



(#1) St. Andrew Kim (d. 1846) Feast day is September 20. During the persecutions of 1839, 1846, 1866 and 1867, one hundred and three Christians in Korea gave their lives as martyrs. Among them were Father Andrew Kim Taegon, first Korean priest, and lay Apostle Paul Chong Hasang. The martyrs included priests & laity.

(#2) Bl. Kaspar Stangassinger (1871-1899) Feast day is September 26. Born in Germany, he always wanted to be a priest and preached short sermons to his brothers and sisters. He started school at 10 and during vacations formed a group of boys to follow a Christian life. After ordination, he was made vice-director of vocation but died of peritonitis a few days later.

(#3) St. Gaetano Catanoso (1879-1963) Feast day is April 4. Born at Calabria, Italy. After his ordination, he gained a reputation for holiness while serving as a priest. He established the Confraternity of the Holy Face in his parish and founded the poor Clerics to encourage priestly vocations. In 1929, he offered himself as “a victim of love” to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. He founded the Congregation of the Daughters of St. Veronica who offer prayers of reparation, catechesis and other services to poor children, priests and elderly.

(#4) St. Teresa Benedicta (Edith Stein) (1891-1942) Feast day is August 9. A brilliant Jewish girl from Germany, Edith earned a doctorate in philosophy and eventually became an avowed atheist. After reading the life of St. Teresa of Avila, she knew she had to become a Catholic. She was received into the Church a few months later and 12 years later entered The Carmelite Order of Cologne taking the name Teresa Benedicta of the Cross. During the Nazi persecution of the Jews, she moved to Holland but she and her sister Rosa, also a convert, were taken to Auschwitz in July of 1942. They died there.

(#5) St. Pedro Calungsod (1655-1672) Feast day is April 2. Born in the Philippines and named for St. Peter the Apostle, he was educated by the Jesuits, could read, write and speak Visayan, Spanish and Chamorro, paint draw, sing and worked as a carpenter with missionaries in the Ladrones Islands (modern Marianas) in 1668. Because he was a Christian, two natives murdered him. He died trying to defend Father Diego Luis de San Vitores.

(#6) St. Faustina Kowalska (1905-1938) Feast day is October 5. The third of 10 children, she entered the Congregation of the Sisters of Our Lady of Mercy and was given the name Sister Maria Faustina. She received a message from our Lady of Mercy and was told to spread it to the world. She is responsible for the Chaplet of Divine Mercy.

(#7) Mother Catherine Aurelia (1833-1905). Feast day is January 22. Aurélie Caouette was born in St. Hyacinthe, Quebec. She was placed in a convent while very young but left at the age of 17. She loved to spend long hours before the Tabernacle. She founded the Sisters of the Precious Blood of Canada, who spend an hour of adoration from midnight until 1:00am in reparation for the sins committed that day. She had a gift of prophecy and died after a long illness.

(#8) St. Padre Pio (1887-1968) Feast day of September 23. Born Giuseppa, at the age of 12 received Holy Communion and Confirmation. At 16, he entered the Capuchin Friars and took the name Brother Pio. After ordination, he was sent to San Giovanni Rotondo and remained there until his death. Received the stigmata on Sept. 7, 1910 but he went away when he asked to suffer in secret. Our Lord appeared to him on Sept. 23, 1910 and gave him the bleeding wounds, which lasted his entire life. He was much in demand for his mystical gift of counsel, discernment and spiritual and physical healing.

(#9) St. Elizabeth Canori Mora (1774-1825) Feast day is February 5. Born in Rome to a rich family she married in 1796. Her husband treated her like a precious doll for a while but too soon, his attention turned to neglect and infidelity. She had to deal with her husband’s creditors, some of whom made sexual advances towards her. In 1801, a mysterious illness brought her to death’s door. She was cured in an inexplicable way and had her first mystical experience. She developed a deep prayer life and received many mystical graces and visions.

(#10) St. Anna Schäffer (1882-1925) Feast day is October 5. Born in Bavaria, she wished to enter a missionary order. In 1901, she slipped into a vat of oiling lye, which scalded both legs. Doctors could not heal her injuries and she spent the rest of her life in great pain. In 1923, she was permitted to re-live and share in the Passion in a spiritual way, for the sake of other souls in need.

(#11) Bl. László Batthyány-Strattmann (1870-1931) Feast day is January 22. A layman, doctor and father of a family, he was born in Dunakiliti, Hungary, into a noble family. Moved to Austria in 1876, married, and 1902 opened a private hospital. He worked as a general practitioner but later specialized as a surgeon & oculist. After he inherited a castle, he moved his family and practice to it. He was known as a “doctor of the poor” and his fee is one “Our Father.” At 60, he was diagnosed with a tumor of the bladder, and after 14 months of intense suffering, he died in Vienna. He said, “I am happy. I am suffering atrociously but I love my sufferings knowing that I support them for Christ.”

(#12) St. Thérèse of Lisieux (1873-1897). Feast day is October 1. Born in France, she entered the Carmelite Monastery at Lisieux at the age of 16. She became ill as a novice and offered her life for the salvation of souls and growth of the Church. She died of tuberculosis and is a Doctor of the Church.

(#13) St. Gianna Beretta Molla (1922-1962) Feast day is April 28. Born in Magenta (Milan), Italy, she experienced life as a marvelous gift from God, had a strong faith in Providence and was convinced of the necessity of prayer. She earned a medical degree in 1949 and opened a medical clinic in Mesero in 1950 with a specialty in pediatrics. In 1955, she married Pietro Molla and over the years gave birth to three children. In September 1961, while carrying her fourth child, she developed cancer but would not have an operation, as it would kill her unborn child. She gave birth to Gianna Emanuela on April 21, 1962 but despite all efforts and treatments to save both mother and daughter the mother died of sepsis. Her daughter is now a doctor like her mother and specializes in cancer research.

(#14) Bl. James Kern (1897-1924) Feast day is October 24. Born Francis in Vienna, he entered the minor seminary at age 14. In 1915, he was called to military service and in 1916 received a serious chest wound. He suffered with the pain until his death. In 1917, he returned to the major seminary only to be called for military duty again the next year. He entered the Norbertine Abbey in 1920 and was given the name James. He endured much suffering from his wounds, which did not heal properly. Ordained in 1922, he spent his life atoning for fallen-away priests. He died on the operating table the day before he was to make his final profession.

(#15) St. Thomas More (1469-1535) Feast day is June 22. Fisher studied at Cambridge University, was ordained, and became Bishop of Rochester. He was pastoral bishop, charitable to the poor, a man of prayer, and a persistent opponent of the errors of the Protestant Reformation. He was named a cardinal while in prison.

(#16) Bl. Edward Poppe (1890-1924) Feast day is June 10. Born in Moerzeke, Belgium, he learned generosity and devotion to prayer from his mother and a dedication to work and a love of the poor from his father. As a seminarian, he distinguished himself for his desire to fulfill the will of God perfectly. After ordination, he led a life of great personal poverty and his main concerns were for children, the poor and the dying. Due to poor health, he was transferred to a rural area and appointed rector of a religious community. He wrote about the problems of his time such as Marxism, secularism, and started a re-evangelization campaign, which started with the Eucharist.

(#17) Bl. Pius IX (1792-1978) Feast day is February 7. Born in Senigallia, Italy, he was very intelligent and his childhood is marked by voluntary mortifications and an intense religious life. He moved to Rome for higher studies but epilepsy forced him to interrupt them in 1812. He served as a catechist and was ordained in 1812. He was consecrated Bishop in 1832 and received the Cardinal's hat at the age of 48. On June 16, 1946, he

was elected Pope and took the name Pius IX. He had a difficult pontificate during which the Papal States fell. He defined the Dogma of the Immaculate Conception in 1854 and Infallibility of the Pope when speaking 'ex cathedra' during Vatican 1. He died on February 7, 1878 thus ending the longest pontificate in history.

(#18) St. Frances Cabrini (1850-1917) Feast day is November 13. Born in Lombardy, Italy, founded the Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart in 1880 who worked in schools, hospitals, and orphanages. In 1889 she went to the U.S. and did these same works, then also to Argentina, Brazil and Nicaragua and founded schools. She died in Chicago and was the first U.S. citizen canonized.

(#19) Bl. Dina Bélanger (1897-1949) Feast day is September 4. Canadian religious, musician and composer. She studied music in New York and as religious took the name of Sister Marie Sainte-Cecile de Rome. She became ill in 1929, she is known as The Canadian Little Flower.

(#20) St. Théophane Vénard (1929-1861. Feast day is November 26. Born in France. Born in France, as a boy he dreamed of being a martyr and began studies for the priesthood as early as he could. He left for Hong Kong and then went to Tongking. He had poor health but much zeal. He was captured, caged for two months and beheaded. He was favourite of St. Therese and she died with a lock of his hair in her hand.

(#21) St. Pier Giorgio Frassati (1901-1925) Feast day is July 4. Born in Turin, Italy, he was an average student but is known for his devotion and piety. He was also an excellent athlete, enjoyed skiing and mountain climbing and notorious for practical jokes and well liked for his gentle sincerity. He was dedicated to works of social action, charity and community and was a third order Dominican. He was especially devoted to the Blessed Sacrament and to private mental prayer. His family thought he was an idle playboy. He died of polio. He is called "Man of the Beatitudes" when he was beatified in 1990. Much of the work with the poor he did in secret. It is good to ask for his intercession for schoolwork since he was still a student and died before receiving his degree.

(#22) Bl. Marguerite Bays (1815-1879) Feast day is June 27. Born in La Pierraz, Switzerland, she was educated locally and worked as a dressmaker. At the age of 35, she developed cancer but was miraculously cured on Dec. 8, 1854, the exact time Pope Pius IX pronounced the Dogma of the Immaculate Conception. She received the stigmata and spent long hours in prayer before the Blessed Sacrament. She identified increasingly with the suffering of Jesus on the Cross but showed no signs of suffering. She died at 3:00 pm on Friday, June 27.

(#23) St. Mary Li Guo (1835-1900) Feast day is October 1. Born in Hujiache Village, China, one of the martyrs of China, she and her six family members were beheaded for their faith. Her last words: "We are going to Heaven."

(#24) St. Mother Teresa of Calcutta (1910-1997) Feast day is September 5. Born Agnes Gonxha Bojaxhiu in Macedonia, at 12 felt the call of God and at 18 joined the

Sisters of Loreto. She was sent to India and took first vows there. She taught until 1948 when she started her own work with the poorest of the poor. On October 7, 1950 she received permission to start her own order called "The Missionaries of Charity" to look after the persons nobody was prepared to look after.

(#25) Bl. Marie of Jesus Deluil-Martiny (1841-1884) Feast day is February 27. She was an intelligent and lively child, but unsure of her calling she sought advice from St. John Vianney. A spiritual adviser helped her unite her devotion to the Eucharist and the Sacred Heart. In 1873, she founded the Daughters of the Heart of Jesus, an order dedicated to daily adoration of the Eucharist union with Masses offered throughout the world, and the acceptance of all sufferings in reparation for offenses against Jesus in the Eucharist and for the sanctification of priests. After only eleven years of religious life, a young man whom the Sisters had hired as a gardener out of charity murdered Mother Marie. After she had been shot, her dying words were: "I forgive him...for the sake of his Work...for this Work."

(#26) St. Josephine Bakhita (1868-1947) Feast day is February 8. Born in Sudan, she was kidnapped by Arab slave raiders when seven, sold to an Arab chieftain and later to a Turkish military officer who branded her with 114 razor-cut scars. She was then sold to an Italian vice counsel in Khartoum who then returned to Italy in 1985 with her. When the family returned to Africa, Bakhita was freed by the Italian court. She learned about the faith, was baptized and confirmed in Venice. She then entered the Canossian Daughters of Charity. She spent her life as the doorkeeper at convents in Italy. She died of pneumonia in her 80's.

(#27) Bl. Gerard (1040-1120) Feast day is October 13. He came to Jerusalem from Europe at the end of the 11th Century. In 1909 founded a hospice for pilgrims and the sick. On February 15, 1113, Pope Paschal II approved the Sovereign and Military Order of St. John of Jerusalem and of Malta and of Rhodes to continue this work. They follow the rule of St. Augustine.

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