

Prison Ministry India

13 National Convention

Reform to Reintegrate

Countdown 17

Patron Saints for Prisoners
And Prison Ministry Volunteers



Prisoner Saints in Bible



There are dozens of references to prisons and prisoners in the Bible – from Joseph’s imprisonment in Genesis 37 to Satan’s imprisonment in Revelation 20. Many great characters of the biblical story experienced imprisonment — Joseph, Samson, Jeremiah, Micaiah, Zedekiah, Daniel, John the Baptist, Peter, James, John, Silas, Paul, Epaphras, Aristarchus, Junia, and even Jesus himself, who was held in custody between his arrest and execution, and then, in death, was imprisoned in a guarded tomb.

Prisoner Saints in Bible



Joseph Gen 37	19 Century BC	Refined in Prison
Samson Judges 16,21	11 Century BC	Chastened in Prison
Hanani the Seer	870 BC	Imprisoned for truth telling
Micaiah	852 BC	Incarcerated for Speaking God's Word
King Manasseh	642 BC	Repents in Prison
Jeremiah	628-587 BC	Sustained in Prison
Jehoiachin	597 BC	Raised from Prison
John the Baptist	+29AD	Decapitated in Prison
Jesus Christ	30AD	Innocent Prisoner
Peter	67AD	Miraculously escaped from prison
Paul & Silas	67AD	Triumphant in Prison

Patrons for Prisoners



Adelaide

Beatrice da Silva

Daniel of Padua

Dominic of Silos

Gertrude of Nivelles

Joan of Arc

Leonard of Noblac

Maximillian Kolbe

Nicholas of Myra

Philomena

Severinus of Noricum

Vincent de Paul

Barbara

Charles of Blois

Dismas

Ferdinand III of Castille

Jacinta Marto

Joseph Cafasso

Louis IX

Medard of Noyon

Niño de Atocha

Romedio of Nonsberg

Victor Maurus

Walter of Pontnoise

St Nino de Atocha



Nino de Atocha is portrayed as a young male pilgrim with a brimmed hat with plume and cape ornate or cloak with the St. James shell. He holds a basket of roses or food and staff.

Devotion to the Holy Child began in Madrid, Spain with Our Lady of Atocha as revealed by Spanish King Alphonse the Wise in the 1200s. The Child is the patron of pilgrims with legend having him roaming the land to bring help to the helpless. This stems from the caliph of Madrid only allowing children under 12 years old to bring food to prisoners of faith.



St Joan of Arc



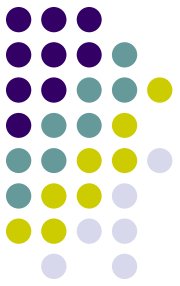
St Joan of Arc is a heroine of France for her role during the Lancastrian phase of the Hundred Years' War. She was born to Jacques d'Arc and Isabelle Romée, a peasant family, at Domrémy in the Vosges of northeast France.

Joan said that she received visions of the archangel Michael, Saint Margaret, and Saint Catherine of Alexandria instructing her to support Charles VII and recover France from English domination.



St Louis

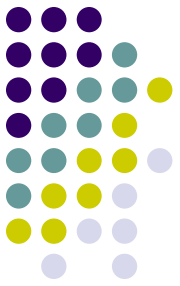
Saint Louis became the King of France when he was just 12 years old. He developed a French royal justice in which the king was the supreme judge to whom anyone could in theory appeal for the amendment of a judgment. He banned trials of ordeal, tried to end the scourge of private wars, and introduced the presumption of innocence in criminal procedure.



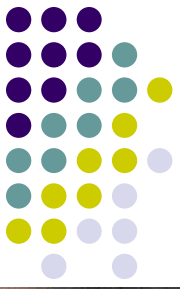
St Barbara

St Barbara converted to Christianity and became a martyr. Emperor Maximinus ordered Barbara to be tortured and beheaded.

St. Barbara was martyred with another Christian woman named Juliana. Their bodies were buried by a Christian man, Valentinus. Pilgrims to the grave site were healed or received aid and consolation.



St Maximilian Kolbe

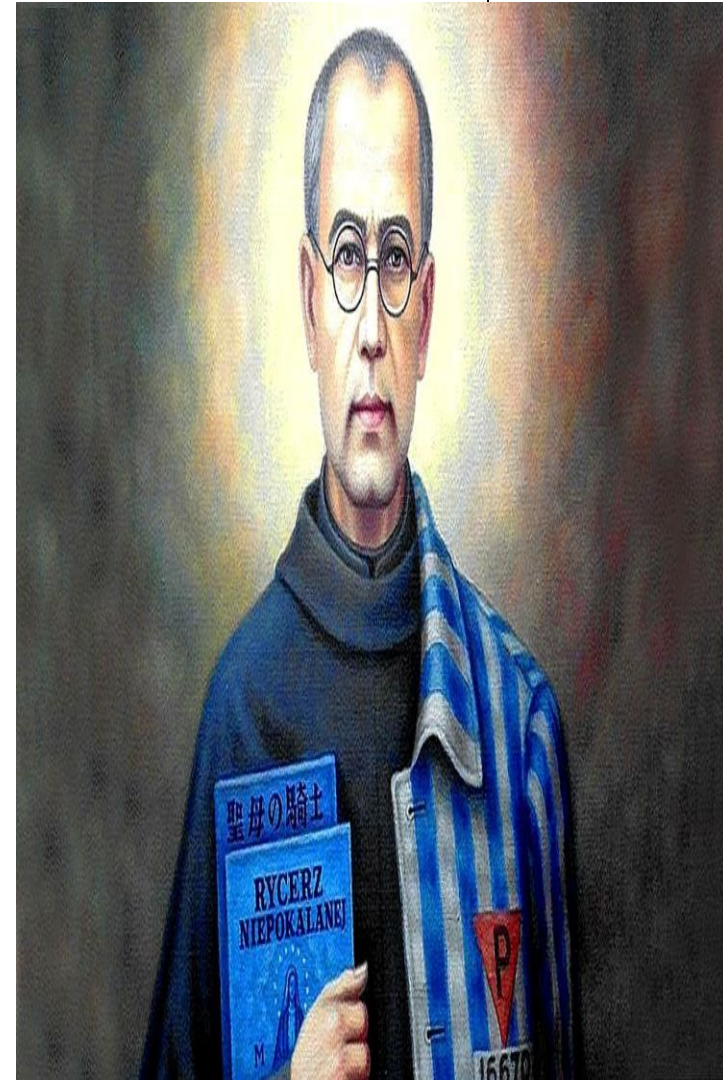


Saint Maximilian Kolbe, a Conventual Franciscan friar, volunteered to die in place of a stranger in the German death camp of Auschwitz, Poland during World War II.

Born: 8 January 1894, Zduńska Wola, Poland

Died: 14 August 1941, Auschwitz concentration camp, Oswiecim, Poland

Feast: 14 August



St Nicholas

Saint Nicholas of Myra, also known as Nicholas of Bari, was an early Christian bishop of Greek descent from the maritime city of Myra in Asia Minor during the time of the Roman Empire. He rescued three girls from being forced into prostitution by dropping a sack of gold coins through the window of their house so their father could pay a dowry for each of them. He saved three innocent soldiers from wrongful execution. He was imprisoned for slapping the heretic Arius.

Born: 15 March 270 AD, Patara, Turkey

Died: 6 December 343 AD, Myra, Turkey



St Philomena

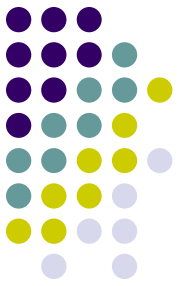
Saint Philomena was a young consecrated virgin whose remains were discovered on May 24–25, 1802, in the Catacomb of Priscilla. Three tiles enclosing the tomb bore an inscription, Pax Tecum Filumena, that was taken to indicate that her name was Filumena, the English form of which is Philomena.

Emperor Diocletian decapitated her. The decapitation occurred on a Friday at three in the afternoon, as with the death of Jesus.

Born: 10 January 291 AD, Corfu, Greece

Died: 10 August 304 AD, Rome, Italy

Feast: August 11



St Vincent de Paul



Saint Vincent de Paul, was a French Catholic priest who dedicated himself to serving the poor. In 1622 Vincent was appointed a chaplain to the galleys.

Born: 24 April 1581, France

Died: 27 September 1660, Paris, France

Canonized: 16 June 1737, Rome, Papal States by Pope Clement XII

Patron of Prisoners and Prison Ministry Volunteers



St Walter of Pontoise



Saint Walter of Pontoise (1030- 1099) was born at Andainville, France. He was a professor of philosophy and rhetoric before becoming a Benedictine monk at Rebais. A story told of him is that while a novice, Walter took pity on an inmate at the monastery prison, and helped the prisoner to escape.

Feast: March 23; April 8

Canonized: 1153 by Hugh de Boves, the Archbishop of Rouen

Patronage: Prisoners and prisoners of war



Venerable Francis Xavier Van Thuan



Phanxicô Xaviê Nguyễn Văn Thuận or Francis-Xavier Nguyễn Văn Thuận, was a Cardinal in the Roman Catholic Church. He was detained by the communist government of Vietnam in a re-education camp for 13 years, nine in solitary confinement

Pope Francis named him as Venerable on 4 May 2017, a significant step on the road towards canonization.

Born: 17 April 1928, Hue, Vietnam

Died: 16 September 2002, Rome, Italy

Buried: Santa Maria della Scala, Rome, Italy.

