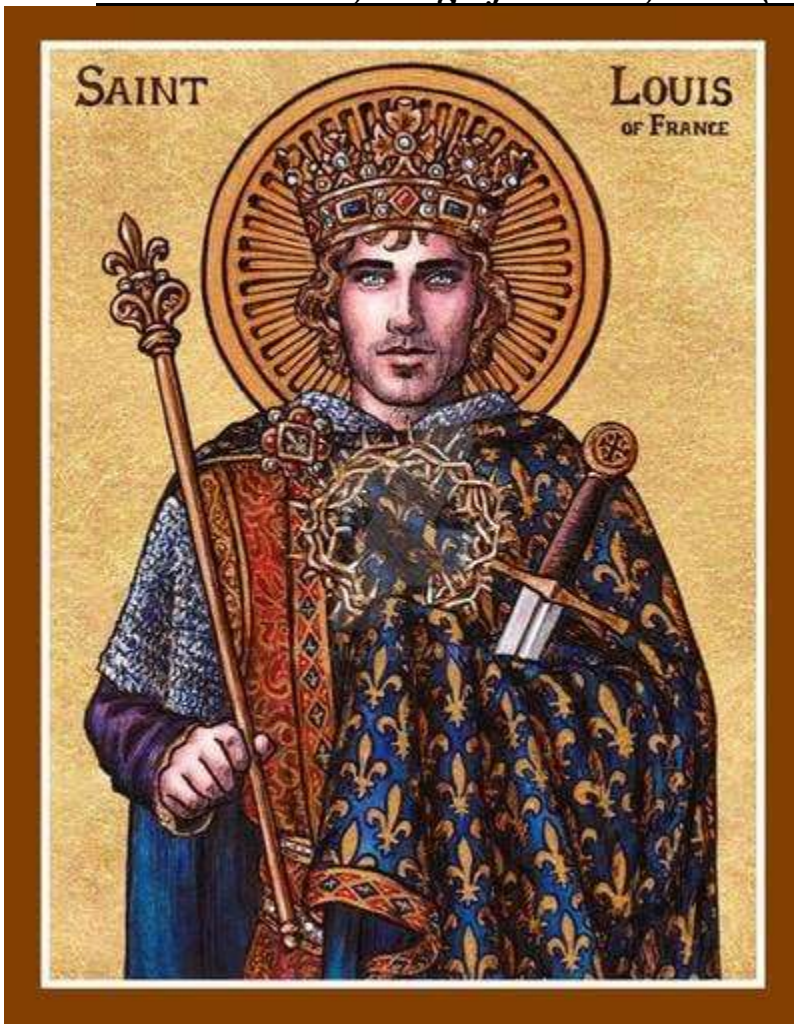


Robert W. Baral\*\*lecture\*\*Saint King Louis IV of France, OFS\*\*9/19/2021 AD

***Saint Louis IX, King of France, OFS (1214 - 1270 AD)***



feast day August 25

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sLr1GZ5oI2Y> [1]

“Brought up with reverence by his pious Catholic mother [Blessed Queen Blanche of Castile] after his father [King Louis VIII] died some years earlier, Saint Louis ascended the throne of France at the young age of 12. Codifying Christian law in France, Louis's devotion to CHRIST and The Church guided his quest for true civil and social justice for his people as a servant king. His piety became widely respected, and he was called on by princes domestic and kings foreign to settle disputes equitably as a peace maker.”

Louis IX is one of the most notable European monarchs of the Middle Ages. His reign is remembered as a medieval golden age in which the Kingdom of France reached an economic as well as political peak. His fellow European rulers esteemed him highly, for his pre-eminence in arms and the unmatched wealth of his kingdom, but also for his reputation of fairness and moral integrity: he was often asked to arbitrate their disputes.”

“He was a reformer and developed a French royal justice in which the king was the supreme judge to whom anyone could in theory appeal for the amendment of a judgment. He banned trials by ordeal, tried to end the scourge of private wars, and introduced the presumption of innocence in criminal procedure. To enforce his new legal system, Louis IX created provosts and bailiffs.” [2]

King Louis IX earnestly tried to live out the Christian corporal (physical) and spiritual Works of Mercy: "feed the hungry; give drink to the thirsty; clothe the naked; harbor the harborless; visit the sick; ransom the captive; bury the dead; instruct the ignorant; counsel the doubtful; admonish sinners; bear wrongs patiently; forgive offenses willingly; comfort the afflicted; pray for the living and the dead." [3]

King Louis was one of the first Catholic Laymen to be canonized a "Saint" by The Church: "Louis was devoted to his people, founding hospitals, visiting the sick, and like his patron Saint Francis, caring even for people with leprosy. He is one of the patrons of the Secular Franciscan Order. Louis united France - lords and townsfolk, peasants and Priests and knights - by the force of his personality and holiness. For many years the nation was at peace.

Every day, Louis had 13 special guests from among the poor to eat with him, and a large number of poor were served meals near his palace. During Advent and Lent, all who presented themselves were given a meal, and Louis often served them in person. He kept lists of needy people, whom he regularly relieved, in every province of his dominion." [4]

Answering the call to defend Christians from Islamic oppression, Saint Louis led the Seventh & Eighth Crusades to push back Muslim forces, but his military endeavors met with ultimate failure. He died after suffering from medical debilitation as a result of The Eighth Crusade.

Saint Louis lived and died in the cause of protecting The Kingdom of GOD on earth - The faithful Church and CHRIST's people - giving himself up as a Christian soldier servant king, following our Lord JESUS CHRIST, Who gave His Life up as our King on The Cross for us. Saints are not canonized by The Church because they lived perfect Christian lives on earth. The only Man to have done so is The Son of GOD, JESUS CHRIST, fully GOD and fully Man, but without sin.

The process of canonization: "The diocesan Bishop investigates how the person lived a heroic virtuous life, exemplifying the virtues of faith, hope and love through the calling of witnesses and the theological examination of the candidates' writings. If the cause is based on martyrdom, the diocesan Bishop investigates the circumstances surrounding the alleged martyrdom, which is also done through the calling of witnesses to the martyrdom and the examination of the candidates' life." [5]

King Louis IX exemplified the Christian man's walk of desire for earthly holiness in a virtuous life, and it may be argued, in a death of martyrdom for The Faith. Saint King Louis IX is the patron Saint of France and a patron Saint of Franciscan Orders. Saint Louis, pray for us, that we too may be given hearts desirous of following our Lord JESUS CHRIST in lives of Christian virtue! AMEN.

PHILIPPIANS 2:5-11

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6aq-QM\\_Fh6o](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6aq-QM_Fh6o) [6]

5 Let this Mind be in you, which was also in CHRIST JESUS:

6 Who, being in The Form of GOD, thought it not robbery to be equal with GOD:

7 But made Himself of no reputation, and took upon Him The Form of a Servant, and was made in the likeness of men:

8 And being found in fashion as a Man, He humbled Himself, and became obedient unto death, even The Death of The Cross.

9 Wherefore GOD also hath highly exalted Him, and given Him a Name which is above every name:

10 That at The Name of JESUS every knee should bow, of things in Heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth;

11 And that every tongue should confess that JESUS CHRIST is Lord, to The Glory of GOD The Father.

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## Addendum I

“Le Roi Louis – French Crusader Song” - a translation to English

<https://lyricstranslate.com/en/le-roi-louis-king-louis.html>

King Louis summoned,  
All his barons and knights.  
King Louis asked,  
"Who wants to follow me where I will go?"

The more ardent ones were prepared,  
they swore for faith, fidelity.  
The more prudent ones guessed,  
Where the king wanted to lead them to.

Then spoke the Duke of Baume,  
"I will fight for the kingdom."  
The king told him "It's not enough:  
We will defend Christianity."

Then spoke the Lord of Estienne:  
"I defend the Christian lands,  
But I do not want to go  
To sow the dead under the sea."

"Ah", said the king, "our dominance  
extends over the African river,  
Until the desert farther forward.  
It's our fief, and price of blood."

King Louis came from there.  
The most faithful ones followed him.  
He came quite, quite afar.  
To conquer the divine fief.

Addendum II

prayer hymn, “Make Me a Channel of Your Peace”

Saint Francis of Assisi

<https://www.lyrics.com/track/2045450/Sin%C3%A9ad+O%27Connor/Make+Me+a+Channel+of+Your+Peace>

Make me a channel of Your Peace

Where there is hatred let me bring Your Love

Where there is injury, Your pardon Lord

And where there is doubt true faith in You.

Make me a channel of Your Peace

Where there is despair in life let me bring hope

Where there is darkness only light

And where there's sadness ever joy.

Oh, Master grant that I may never seek

So much to be consoled as to console

To be understood as to understand

To be loved as to love with all my soul.

Make me a channel of Your Peace

It is in pardoning that we are pardoned

It is in giving... that we receive

And in dying that we are born to eternal life.