

For Our Lives: God can use unexpected events to lead us closer to Him. Make time for prayer and look for His presence in the ordinary moments of your day.

St. Justin Martyr — Explaining the Mass

Nearly 1,900 years ago, Justin described how Christians gathered on Sundays to hear Scripture, pray and receive the Eucharist. His account is remarkably familiar to Catholics today. A philosopher who became a Christian, Justin defended the faith during a time of persecution and eventually gave his life for Christ.

For Our Lives: When you attend Mass, you join generations of Christians who have worshiped before us. The same Jesus who nourished the early Church is present on our altar today.

St. Thomas Aquinas — Understanding the Mystery

Thomas Aquinas was a Dominican priest and one of the Church's greatest teachers. He used faith and reason to explain Catholic beliefs, especially the Real Presence of Jesus in the Eucharist. He also wrote beautiful Eucharistic hymns that the Church continues to sing, helping us approach this mystery with both understanding and love.

For Our Lives: We do not have to understand every mystery of our faith to believe. Keep asking questions, learning and drawing closer to Jesus in the Eucharist.

St. John Vianney — Bringing Souls Back to Christ

John Vianney was a parish priest in the small French village of Ars. He spent long hours hearing confessions, celebrated Mass with deep devotion and encouraged people to return to God. His patient care for his parishioners made him a model for priests throughout the world.

For Our Lives: Never underestimate the grace available in the sacraments. Whether you have been away for years or received them yesterday, Christ is always inviting you closer.

St. Pius X — Bringing Children to Jesus

Pope Pius X believed that children should not have to wait until their teenage years to receive Jesus in the Eucharist. He lowered the age for First Holy Communion to around seven, when children could begin to understand Whom they were receiving. He also encouraged Catholics of all ages to receive Holy Communion frequently.

For Our Lives: Whether receiving your First Holy Communion or your thousandth, never lose the wonder of welcoming Jesus into your heart.

St. John Chrysostom — Faith That Becomes Action

John Chrysostom was a fourth-century bishop and powerful preacher whose name means "golden-mouthed." He taught that worshiping Christ at the altar must lead us to recognize and care for Christ in the poor. His preaching challenged Christians to live what they professed at Mass.

For Our Lives: Our love for Jesus in the Eucharist should change how we treat others. Look for opportunities to serve Him in those who are hungry, lonely or in need.



Print in Memory of the First Holy Communion, Unknown

Table 5: Holiness in Everyday Life

Finding God in Family, Work, Prayer and Service

Holiness is not reserved for martyrs, missionaries or those who accomplish extraordinary things. It is also found in kitchens, classrooms, workplaces, family responsibilities and the quiet moments of daily life. These saints remind us that following Christ begins right where we are, through prayer, faithfulness, love and service to others.

St. Joseph — The Holiness of Showing Up

The Gospels record no spoken words of St. Joseph. Instead, they show him protecting Mary and Jesus, trusting God's direction and providing for his family through his work. As the foster father of Jesus, Joseph reminds us that ordinary responsibilities can become extraordinary acts of love.

For Our Lives: Love often means showing up, keeping promises and doing what needs to be done, even when no one notices.

St. Monica — For Every Parent Who Keeps Praying

Monica prayed for years for her son Augustine, who spent much of his youth far from the faith. She could not force his conversion or know when her prayers would be answered. Augustine eventually became a Christian, a bishop and one of the Church's greatest teachers.

For Our Lives: Love faithfully, pray persistently and entrust those you love to God. You cannot control every choice, but you can continue to love and pray.

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton — Beginning Again After Loss

Elizabeth was a wife and mother of five when her husband died while they were in Italy. Facing grief and financial difficulties, she later entered the Catholic Church and helped establish Catholic education in the United States. She became the first native-born American to be canonized.

For Our Lives: Loss and unexpected changes do not have to be the end of your story. God can open new paths, even in the midst of grief.



St. Francis of Assisi — What Really Matters

Francis grew up surrounded by wealth and dreamed of success. Illness, disappointment and an encounter with Christ changed him. He left behind his wealth to embrace simplicity, care for the poor and love for God's creation.

His joy came not from what he owned, but from Whom he followed.

For Our Lives: Look at what fills your schedule and your heart. Are you making room for the people and things that matter most?



St. Teresa of Avila — Prayer Is Not Always Easy

Teresa was a Carmelite nun who knew distraction, spiritual dryness and the challenges of living in community. She is one of the Church's great teachers of prayer. Her lively personality and practical wisdom remind us that saints are

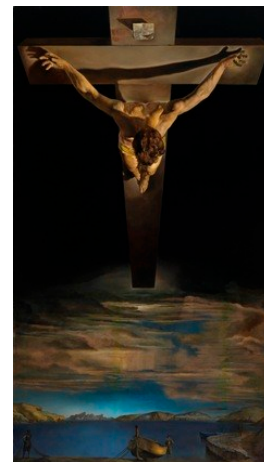
real people who face ordinary struggles.

For Our Lives: Do not wait for perfect silence or strong feelings to pray. Give God a few honest minutes and keep returning to Him.

St. John of the Cross — When God Feels Far Away

John suffered imprisonment and mistreatment from members of his religious community. His writings describe the "dark night," when prayer feels empty and God seems distant, yet faith continues to grow. His small drawing of Christ inspired Salvador Dali's famous painting.

For Our Lives: Not feeling close to God does not mean He has abandoned you. Sometimes faith means continuing to trust Him even when you cannot feel His presence.



St. Francis Xavier — Beyond Familiar Shores

Francis Xavier left behind a promising university career in Paris to become one of the first Jesuit missionaries. He sailed thousands of miles to India, Southeast Asia and Japan, facing dangerous voyages, unfamiliar languages and great hardships to share the Gospel. He died at forty-six, still hoping to bring Christ to China.

For Our Lives: Following Christ may lead us somewhere unexpected. We don't have to cross an ocean to make a difference. Sometimes the first step is helping someone right beside us.

St. Aloysius Gonzaga — Young and Ready to Serve

Born into a wealthy Italian family, Aloysius chose to become a Jesuit rather than pursue a life of privilege. During an outbreak of disease in Rome, he cared for the sick despite the danger. He became ill and died at just twenty-three years old.

For Our Lives: You do not have to wait until adulthood to make a difference. Whatever your age, you have gifts that can help someone today.

Table 6: Mercy, Healing and Hope

Saints Who Bring Christ's Compassion to a Suffering World

Illness, grief, loneliness and suffering touch every family. These six saints remind us that Christ does not abandon us in difficult times. Some devoted their lives to caring for others, while others found extraordinary faith in the midst of their own suffering. Their stories invite us to trust in God's mercy and become instruments of His love.

St. Thérèse of Lisieux — The Little Way

Thérèse entered a Carmelite convent in France at fifteen. She never traveled the world as a missionary or performed great public works. Instead, she discovered that even the smallest actions, offered to God with great love, could lead to holiness. She called this her "Little Way."

For Our Lives: Small things matter. A kind word, a patient response or an unnoticed act of service can become an offering of love to God.



*The God of Peace Has Given Us Mercy,
Unknown*

St. Faustina Kowalska — Jesus, I Trust in You

Faustina was a young Polish religious sister who received visions of Jesus calling the world to trust in His Divine Mercy. At His request, she recorded His messages in a diary and helped spread the devotion represented by the familiar image of Jesus with rays of red and pale light flowing from His Heart. Her message was simple: no one is beyond God's mercy.

For Our Lives: Whatever mistakes you have made, never be afraid to turn back to God. His mercy is greater than your sins.

St. Dymphna — Hope in Mental Suffering

Dymphna is honored as a young Christian martyr whose story tells of her fleeing her father's violent intentions and seeking safety in what is now Belgium. She became a patron saint of those suffering from mental illness and emotional distress. For centuries, people have sought her intercession during times of fear, anxiety and suffering.

For Our Lives: Those struggling with mental or emotional suffering deserve compassion, understanding and care. Asking for help is an act of courage, not weakness.

St. Peregrine Laziosi — Hope in Illness

Peregrine was a Servite friar in Italy who developed a serious disease in his leg. Facing the possibility of amputation, he prayed before an image of the crucified Christ and experienced a remarkable healing. He is honored as the patron saint of those suffering from cancer and other serious illnesses.

For Our Lives: When illness brings fear and uncertainty, turn to Christ in prayer and allow others to help carry your burdens. Hope and faith can sustain us through difficult days.

St. Blaise — A Blessing That Continues

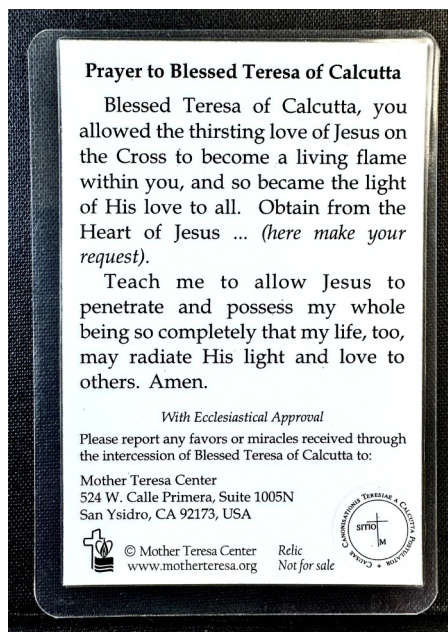
Blaise was a bishop and martyr in the early Church. He is remembered for saving a child who was choking on a fishbone. Each year on his feast day, February 3, Catholics receive the Blessing of Throats with two crossed candles, asking God for protection from illnesses of the throat and other ailments.

For Our Lives: The Church's blessings remind us that God cares for us in body and soul. Bring your worries about health and healing to Him in prayer.

St. Teresa of Calcutta — Love in the Smallest Things

Mother Teresa left her teaching position to serve people living in extreme poverty on the streets of Calcutta, India. She founded the Missionaries of Charity, whose sisters cared for the dying, the sick and those who had been abandoned. She saw the face of Christ in people whom others often overlooked.

For Our Lives: You do not have to change the whole world to make a difference. Begin by loving and caring for the person in front of you.



About This Relic:

This prayer card from the Mother Teresa Center contains a second-class relic, a small piece of St. Teresa of Calcutta's clothing. It was distributed during the years when the Church was considering her canonization, inviting the faithful to seek her intercession and report favors or miracles received. She was canonized in 2016.

The Seventh Display: Christ at the Center with Relics on the Altar

The Source of Every Saint's Holiness

Every saint in this guide points us to Jesus Christ. These sacred relics bring us closer to the mysteries of His life, Passion, Death and Resurrection. They remind us that the same Jesus who walked among us and gave His life for our salvation is truly present in the Holy Eucharist.



The Nativity, Lorenzo Lotto

The Cradle of Jesus — God Entered Our World

The Son of God entered human life as an infant who needed the care of Mary and Joseph. This relic of Jesus' cradle invites us to contemplate the humility of the Incarnation and the extraordinary love of God, who chose to dwell among us.

For Our Lives: God can be encountered in ordinary homes, daily responsibilities and small acts of love.

The Table of the Last Supper — Love That Gives Itself

At the Last Supper, Jesus instituted the Eucharist and washed His Apostles' feet. He knew betrayal and suffering were near, yet He chose to love and serve. This relic of the table reminds us of the gift He continues to give us at every Mass.

For Our Lives: At Mass, Christ gives Himself to us. Whom are we willing to serve when we leave?

The Cord of the Flagellation — Christ Knows Pain

Jesus was scourged, mocked and humiliated before His Crucifixion. This relic of the cord used in His Flagellation reminds us that His suffering was physical and real. He endured it out of love for us.

For Our Lives: When you see or hear someone mocked, bullied or mistreated, do not remain indifferent. Christ understands human suffering.

The Rock of Calvary — Love That Remains

Calvary is the place where Jesus was crucified. This stone from Calvary recalls His sacrifice and the faithful few who remained near Him in sorrow. At every Mass, Christ's one saving sacrifice is made sacramentally present upon the altar.

For Our Lives: You cannot always take away another person's suffering, but you can refuse to abandon them.

The True Cross — Death Was Not the End

The Cross was once an instrument of execution and shame. Through Christ's Death and Resurrection, it became the sign of our salvation. This relic of the True Cross reminds us of the greatest act of love in human history and Christ's victory over sin and death.

For Our Lives: The Cross does not promise a life without burdens. It reminds us that suffering and death do not have the final word.

The Veil of the Blessed Virgin Mary — A Faithful Yes

This relic is a fragment of the Blessed Virgin Mary's veil, a garment worn by the Mother of God. Mary welcomed Jesus into the world, cared for Him and remained near His Cross, trusting God through joy and sorrow.

For Our Lives: You do not need every answer before taking the next faithful step. Mary shows us how to trust.



1. ST. ANN
2. RELIC OF THE CRADLE OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST
3. RELIC OF THE HOUSE OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST
4. ST. MATTHEW THE EVANGELIST
5. ST. MATTHEW THE EVANGELIST
6. ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST
7. ST. PETER THE APOSTLE
8. RELIC OF THE TABLE OF THE LAST SUPPER OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST
9. ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE
10. ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST
11. ST. THADDEUS THE APOSTLE
12. ST. THADDEUS THE APOSTLE
13. ST. ANDREW THE APOSTLE
14. ST. BARNABAS THE APOSTLE
15. ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE
16. ST. MARK THE EVANGELIST
17. ST. BLAISE
18. ST. CHARLES LWANGA AND ST. MATTHEW MULUMBA
19. THE FORTY MARTYRS OF SEBASTE
20. ST. MARIA GORRETTI V.M.
21. ST. EMERENTIA V.M.
22. ST. DYMPHA V.M.
23. ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST
24. ST. LUKE THE EVANGELIST
25. ST. MATTHEW THE EVANGELIST
26. RELIC OF THE TRUE CROSS
27. ST. MARK THE EVANGELIST
28. ST. APOLLONIA V.M.
29. ST. CATHERINE OF ALEXANDRIA V.M.
30. ST. VALENTINE
31. ST. JANUARIUS
32. ST. STEPHEN PROTOMARTYR
33. ST. ALBAN
34. ST. SEBASTIAN
35. ST. CHRISTOPHER
36. ST. PEREGRINE
37. ST. ISAAC JOGUES
38. ST. ALEXANDER I.P.M.
39. ST. WENCESLAUS
40. ST. PETER OF VERONA
41. ST. JOHN BOSCO
42. ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA
43. ST. JOHN VIANNEY
44. ST. STEPHEN OF HUNGARY
45. ST. MARTIN DE PORRES
46. ST. STANISLAUS KOSTKA
47. ST. JOHN OF GOD
48. ST. ISIDORE THE FARMER
49. ST. CATHERINE LABOURE
50. ST. SCHOLASTICA
51. ST. ROSE OF LIMA
52. ST. HELEN
53. ST. MONICA



1. ST. ELIZABETH ANN SETON
2. ST. ELIZABETH ANN SETON
3. ST. FRANCES XAVIER CABRINI
4. ST. PETER THE APOSTLE
5. ST. PAUL THE APOSTLE
6. ST. LINUS P.M.
7. ST. CLETUS P.M.
8. ST. CLEMENT I.P.M.
9. ST. SIXTUS I.P.M.
10. ST. CORNELIUS P.M.
11. ST. CYPRIAN
12. ST. LAWRENCE
13. ST. CHRYSOGONUS
14. ST. JOHN AND ST. PAUL
15. ST. COSMAS AND ST. DAMIAN
16. ST. PIUS X
17. FLAGELLATION CORDS OF OUR LORD
18. RELIC OF THE TRUE CROSS
19. RELIC OF THE TRUE CROSS
20. RELIC OF THE TRUE CROSS
21. ST. VERONICA
22. ST. MARY MAGDALENE
23. RELIC OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY
24. ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST
25. ST. STEPHEN PROTOMARTYR
26. ST. FELICITY
27. ST. PERPETUA V.M.
28. ST. LUCY V.M.
29. ST. AGNES V.M.
30. ST. CECILIA V.M.
31. ST. ANASTASIA V.M.
32. ST. TIMOTHY
33. ST. IGNATIUS
34. ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM
35. ST. JEROME
36. ST. AUGUSTINE
37. ST. BENEDICT
38. ST. DOMINIC
39. ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI
40. ST. IGNATIUS OF LOYOLA
41. ST. VINCENT DE PAUL
42. ST. SILVESTER
43. ST. PATRICK
44. ST. NICHOLAS
45. ST. WILLIAM
46. ST. JOHN NEUMANN
47. ST. JOHN NEUMANN
48. ST. PETER DAMIAN
49. ST. THOMAS AQUINAS
50. ST. PETER CANISIUS
51. ST. FRANCIS DE SALES
52. ST. THERESE OF THE CHILD JESUS



Scan for digital copy.

The Saints Are Always With Us

Visit St. Mark's Reliquaries in the Left Transept

The relics displayed for All Saints Day are part of a much larger collection at St. Mark. Two permanent reliquary cases in the left transept hold relics of dozens of saints. You are invited to visit throughout the year, learn their stories and ask for their intercession.

Among the saints whose relics are housed there:

St. Nicholas: The generous fourth-century bishop whose kindness inspired the traditions of Santa Claus.

St. Patrick: Once enslaved in Ireland, he returned as a missionary to bring the Gospel to its people.

St. Valentine: An early Christian martyr whose name became associated with love and devotion.

St. Isidore the Farmer: A Spanish farm laborer who found holiness through prayer, hard work and generosity.

The Forty Martyrs of Sebaste: Christian soldiers who faced death together rather than abandon their faith.

St. Januarius: A bishop and martyr whose blood relic in Naples is associated with a remarkable centuries-old phenomenon.

St. Catherine Labouré: The French religious sister whose visions of Our Lady gave us the Miraculous Medal.

St. Frances Xavier Cabrini: Mother Cabrini crossed oceans to serve immigrants and became the first U.S. citizen to be canonized.

Called to Be Saints

The saints were not born with halos. They lived in families, worked, struggled, made mistakes, suffered and learned to trust God. Their lives remind us that holiness is not reserved for extraordinary people.

Perhaps we need Peter's willingness to begin again, Thomas's courage to ask questions, Monica's perseverance or Joseph's quiet faithfulness.

God calls each of us to become a saint, right where we are.

All you holy men and women, pray for us.



SAINT MARK CATHOLIC CHURCH
14740 Stumptown Road
Huntersville, NC 28078
stmarknc.org