



# Book of Saints

*“SUPERHEROES OF GOD”*

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Divine Word Missionary

## PART 4

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# Saint Dominic

August 8

**D**OMINIC was born in Spain of a wealthy family. After he became a priest the bishop took him on a visit to southern France where many people were leaving the Church to follow a false teaching. Dominic remained in France and devoted his life to preaching and to leading people back to the Faith. The dog carrying a torch means the fire of his zeal for souls.

Later Dominic went to Rome and told the Pope that he wanted to start a religious order whose duties would be preaching and teaching. The new order was called the Order of Preachers, or the Dominicans.

Legend has it that the Blessed Virgin Mary appeared to Dominic with a beautiful wreath of roses. She asked him to say the rosary and teach the people to say it every day. In this way many people were brought back to the Church.

Before his death in 1221, Dominic also started an order of nuns to care for young girls.



# Saint Nicholas

December 6

**N**ICHOLAS was the fourth-century bishop of Myra, a city in Asia Minor. He was very generous to the poor.

Once Nicholas heard that a man who had become very poor intended to abandon his three daughters to a life of sin. He went out by night, threw a bag of gold into the window of the sleeping father, and hurried away. Later the father fell at his feet and said: “Nicholas, you are my helper. You have delivered my soul and my daughters’ from hell.”

The Emperor Justinian built a church in his honor at Constantinople about the year 340. The Russian Church honors him more than any other saint. He is the patron of Russia.

St. Nicholas is honored as the special patron of children. The words Santa Claus come from his name.

He died at Myra in the year 342. He has always been venerated in the Latin and Greek Churches. His relics are in Bari, Italy.