Saints and Their Symbols

ANCHOR. Sometimes three balls, or three children in a tub. Bishop's robes.

ANGEL or Man.


ANGEL holding a flame-tipped arrow. Dove. Carmelite habit.

ANGEL with pyx or chalice. Franciscan habit. Cardinal's hat on a tree or at his feet.

ANGEL holding fruit or flowers. Crown. Palm.

ANGEL ploughing in the background. Spade.


ARROWS, pierced by. Bound to a tree or column.

AXE.


BALLS, three. Bishop's robes.

BANNER with black Imperial eagle. Royal robes. Palm.


BEDS in background. Dark brown habit and hood.


S. Nicholas of Myra, 326. Patron saint of Russia, and many seaports; also of children.

S. Matthew, Apostle, Evangelist, M.

S. Frances of Rome, 1440.


S. Bonaventure, 1274.

S. Dorothy of Cappadocia, V.M., 303.

S. Isidore the Ploughman, 1170. Patron saint of agriculture.

S. Ursula, V.M. Patron saint of young girls, and women engaged in girls’ education.

S. Sebastian, M., 288. Patron saint against the plague and pestilence.

S. Matthias, Apostle., M.

S. Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist, M.

S. Nicholas of Myra, 326. Patron saint of Russia, and many seaports; also of children.

S. Wenceslaus of Bohemia, M., 938.

S. Ursula, V.M. Patron saint of young girls, and women engaged in girls’ education.

S. John of God, 1550, Founder of the Hospitallers.

S. Ambrose, 397. One of the Four Latin Fathers of the Church.

Adapted from Saints and Their Symbols, by E. A. Greene, 1901
BEGGAR, half naked, at his feet, or receiving part of his cloak.

BEGGAR at his feet. Dark brown habit and hood.

BEGGARS at her feet. Carrying roses in her mantle. Royal robes or Franciscan habit.


BELL suspended from the top of a crutch. Hog.

BLOOD flowing from his head. Generally pierced by a sword or axe. Dominican habit.

BLOOD flowing from his head. Bishop's robes.

BOOK transfixed by a sword, or stained with blood. Bishop's robes over Benedictine habit.

BOOKS. Sometimes a heart, flaming or transfixed by an arrow. Bishop's robes.

BOX of ointment. Surgical instruments. Two men together in red robes.

BRANCH of olive. Lamb. Palm.

CARDINAL, barefooted, with a rope round neck.

CARDINAL'S HAT, on a tree or at his feet. Franciscan habit.

CARDINAL'S HAT, at his feet or near him. Emaciated, old, and ragged, or in Cardinal's robes. Lion. Church in his hand.

CARPENTER'S or builder's square.

CHALICE or pyx. Franciscan habit. Cardinal’s hat on a tree or at his feet.

CHALICE. Dominican habit. Star on his breast.

CHILD on his shoulders. Walking through water.

CHILD-CHRIST in his arms, or on a book. Franciscan habit.

CHILD in his arms, or at his feet.

CHILDREN, three in a tub. Bishop’s robes.

S. Martin of Tours, 397. Patron saint of penitent drunkards.


S. Elizabeth of Hungary, 1231. Queen and mother of the poor.

S. Elizabeth of Portugal, 1336. Queen. Member of the Third Order of St. Francis.

S. Anthony, Hermit, 357.

S. Peter, Martyr, 1252. Dominican priest and defender of the Faith against heresies.

S. Thomas á Becket, M., 1170.

S. Boniface, 755. Apostle of Germany.

S. Augustine, 430

SS. Cosmas and Damian, M., 301. Patron saints of medicine.

S. Agnes, V.M., 304.

S. Charles Borromeo, 1584.

S. Bonaventure, 1274.

S. Jerome, 420. One of the Four Latin Fathers of the Church. Founder of Monachism in the West. Patron saint of scholars.

S. Thomas, Apostle, M. Patron saint of builders and architects.

S. Bonaventure, 1274.

S. Thomas Aquinas, 1274.

S. Christopher, 364.

S. Anthony of Padua, 1231.

S. Vincent de Paul, 1660. Founder of the Sisters of Charity

S. Nicholas of Myra, 326. Patron saint of Russia, and many seaports; also of children.
CHURCH in his hand. Emaciated, old, and ragged, or in Cardinal's robes. Cardinal's hat near. Lion.

CLOAK, dividing with beggar.

CLUB.

CROSS, transverse, or X-shaped.

CROSS at the end of a staff, or sometimes small in his hand, or T-shaped.


CROWN and scepter at his feet, or by his side. Lily. Young and in royal robes.

CROWN OF THORNS in hand. Franciscan habit or royal robes embroidered with fleur-de-lys.

CROWN OF THORNS. Stigmata. Dominican habit. Lily.

CRUCIFIX. Dominican habit. Sometimes wings.

CRUCIFIX. Pyx. Dominican habit.

CRUCIFIX. Lily. Surplice over black habit.

CRUTCH with a bell hanging from it. Hog.

CUP, with serpent. Eagle.

CUP, broken. Benedictine habit.


DEMON, bound, at his feet. White over black habit. Monstrance, or cup.

DISTAFF. Sheep. Sometimes basket of loaves.

DOG, with a torch in its mouth. Star on forehead. Lily. Dominican habit.

DOG by his side. Pilgrim's shell and staff. Pointing to a wound in his leg.

DOVE on his shoulder, or hovering over his head. Pope's robes.

DOVE. Benedictine habit. Lily with St. Benedict.

S. Jerome, 420. One of the Four Latin Fathers of the Church. Founder of Monachism in the West. Patron saint of scholars.

S. Martin of Tours, 397. Patron saint of penitent drunkards.

S. James the Less, Apostle, M.

S. Andrew, Apostle, M.

S. Philip, Apostle, M.

S. Margaret, V.M., 306.

S. Casimir of Poland, 1458.

S. Louis IX, King of France, 1270.

S. Catherine of Siena, 1380.

S. Vincent Ferrer, 1419.

S. Hyacinth, 1257.

S. Francis Xavier, 1552. Patron saint of India.

S. Anthony, Hermit, 357.

S. Benedict, 543. Founder of Benedictine Order.

S. Bernard of Clairvaux, 1153. Founder of the Cistercian Order of reformed Benedictines.

S. Norbert, 1134. Founder of Premonstratesians.

S. Lucy, V.M., 303. Patron against eye diseases.


S. Dominic, 1221. Founder of Dominican Order.

S. Roch, 1327. Patron saint of the sick, particularly the plague-stricken.

S. Gregory, 604. One of the Four Latin Fathers of the Church.

S. Scholastica, 543. Sister of Saint Benedict.
DOVE. Heart with I.H.S., or Angel holding flame-tipped arrow. Carmelite habit.


DRAGON, bound, at her feet. Pot of holy water. Keys at her girdle. Ladle.

EAGLE. Sometimes a cup and serpent.


FACE of Christ on a cloth.

FINGER on his lip. Five stars over his head.

FISH and keys.

FLAME of fire in his hand, or on his breast. Lily. Franciscan habit.


FLOWERS in her hand, or crowned by. Palm.

GRATE or gridiron. Sometimes only embroidered on his robe.

HAIR, long, fair. Vase or box of alabaster.


HAT, cardinal's, at his feet. Franciscan habit.


HEAD, carrying his own. Bishop's robes.

HEART, flaming, or transfixed with an arrow. Bishop's robes, Book at his feet or in his hands.

HEART, crowned by thorns, I.H.S. in the sky.

HEART with I.H.S. Carmelite habit. Sometimes crucifix and lily or dove.

HOG. Bell and crutch.

HUNTSMAN. Stag with a crucifix between horns.


S. George, M., 303. Patron saint of soldiers.

S. Margaret, V.M., 306.

S. Martha of Bethany, 84. Patron saint of cooks and housewives.

S. John, Apostle, Evangelist.

S. Lucy, V.M., 303. Patron against eye diseases.

S. Veronica of the Veil.


S. Peter, Apostle, M.

S. Anthony of Padua, 1231.

S. Louis IX, King of France, 1270.

S. Dorothy of Cappadocia, V.M., 303.

S. Laurence, M., 258.

S. Mary Magdalene. Patron of penitent women.

S. Jerome, 420. One of the Four Latin Fathers of the Church. Founder of Monachism in the West. Patron saint of scholars.

S. Bonaventure, 1274.


S. Denis, M., 1st century. Patron saint of France.

S. Augustine, 430. One of the Four Latin Fathers of the Church.

S. Ignatius Loyola, 1556. Founder of Soc. of Jesus.


S. Hubert, 727. Patron saint of dogs and the chase.
I.H.S. on heart. Carmelite habit. Sometimes crucifix and lily or dove.

I.H.S. in the sky. Heart crowned by thorns.

I.H.S. on a tablet surrounded by rays. Franciscan habit. Sometimes three mitres.

INKHORN, pen, and papers. White habit. Beehive.

INSTRUMENTS, surgical. Two men in red robes. Palms.

KEYS.

KEYS at her girdle. Pot of holy water. Ladle. Dragon at her feet.

KNIFE.

LADLE. Dragon at her feet. Pot of holy water.

LAMB. Crucifix.

LAMB. Olive-branch. Palm.

LAMB. Lily. Franciscan habit. Stigmata.

LAMP. Wound in her neck. Eyes on dish. Palm.

LANCE.

LEG, pointing to a wound in. Pilgrim's shell and staff. Sometimes dog.

LILY.

LILY. Dominican habit. Star on his forehead.

LILY. Franciscan habit. Stigmata.

LILY. Franciscan habit. Flame of fire in his hand or on his breast.

LILY. Young and in royal robes. Crown and scepter at his feet or by his side.

LILY. Crucifix. Surplice over black habit.

LILY. Dove. Benedictine habit.


LILY. Crown of thorns, stigmata, Dominican habit.


S. Ignatius Loyola, 1556. Founder of Soc. of Jesus.

S. Bernard of Siena, 1444. Founder of the Order of Observants, reformed Franciscans.

S. Bernard of Clairvaux, 1153. Founder of the Cistercian Order of reformed Benedictines.

SS. Cosmas and Damian, M., 301. Patron saints of medicine.

S. Peter, Apostle, M.

S. Martha of Bethany, 84. Patron saint of cooks and housewives.

S. Bartholomew, Apostle, M.

S. Martha of Bethany, 84. Patron saint of cooks and housewives.

S. John the Baptist.

S. Agnes, V.M., 304.

S. Francis of Assisi, 1226. Founder of the Franciscan Order.

S. Lucy, V.M., 303. Patron against eye diseases.

S. Jude Thaddeus, Apostle, M.

S. Roch, 1327. Patron saint of prisoners and the sick, especially the plague-stricken.

S. Joseph.

S. Dominic, 1221. Founder of Dominican Order.

S. Francis of Assisi, 1226. Founder of the Franciscan Order.

S. Anthony of Padua, 1231.

S. Casimir of Poland, 1458.

S. Francis Xavier, 1552. Patron saint of India.

S. Scholastica, 543. Sister of Saint Benedict.

S. Clare, 1253. Foundress of the Poor Clare Nuns.

S. Catherine of Siena, 1380.
LILY. Javelin with point reversed. Palm.  
LION, generally winged.  
LION. Emaciated, old, and ragged, or in cardinal's robes. Cardinal's hat nearby.  
LOAVES in basket. Shepherdess' dress and distaff.  
MAN, or Angel.  
MITRES, three, on a book, or at feet. White habit.  
MITRES, three. Franciscan habit.  
MONSTRANCE of the Blessed Sacrament. White over black habit. Sometimes demon bound.  
MULE, kneeling. Flame in his hand. Franciscan habit.  
MUSICAL instruments. Palm.  
NECK, sword or wound in, rays issuing from it.  
NUN. Black and white habit, with red band across her forehead. Crosier. Pilgrim's staff.  
ORGAN.  
OX.  
PADLOCK on his mouth, or in his hand. Five stars over his head.  
PICTURE of the Blessed Virgin.  
PIG. Crutch and bell. Old.  
PINCERS holding a tooth.  
POT of holy water, and asperges. Dragon at her feet. Ladle.  
PURSE. Pen and inkhorn. Palm.  
PURSES, three. Bishop's robes.  
PYX. Franciscan habit. Cardinal's hat nearby.  
PYX. Crucifix. Dominican habit.  
S. Philomena, V.M., 303.  
S. Mark, Evangelist, M.  
S. Jerome, 420. One of the Four Latin Fathers of the Church. Founder of Monachism in the West. Patron saint of scholars.  
S. Matthew, Apostle, Evangelist, M.  
S. Bernard of Clairvaux, 1153. Founder of the Cistercian Order of reformed Benedictines.  
S. Bernardine of Siena, 1411.  
S. Norbert, 1134. Founder of Premonstratesians.  
S. Anthony of Padua, 1231.  
S. Lucy, V.M., 303. Patron against eye diseases.  
S. Bridget of Sweden, 1373. Foundress of the Order of Brigittines.  
S. Luke, Evangelist, M.  
S. Luke, Evangelist, M.  
S. Anthony, Hermit, 357.  
S. Martha of Bethany, 84. Patron saint of cooks and housewives.  
S. Matthew, Apostle, Evangelist, M.  
S. Nicholas of Myra, 326. Patron saint of Russia and many seaports; also of children.  
S. Bonaventure, 1274.  
S. Hyacinth, 1257.  
S. Clare, 1253. Foundress of the Poor Clare Nuns.
RAVEN with a loaf in its beak. Benedictine habit.

ROD. Crutch and bell. Hog near him.


ROSES, red and white, in her robe. Franciscan habit or royal robes.

ROSES, crown of, or holding in her hand. Palm.


SAW. Sometimes fishes.

SCOURGE, with three knotted thongs. Bishop's robes.

SEVEN youths surrounding her. Veil. Palm.

SHEARS. Palm.

SHEEP. Distaff. Basket of loaves.

SHELL. Long staff and wallet.

SHIELD with black eagle. Royal robes. Palm.


SKIN, carrying his own. Knife.

SKULL. Franciscan habit. Stigmata.

SPADE. Laborer's dress. Sometimes an angel ploughing in the background.

SPEAR. Roman soldier's dress.

STAFF, long, with wallet or bottle. Scallop shell.

STAG with crucifix between its horns. Huntsman's dress or bishop's robes.

STAR on his forehead. Lily. Dominican habit.

STAR on his breast. Dominican habit.

STAR on his breast or above his head. Crucifix wreathed with lily. Benedictine habit.

STARS, five, over his head. Finger on his lips or padlock.

STIGMATA. Franciscan habit. Sometimes a lamb.

S. Benedict, 543. Founder of Benedictine Order.

S. Anthony, Hermit, 357.


S. Elizabeth of Hungary, 1231.

S. Dorothy of Cappadocia, V.M., 303.


S. Simon the Zealot, Apostle, M.

S. Ambrose, 397. One of the Four Latin Fathers of the Church. Patron saint of Milan.

S. Felicitas and her seven sons, M., 173.

S. Agatha, V.M., 251.


S. James the Great, Apostle, M. Patron of Spain.

S. Wenceslaus of Bohemia, M., 938.

S. Nicholas of Myra, 326. Patron saint of Russia, and many seaports, also of children.

S. Bartholomew, Apostle, 31.

S. Francis of Assisi, 1226. Founder of the Franciscan order.

S. Isidore the Ploughman, 1170. Patron saint of agriculture.

S. Longinus. The centurion at the crucifixion.

S. James the Great, Apostle, M. Patron of Spain.

S. Hubert, 727. Patron saint of the chase and dogs.

S. Dominic, 1221. Founder of Dominican Order.

S. Thomas Aquinas, 1274.

S. Nicholas of Tolentino, 1309.


S. Francis of Assisi, 1226. Founder of the Franciscan Order.
STIGMATA. Lily. Thorns. Dominican habit.  
S. Catherine of Siena, 1380.

STONE, beating his breast with.  
S. Jerome, 420. One of the Four Latin Fathers of the Church. Founder of Monachism in the West. Patron saint of scholars.

STONES. Deacon's robes. Palm.  
S. Stephen, Protomartyr.

SWORD.  
S. Paul, Apostle, M.

SWORD and scales.  
S. Michael the Archangel.

SWORD piercing his head. Bishop's robes.  
S. Thomas á Becket, M., 1170.

SWORD, pierced or in his head. Dominican habit.  
S. Peter, Martyr, 1252. Dominican priest.

S. Barbara, V.M., 803. Patron saint of fortifications and against thunder and lightning.

SWORD in her neck. Eyes on dish. Lamp. Palm.  
S. Lucy, V.M., 303. Patron against eye diseases.

TONGS or pincers. Palm.  
S. Agatha, V.M., 251.

TOOTH held in pincers.  

S. Barbara, V.M., 803, Patron of fortifications, and against thunder and lightning.

TREE, foot on prostrate. Bishop's robes over Benedictine habit.  
S. Boniface, 755. Apostle of Germany.

TWO men in red robes and caps, with surgical instruments.  
SS. Cosmas and Damian, M., 301. Patron saints of medicine.

TWO men in armor. Palms.  
SS. John and Paul, M., 362.

VASE or box of alabaster. Long fair hair.  
S. Mary Magdalene. Patron of penitent women.

WALLET and long staff. Scallop shell.  
S. James the Great, Apostle, M. Patron of Spain.

WHEEL. Crown. Palm.  

WINGS. Dominican habit. Crucifix.  
S. Vincent Ferrer, 1419.

WOUND, pointing to, in his leg. Pilgrim's shell and staff. Sometimes dog nearby.  
S. Roch, 1327. Patron saint of prisoners and the sick, especially the plague-stricken.