



5 And the saying was liked by all the multitude. And they chose Stephen, a man full of faith, and of the Holy Ghost, and Philip, and Prochorus, and Nicanor, and Timon, and Parmenas, and Nicolas, a proselyte of Antioch.

6 These they set before the apostles; and they praying, imposed hands upon them.

7 And the word of the Lord increased; and the number of the disciples was multiplied in Jerusalem exceedingly; a great multitude also of the priests obeyed the faith.

**Responsorial Psalm - Psalms 33:1-2, 4-5, 18-19**

R. (22) Lord, let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you.  
or:  
R. Alleluia.

1 Exult, you just, in the LORD; praise from the upright is fitting.  
2 Give thanks to the LORD on the harp; with the ten-stringed lyre chant his praises.

R. Lord, let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you.  
or:  
R. Alleluia.

4 Upright is the word of the LORD, and all his works are trustworthy.  
5 He loves justice and right; of the kindness of the LORD the earth is full.

R. Lord, let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you.  
or:  
R. Alleluia.

18 See, the eyes of the LORD are upon those who fear him, upon those who hope for his kindness,  
19 To deliver them from death and preserve them in spite of famine.

R. Lord, let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you.  
or:  
R. Alleluia.

**2nd Reading - 1 Peter 2:4-9**

4 Beloved: Unto whom coming, as to a living stone, rejected indeed by men, but chosen and made honourable by God:

<b>Saint Joseph's, Saint Anne's &amp; Holy Family And Saint Patrick's 3rd</b>	
<b>3rd Of May 2026, Fifth Sunday of Easter, Year A</b>	
Served By The Discalced Carmelites	
Parish Priest: Fr. Louis Aroon OCD email: louisaroon2015@gmail.com	
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<b>Catholic Sunday Mass Readings for May 3 2026, Fifth Sunday of Easter, Year A</b>	
1st Reading	Acts 6:1-7
Responsorial Psalm	Psalms 33:1-2, 4-5, 18-19
2nd Reading	1 Peter 2:4-9
Alleluia	John 14:6
Gospel	John 14:1-12

**1st Reading - Acts 6:1-7**

1 And in those days, the number of the disciples increasing, there arose a murmuring of the Greeks against the Hebrews, for that their widows were neglected in the daily distribution.

2 Then the twelve calling together the multitude of the disciples, said, "It is not right for us to neglect the word of God to serve at table.

3 Therefore, brethren, look ye out among you seven men of good reputation, full of the Holy Ghost and wisdom, whom we may appoint over this business.

4 But we will give ourselves continually to prayer, and to the ministry of the word.

5 and, like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.

6 For it is said in the scripture: Behold, I lay in Zion a chief corner stone, elect, precious. And he that shall believe in him, shall not be confounded.

7 To you therefore that believe, he is honour: but to them that believe not, the stone which the builders rejected, the same is made the head of the corner:

8 And a stone of stumbling, and a rock of scandal, to them who stumble at the word, neither do believe, whereunto also they are set.

9 But you are a chosen generation, a kingly priesthood, a holy nation, a purchased people: that you may declare his virtues, who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light:

**Alleluia - John 14:6**

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

6 I am the way, the truth and the life, says the Lord; no one comes to the Father, except through me.

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

**Gospel - John 14:1-12**

1 Jesus said to his disciples: Let not your heart be troubled. You believe in God, believe also in me.

2 In my Father's house there are many mansions. If not, I would have told you: because I go to prepare a place for you.

3 And if I shall go, and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and will take you to myself; that where I am, you also may be.

4 And where I go you know, and the way you know.

5 Thomas said to him: Lord, we know not where you go; and how can we know the way?

6 Jesus said to him: I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No man comes to the Father, but by me.

7 Jesus said to his disciples: If you had known me, you would without doubt have known my Father also: and from henceforth you shall know him, and you have seen him.

8 Philip said to him: Lord, show us the Father, and it is enough for us.

9 Jesus saith to him: Have I been so long a time with you; and have you not known me? Philip, he that sees me sees the Father also. How can you say, 'Show us the Father'?

10 Do you not believe, that I am in the Father, and the Father in me? The words that I speak to you, I speak not of myself. But the Father who abides in me, he does the works.

11 Believe you not that I am in the Father, and the Father in me?

12 Otherwise believe for the very works' sake. Amen, amen I say to you, he that believes in me, the works that I do, he also shall do; and greater than these shall he do. Because I go to the Father:

**Saint(s) Of The Day**

St James the Lesser Biography



St James the Lesser - Feast Day - May 3 2026

Date of Birth	Sometime before the birth of Jesus Christ
Place of Birth	Israel
Profession	Apostle of Jesus Christ and 1st Bishop of Jerusalem
Place of Work	Jerusalem
Date of Death	62 AD
Place of Death	Jerusalem
Feast Day	The 3 <sup>rd</sup> Of May
Canonization	Pre-Congregation
Patron Saint of	

**St James the Lesser Biography**

The name of James the Lesser is mentioned in relation to his mother, "Mary", who is also the mother of Joseph, referred to as Joses by Mark, with both names being variations of the same name. There are four instances where this connection is made:

- In Matthew 27:56, there is a reference to "Mary, who is the mother of James and Joseph".
- Mark 15:40 mentions "Mary, who is the mother of James the younger and Joses", with the note that "James the younger" has also been translated as "James the less".
- In both Mark 16:1 and Luke 24:10, there is a reference to "Mary, who is the mother of James".
- It's possible that this "Mary" referred to in the earlier mentions was Mary of Clopas, who is only mentioned in John 19:25. However, it's unlikely that it was Mary, the mother of Jesus, as she is not specifically identified as Jesus' mother but rather as the mother of James the Less and Joseph/Joses. In Matthew 27:56, Mary is clearly distinguished from the mother of James, son of Zebedee.

To distinguish James from the other James, who was also one of the twelve apostles and referred to as James, son of Zebedee or "James the Great", the title "the Less" is used. This title implies that James is either younger or shorter than the other James. According to long-standing tradition, James, the son of Alphaeus, is identified as James the Less, while James, son of Zebedee, is referred to as "James the Great" (although the New Testament doesn't use this designation). There is a proposal that Alphaeus could be the same person as Cleophas, or at least the husband of Mary Clopas. St. James the Lesser, who was also known as "James the Just," served as the first Bishop of Jerusalem and participated in the Council of Jerusalem around the year 50. His person was highly regarded by others, which is evident from the fact that he was given the surname "James the Just."

According to Eusebius and St. Jerome, St. James the Lesser was highly revered for his holiness and devotion to God. They noted that he was always dedicated to God and, as a result, he never shaved or cut his hair, refrained from consuming wine or any other strong alcoholic beverage, did not use oils to anoint his body, and only ate living creatures when it was required by religious precepts, such as the paschal lamb. He also wore only a single linen garment and never wore sandals. Additionally, he was known for prostrating in prayer so much that his knees and forehead developed hardened skin, similar to camels' hooves. St. James the Lesser authored "The Letter of James" a canonical epistle in Greek that is referred to as "catholic" or universal because it is not addressed to a specific church but to all the converted Jews who were scattered

throughout the known world. This letter was written after St. Paul's letters to the Galatians in 55 AD and to the Romans in 58 AD, so it could not have been written before the year 59 AD, which was fourteen years after the death of St. James the Greater. In his epistle, Saint James the Lesser aims to counter the teachings of false teachers who misuse some of St. Paul's writings to promote the idea that faith alone is enough for salvation and that good works are unnecessary. St. James asserts that faith without good works is lifeless. He also includes valuable instructions on leading a righteous life and urges believers not to disregard the sacrament of extreme unction when ill. After St. Paul appealed to Caesar and was sent to Rome by Festus in the year 60AD, the Jews became infuriated at their failure to harm him and decided to take revenge on St. James instead. After the death of the governor, but before the arrival of his successor, Albinus, the Jewish authorities acted more oppressively than they would have otherwise dared to. During this time, Ananus, the high priest, son of the Annas mentioned in the gospels, called together the Sanhedrin, which was the supreme council of the Jews. He then summoned St. James and others to appear before the council. St. James the Lesser was charged with breaking the laws and was handed over to the crowd to be stoned to death. They took him up to the temple's battlements and forced him to publicly renounce his belief in Christ. The purpose of this was to "undeceive" those among the people who had converted to Christianity. At that moment, St. James the Lesser used the occasion to openly and fervently proclaim his faith in Jesus Christ. He spoke loudly from the battlements, in front of a large crowd that had gathered in Jerusalem for the Passover, proclaiming that Jesus, the Son of man, was seated at the right hand of the Almighty and would return in the clouds of heaven to judge the world. The Scribes and Pharisees were infuriated by St. James the Lesser's testimony for Jesus and exclaimed, "The just man also has erred." They then ascended to the battlements and threw him down to the ground, saying, "He must be stoned." Despite being severely injured from the fall, St. James managed to kneel down and look up to heaven. In that position, he prayed to God to forgive his murderers, for they knew not what they were doing. The crowd below pelted him with stones, and eventually, a cloth fuller struck him on the head with a club used for cloth dressing. This blow caused St. James to die immediately. The incident occurred on the festival of the Passover, specifically on April 10th, in the year 62 AD, during the reign of Nero. After his martyrdom, St. James the Lesser was laid to rest near the temple where he was killed, and a small pillar was erected at the site.

## St Philip, Apostle Biography



St Philip the Apostle - Feast Day - May 3 2026

Place of Birth	Bethsaida of Galilee
Profession	Apostle of Jesus Christ
Place of Work	Greece, Syria, and Phrygia
Date of Death	80 AD
Place of Death	Hierapolis, (modern-day Pamukkale, Denizli, Turkey)
Feast Day	3 <sup>rd</sup> Of May
Canonization	Pre-Congregation
Patron Saint of	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Cape Verde</li> <li>▪ Hatters</li> <li>▪ Pastry chefs</li> <li>▪ San Felipe Pueblo, New Mexico, United States</li> <li>▪ Uruguay</li> </ul>

## St Philip the Apostle Biography

According to the New Testament, St. Philip was one of the Twelve Apostles of Jesus Christ, born in Bethsaida of Galilee. Additional Christian traditions suggest that he was the apostle who preached in Greece, Syria, and Phrygia. Philip the Apostle, who was one of the twelve apostles of Jesus, is not to be mistaken for Philip the Evangelist, who was appointed alongside Stephen to supervise charitable distributions, as documented in the Acts of the Apostles 6:5. St. Philip the Apostle was present with John the Baptist when he identified Jesus as the Lamb of God. He was the one who initially introduced Jesus to Nathanael (also known as Bartholomew). Philip was also present at the wedding feast in Cana. Philip was involved in the miracle where Jesus fed a large crowd with only five loaves of bread and two fish (John 6:5-9). *When Jesus raised his eyes and saw that a large crowd was coming to him, he said to Philip, "Where can we buy enough food for them to eat?" He said this to test him, because he himself knew what he was going to do. Philip answered him, "Two hundred days' wages worth of food would not be enough for each of them to have a little [bit]."* John 6:5-9 St. Philip later became a bridge to the Greek community, as he himself had a Greek name and may have been familiar with Greek culture and language. It is possible that Greek pilgrims in Jerusalem knew him. He is mentioned in the New Testament as the one who informed Andrew that some Greeks wanted to meet Jesus, and they both conveyed this message to Jesus. (John 12:21) At the Last Supper, Philip asked Jesus to reveal the Father to them, giving Jesus a chance to explain to his disciples about the oneness of the Father and the Son. The story of Philip's martyrdom in Hierapolis recounts that he healed and preached to the wife of the city's proconsul, which led to the proconsul becoming angry and ordering the torture of Philip, Bartholomew, and Mariamne. Eventually, Philip and Bartholomew were crucified upside-down, and while on the cross, Philip continued to preach. The crowd was moved by his words, and they released Bartholomew from his cross. However, Philip refused to be released and remained on the cross until his death. The remains of Philip the Apostle are presently located in the crypt of Basilica Santi Apostoli in Rome.

- Saint Ansfrid of Utrecht
- Blessed Emilia Bicchieri
- Saint Stanislas Kazimierczyk
- Blessed Tommaso Acerbis
- Saint Gabriel Gowdel
- Saint Conleth of Kildare
- Pope Saint Alexander I
- Blessed Marie Leonie Paradis

- [Saint Juvenal of Narni](#)
- [Saint Maura of Antinoe](#)
- [Saint Timothy of Antinoe](#)
- [Blessed Ramon Oromí Sullà](#)
- [Blessed Edoardo Giuseppe Rosaz](#)
- [Saint Ahmed the Calligrapher](#)
- [Saint Aldwine of Peartney](#)

### **Blessed Adam of Cantalupo in Sabina**

Blessed Adam of Cantalupo in Sabina was also known as Adamo. He was an 11th century monk, miracle worker and hermit who rebuilt churches in Cantalupo in Sabina, Italy that had been destroyed by invading Saracens. He was beatified by Pope Urban VIII in 1634. In art, he is represented as an elderly bald man with a thick white beard, dressed as a monk, carrying a hammer in his right hand, a farming tool in his left, draped with strings of hearts representing graces received.

### **Blessed Zechariah**

Blessed Zechariah was also known as Zaccaria. He became a Franciscan after he was accepted into the Order in Rome, Italy by St Francis of Assisi. St Francis sent him to Spain to preach Christianity to the Moors. He used miracles to prove the Real Presence. He died in 1249 AD and was buried under the floor of the main chapel of the monastery of St Catherine of Alemquer, Portugal. His relics were enshrined in a grated wall creche of the chapel in 1562 AD.

### **Saint Alexander of Constantinople**

Saint Alexander of Constantinople was a former soldier in the Roman army who lived during the persecutions of Maximian. When Saint Antonina of Constantinople was condemned to live as a prostitute, Alexander swapped places and attire with her. They were discovered, tortured, and had their hands cut off before being martyred together by being burnt alive. These events took place in Constantinople in the year 313 AD.

### **Saint Antonina of Constantinople**

According to accounts, Saint Antonina of Constantinople was a virgin who had been consecrated but was condemned to live a life of prostitution. She was found out after exchanging places with Saint Alexander of Constantinople, and as punishment, she was

subjected to torture and had her hands cut off before being burnt alive in Constantinople in 313 AD.

### **Saint Ethelwin of Lindsey**

Saint Ethelwin of Lindsey was an 8th-century monk at Ripon Abbey who also spent 12 years living as a hermit on Farne Island. He was acquainted with Saint Egbert and later became the Bishop of Lindsey, England. In his later years, he retired to religious life in Ireland and died there of natural causes in the 8th century. He was buried in Lidisfarne, England.

### **Saint Alexander of Rome**

Saint Alexander of Rome served as a priest in the city of Rome, Italy. He was subjected to imprisonment, torture, and execution by burning and beheading, along with Saint Theodulus of Rome and Saint Eventius of Rome. These events occurred in 113 AD on the Via Nomentana in Rome, Italy. After his death, his remains were interred in the Dominican church of Santa Sabina, which is also located in Rome.

### **Saint Theodulus of Rome**

Saint Theodulus of Rome lived as a priest in Rome, Italy. He was also incarcerated, tortured and murdered as a martyr by being burnt and beheaded alongside Saint Alexander of Rome and Saint Eventius of Rome in the year 113 AD on the Via Nomentana in Rome, Italy. His relics were also buried in the Dominican church of Santa Sabina, Rome.

### **Saint Eventius of Rome**

Saint Eventius of Rome lived as a priest in Rome, Italy. He was also imprisoned, persecuted and murdered as a martyr by being burnt and beheaded alongside Saint Theodulus of Rome and Saint Alexander of Rome in the year 113 AD on the Via Nomentana in Rome, Italy. His relics were also buried in the Dominican church of Santa Sabina, Rome.

### **Saint Philip of Zell**

Saint Philip of Zell lived as an Anglo-Saxon pilgrim and also as a hermit near Worms, Germany. He was a friend with and advisor to King Pepin the Short. He brought about the founding of the monastery of Zell, Germany around which grew the town of the same name. He was the patron saint of infants or rather babies. He was believed to have died in the year 770 AD of natural causes

**Blessed Alexander of Foigny,**

Blessed Alexander of Foigny was born to a royal Scottish family in the year 1180 AD in Scotland. He was the brother of Blessed Mechthild and was a Cistercian monk at Foigny monastery, diocese of Laon, France. He was believed to have died of natural causes in 4th May 1229 of natural causes.

**Saint Adalsindis of Bèze**

Saint Adalsindis of Bèze also known as Adalsainde, Adalseinde or Adalsind was sister to Saint Waldalenus and was Abbess of a convent near Bèze under the supervision of her brother. She passed away in the year 680 AD from natural causes.

**Blessed Alexander Vincioli**

Blessed Alexander Vincioli was born in Perugia Italy and lived as a Franciscan priest and confessor to Pope John XXII. He was the Bishop of Nocera, Umbria, Italy. It is said that he died in 1363 at Sassoferrato, Italy.

**Saint Scannal of Cell-Coleraine**

Saint Scannal of Cell-Coleraine was believed to be a spiritual student in Ireland of Saint Columba of Iona. He belonged to the Zealous monastery and is said to have died in the year 563 AD.

**Saint Rhodopianus the Deacon**

Saint Rhodopianus the Deacon was said to have lived as a deacon and martyred in the persecutions of Diocletian in Aphrodisia, Caria, Asia Minor.

**Saint Fumac**

Saint Fumac also known as Fumach was known to be the first Christian missionary in Banffshire, Scotland. It is believed that a healing well in the area is explicitly named after him. His patronage is said to be in Drummuir, Scotland.

**Saint Diodorus the Deacon**

Saint Diodorus the Deacon was believed to be martyred in the persecutions of Diocletian in Aphrodisia, Caria, Asia Minor.

**Saint Peter of Argos**

Saint Peter of Argos lived as a bishop in Argos, Greece and was well known for his ministry to the poor and the slaves and popularly as a peacemaker. It is believed that he died in the year 922 AD.

**Blessed Sostenaeus**

Blessed Sostenaeus's information is lacking and unclear but it is believed that he died on Mount Senario near Florence, Italy while at prayer.

**Blessed Uguccio**

Information on Blessed Uguccio is unclear but it is also believed that he died while at prayer on Mount Senario near Florence.

**Other Saints of the Day for The 3<sup>rd</sup> Of May 2026**

- William of Florence
- Viola of Verona
- Theodosius of Kiev
- Arnaldo de Rossinol

**Catholic Sunday Mass Readings For The 3<sup>rd</sup> Of May 2026 - Fifth Sunday of Easter, Year A**

Today's 3<sup>rd</sup> Of May 2026 Catholic Sunday Readings Homily Theme: In My Father's House, There Are Many Dwelling Places - John 14:1-6

**Weekend Mass Times:**

Saturday Night Mass Times	
Saint Josephs	5:30pm

Sunday Mass Times	
Saint Joseph's	9:30am
Saint Anne's & Holy Family	11:00 am
Saint Patrick's Ryhope	9:30 am

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