

Saint Martin of Tours, Bishop (c316 - 397 AD) - 11/11/2021 AD



https://www.catholic.org/saints/saint.php?saint_id=81

Martin was born in present day Hungary and followed his soldier father into the Roman cavalry at age 15. Martin one day encountered a beggar in Amiens, France while upon his horse. The beggar was unclad and suffering terribly from the cold.

Martin removed his military cloak, and with his sword, cut it in two, giving half to the poor suffering beggar. That same night, Saint Martin had a vision of The Lord, Who revealed that the beggar was actually a Theophany - a visible Manifestation of GOD Incarnate - of CHRIST Himself.

Thus began Martin's intense and miraculous journey of conversion as a catechumen in The Church. At age 20 and still a Roman soldier, Saint Martin refused to enter battle armed on the edge of the Empire in the vicinity of present day Worms, Germany, becoming convicted by his growing Christian conscience that he should not take human life.

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Saint Martin was still willing to serve, and asked his commanding officers to allow him to enter the battle unarmed. Arrested and charged with cowardice, the warring Germanic tribal chief unexplainedly suddenly made peace with the Romans and there was thus no battle. Released by his army superiors from service immediately thereafter, Martin "...left to pursue the monastic life near Lige, France.

In 372 he was elected Bishop of Tours, where, according to his biographer, he was known for the "humility in his heart" and the "homeliness in his garments." Martin traveled yearly through his extensive Diocese, preaching, consoling and razing the heathen temples. Miraculous cures, visions, and prophecy attended his ministry.

Anticipating his death in 397, Martin prayed, "Lord, if Your people still need me, I do not refuse the work. Your Will be done." By GOD's Grace, "Saint Martin translated his... military career into a campaign of spiritual warfare against the paganism and the temptations to worldly wealth that threatened the people of The Church he served as Monk and as Bishop."

Under The Command of CHRIST our King, Saint Martin of Tours engaged in spiritual combat in a life of Christian Works of Mercy - for The Love of GOD and his fellow man - with deep humbleness, compassion, piety, precision and dedication. He is a Patron Saint of poor, soldiers and conscientious objectors.

"O GOD, Who are glorified in the Bishop Saint Martin, both by his life and death, make new, we pray, the wonders of Your Grace in our hearts, that neither death nor life may separate us from Your Love. Through our Lord JESUS CHRIST, Your Son, Who lives and reigns with You in The Unity of The HOLY SPIRIT, GOD, for ever and ever." * AMEN.

EPHESIANS 6:10-18

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sGGEHFnLLyk>

10 Finally, my brethren, be strong in The Lord, and in The Power of His Might.

11 Put on the whole armour of GOD, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the Devil.

12 For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.

13 Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of GOD, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.

14 Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with Truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness;

15 And your feet shod with the preparation of The Gospel of Peace;

16 Above all, taking the shield of Faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked.

17 And take the helmet of salvation, and The Sword of The SPIRIT, which is The Word of GOD:

18 Praying always with all prayer and supplication in The SPIRIT, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all Saints;

*["Saint Martin of Tours." The Magnificat, 11/11/2021. Memorial, p 146. Introduction, p 144. Collect, p 146.]