



You shall love the LORD your GOD with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength.

Mk 12:30

BLESS MY FAMILY BLESS MY CHURCH

St. Michael Center for the Blessed Virgin Mary

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GoodNews@SaintMichaelUSA.org
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St. Michael the Archangel defend us in the day of battle!



**JESUS
I TRUST
IN YOU!**

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FIRST MARTYRS OF ROME

June 30th

<https://saintmichaelusa.org/0630-Martyrs-Rome>



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First Martyrs of the See of Rome



The holy men and women are also called the "Protomartyrs of Rome." They were accused of burning Rome by Nero, who burned Rome to cover his own crimes. Some martyrs were burned as living torches at evening banquets, some crucified, others were fed to wild animals, killed in the Colosseum as entertainment.

These martyrs died before Sts. Peter and Paul, and are called "disciples of the Apostles. . . whom the Holy Roman church sent to their Lord before the Apostles' death." The faith of these martyrs inspired many converts in Rome and helped the growth of the young Church.

Nero became the emperor of Rome in 54. About 10 years later, he began to persecute the Christians. When a terrible fire broke out in the city, Nero accused the Christians of causing it. He increased his efforts to destroy them. Nero had Christians covered with pitch and set on fire to light the way for his night drive through the park. He had some Christians sewn into animal skins and left in the woods so that he and his guests could go hunting for them. In the two centuries after Nero, thousands of Christians were put to death. These martyrs died before Sts. Peter and Paul, and are called "disciples of the Apostles. . . whom the Holy Roman church sent to their Lord before the Apostles' death." All these unnamed martyrs are honored on the day after the feast of Saints Peter and Paul.

First Martyrs of the Church of Rome

O Jesus Christ, the first martyrs of the Church of Rome were unnamed Catholics who were brutally killed by Nero. They were forced to wear animal skins and hunted, and they were made into living torches to brighten the road on which Nero traveled. I ask these martyrs to pray for me when I am in fear. Give me strength, O Lord, from their example of courage. Deliver me from all the fears I have: the petty ones, the hidden ones, and the most paralyzing ones. Fear causes us to believe lies about ourselves and stops us from growing, but Your love casts out all fear. Help me to "be not afraid!" Holy first martyrs of the Church of Rome, pray for me.

Amen.

Reflection

Wherever the Good News of Jesus was preached, it met the same opposition as Jesus did, and many of those who began to follow him shared his suffering and death. But no human force could stop the power of the Spirit unleashed upon the world. The blood of martyrs has always been, and will always be, the seed of the Catholics.



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Christian Martyrs

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PRAYER IN HONOUR OF THE FIRST MARTYRS OF HOLY ROMAN CHURCH

O God, who consecrated the abundant first fruits of the Roman Church by the blood of the Martyrs, grant, we pray, that with firm courage we may together draw strength from so great a struggle and ever rejoice at the triumph of faithful love. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.

Prayer

O Jesus Christ, the first martyrs of the Church of Rome were unnamed Christians who were brutally killed by Nero. They were forced to wear animal skins and hunted, and they were made into living torches to brighten the road on which Nero traveled. I ask these martyrs to pray for me when I am in fear. Give me strength, O Lord, from their example of courage. Deliver me from all the fears I have: the petty ones, the hidden ones, and the most paralyzing ones. Fear causes us to believe lies about ourselves and stops us from growing, but Your love casts out all fear. Help me to "be not afraid!" Holy first martyrs of the Church of Rome, pray for me. Amen.

Prayer

God, You consecrated the copious first Fruits of the Roman Church with the blood of Martyrs. Grant that we may be strengthened in virtue by the agony of such a struggle and always rejoice in their victory. Amen.

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COLLECT



O God, who consecrated the abundant first fruits of the Roman Church by the blood of the Martyrs, grant, we pray, that with firm courage we may together draw strength from so great a struggle and ever rejoice at the triumph of faithful love.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever.



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SAINT OF THE DAY | First Martyrs of the Church of Rome

YouTube <https://youtu.be/d2zphHMKaD8>

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The First Holy Martyrs of the Roman Church

YouTube <https://youtu.be/cyXr3UySmPA>

First Martyrs Of The Holy Roman Church | Saint of the Day with Fr Lindsay | 30 June 2021

YouTube <https://youtu.be/ldcEgjzIKcc>

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