

THE CHILDREN'S
Book of
Saints



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Mary, Queen of all Saints and Mother of Jesus, I know how much you love me. Let me come to you, Blessed Mother, to share all my joys and sorrows.

Mary, Queen of All Saints

first century

Mary was an only child. She grew up loving God very much. Out of all the women in history, God chose Mary to be the mother of His own Son, Jesus. When God's angel asked Mary if she would be the mother of Jesus, Mary answered yes.

As His mother, she was at Jesus' side when He was born in a stable in Bethlehem; she found Him when He was lost in the Temple at Jerusalem; she was with Him when He died on the cross on Calvary; and she was in the upper room to welcome Him when He rose from the dead on Easter.

In heaven, Mary was crowned because she was the mother of Jesus, the mother of all the saints, and the mother of the Church. That makes her our mother, too. Whenever we pray to Mary, we may call her mother, our Blessed Mother.



*St. Francis of Assisi, you showed us how
God created all people, animals, and
plants to live together in unity. Help me to
love all the creatures God has made.*

St. Francis of Assisi

1181-1226

As a young man, Francis was very wealthy and enjoyed the pleasures of life. Once, when he was sick, he felt that God was calling him to live as Jesus did. Francis responded to God's call and began to visit the sick in hospitals and to do helpful things for the poor. "When people serve the poor," Francis said, "they are serving Christ himself."

Francis began to wear clothes like the poor, and began preaching to people about peace and unity. "All the things God created are like our brothers and sisters," he said. Francis often addressed the sun, moon, stars and animals as brothers or sisters.

During prayer one day, Francis had a vision of Jesus hanging on the cross. So deep was Francis' desire to be like his Lord, that the marks of Jesus' five wounds appeared on Francis' body, and remained there all his life. He died in 1226.



St. John the Baptist, you pointed out Jesus to those who came to you. Help me to recognize Jesus in all the ways He comes into my life.

St. John the Baptist

first century

Before John was born, an angel had announced, "Many will rejoice at his birth."

John's mother, Elizabeth, and Our Lady, were first cousins, so Jesus and John were second cousins. John, who was six months older than Jesus, lived in a suburb of Jerusalem.

When they were children, Jesus and John probably visited each other and played together. They both grew up learning about the Temple in Jerusalem and the holy Law.

When they were about thirty years old, John began preaching near the Jordan River, and baptizing those who repented. Jesus was among those who came to be baptized.

John had the special task of recognizing Jesus when He came. John told his own disciples to follow Jesus because Jesus was much more important than he was.

John was later beheaded by King Herod.