

St. Paul the Apostle

Feast Day, June 29

The Patron Saint of Missions, Theologians and Gentile Christians

Saint Paul, originally known as Saul, is one of the most important and influential of all the saints. Many of his writings are contained in the Canon of the Bible and have influenced the growth and development of the Church since the first century.

Paul traveled the world, first to Arabia then back to Damascus. During these travels, he preached ceaselessly, often drawing criticism and ire from those who rebuffed his message.

Eventually, Paul returned to Tarsus, the place where he was born. He preached there until he was called by Barnabas to come to Antioch.

Paul and Barnabas then went forth on a mission to Cyprus and throughout Asia Minor. They established several churches in their travels. After establishing his churches, Paul remained in communication with the faithful, often writing letters to answer questions and resolve disputes.

The letters that have survived have become part of the Bible. Paul traveled throughout much of Europe, particularly in Macedonia, Greece, and Italy. While preparing for a missionary trip to Spain, he was imprisoned in Caesarea for two years. He traveled again, was shipwrecked in Malta, and was imprisoned for another two years for preaching in Rome. Despite these imprisonments, Paul continued to preach.

Paul eventually made his way to Spain, then returned to the East, and finally returned to Rome once again. In 67 AD, Paul was arrested in Rome for a second time and this time he was beheaded under Emperor Nero.

St. Paul is the patron saint of missionaries, evangelists, writers, journalists, authors, public workers, rope and saddle makers, and tent makers. His feast day is on June 29.



ST. PAUL'S DAYS OF HONOR

Jan. 25th - Conversion

Feb. 16th - Shipwreck

June 29th - Feast Day
with St. Peter

Nov. 18th - Dedication of
his Basilica