

St. Anthony of Padua

Feast Day: June 13th

Patron Saint Lost and Stolen Articles, the Poor, Travelers, and Sailors.

St. Anthony of Padua is one of the most beloved saints of the Catholic Church. He was born Fernando Martins de Bulhões in Lisbon, Portugal, in 1195. Raised in a faithful Catholic family, he developed a deep love for God and the Church at an early age. As a young man, he entered religious life with the Augustinians, where he devoted himself to prayer, study, and growing in holiness.

After hearing of Franciscan missionaries who had been martyred for the faith, Fernando was inspired to join the Franciscan Order. He took the name Anthony and hoped to preach the Gospel as a missionary. Although illness prevented him from continuing his mission in Africa, God used him in another powerful way.

St. Anthony became known as a gifted preacher and teacher of the Catholic faith. Filled with wisdom and guided by the Holy Spirit, he preached with great love for Christ and a strong desire to bring souls back to God. His knowledge of Sacred Scripture helped him defend the truth of the Church and lead many people to repentance.

He was also known for his humility, kindness, and care for the poor. Many miracles were connected to his life and ministry, and Catholics continue to ask for his intercession, especially when something is lost.

St. Anthony died near Padua, Italy, on June 13, 1231, at the age of thirty-five. He was canonized less than one year later and was later declared a Doctor of the Church. Today, he remains a powerful example of faith, holiness, and love for Jesus Christ.



Did You Know?

- He preached to fish when people would not listen to his sermons.
- He is the Patron Saint of Lost Things and is often prayed to for help finding missing items.
- He had a vision of the Child Jesus, which is why he is often shown holding Jesus in artwork.
- He was canonized less than one year after his death, one of the fastest canonizations in Church history.
- His tongue was found incorrupt many years after his death, a sign of his remarkable gift for preaching God's Word.