



# Prayers for the Week

WEEK BEGINNING 28<sup>TH</sup> A

# Monday 28<sup>th</sup> April



St Louis de Montfort

Louis's life is inseparable from his efforts to promote the Church. *Totus tuus* ("completely yours") was Louis's motto.

Born in the Breton village of Montfort, close to Rennes, he took the name of his baptism instead of his family name, Grignion. He was ordained a diocesan priest in 1700.

Soon he began preaching parish missions throughout Brittany, which prompted him to travel and live very simply, sometimes without food or sleep. His preaching, which attracted thousands of people back to Holy Communion—not the custom then!—and imitatio Christi was his life.

Louis founded the Missionaries of the Company of the Holy Spirit, who cared especially for the sick. His book *True Devotion to Mary* is a classic of Marian devotion. Louis died in Saint-Laurent-sur-Sèvre in 1765, canonized in 1947, and his liturgical feast is celebrated on April 28.

## Reflection:

Like Mary, Louis experienced challenges in his efforts to promote the Church. In other ministries, Louis knew with Saint Paul, "Neither is it we who decide, only God, who causes the growth" (1 Corinthians 3:7). He was not betraying the Good News of Jesus. Mary is "the first disciple," as Raymond Brown described her.

# Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> April



## St Catherine of Siena

- Saint Catherine was born in Siena in Italy and is one of the two patronesses of the vision of Jesus Christ. She continued to live at age 12, Catherine cut off her hair and lived in small quarters in the basement. A friend of Saint Dominic and later became a Dominican.
- She wrote a book called *Dialogues* about her love for God. She also devoted herself to the ill, poor, and spiritually underprivileged. After her return from Avignon, France and the Crusade to the holy land, she lived a very little in the name of God. She was declared a Doctor of the Church in 1970 by Pope Paul VI.
- **Prayer for the Gifts of Saint Catherine**  
God of Wisdom you made our sister Catherine a mirror of the Lord's passion and in serving the poor and the people, united in the mystery of Christ who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit.



Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup>  
April



St Pius V, Pope

During his papacy (1566-1572), Pius V took the responsibility of getting a shattered Church of God had been shaken by corruption, the Turkish invasion, and by the bloody wars. His previous pope convened the Council of Trent to address pressing problems. Off and on over the years, he condemned, affirmed, and decided on many things in 1563.

Pius V was elected in 1566 and carried out the reforms called for by the Council. He emphasized the proper training of priests. He published a catechism, and established the Congregation for the young. Pius zealously enforced legislation. He served the sick and the poor by buying and giving money customarily used for other purposes. Our Father...

# Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> May



St Joseph the Worker

St. Joseph has two feast days on the calendar. The first is May 1<sup>st</sup>, the Feast of the Husband of Mary. The second is May 19<sup>th</sup>, the Feast of St. Joseph the Worker.

"Saint Joseph is a man of great spirit, who listened to the words of the Lord, but above all because he listened to the word of the Living God," Pope John Paul II.

There is very little about the life of Joseph, the chaste husband of Mary, the foster father of Jesus. We know that he came from Nazareth, a small town in Galilee. We also know that he came from a carpenter's family.

We can see from his actions in scripture that he was obedient to the will of God. He also worked hard to provide for them.

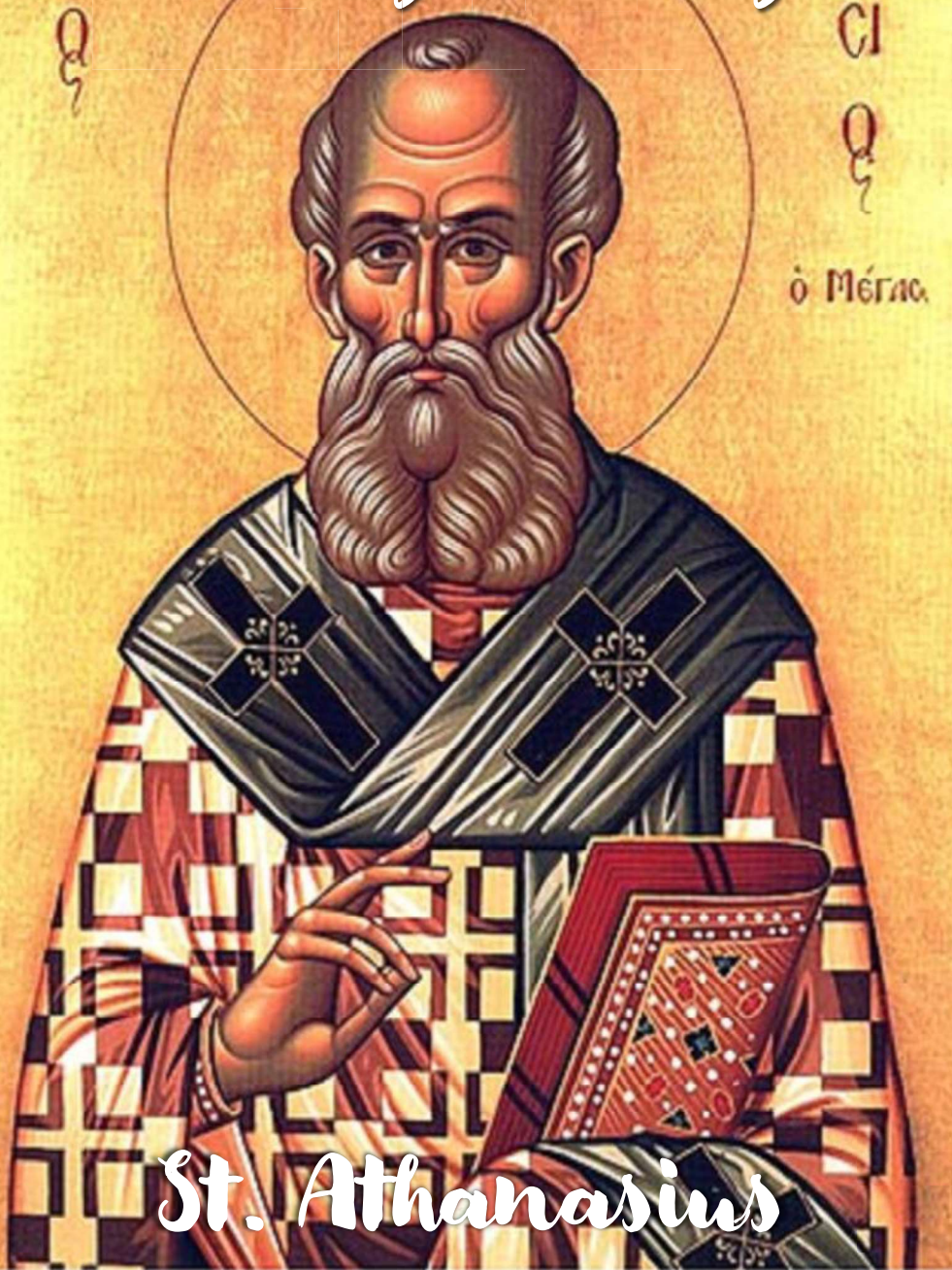
Since Joseph does not appear in the Gospels, historians believe Joseph had probably been a carpenter for many years.

Joseph is the patron of many things, including carpenters, fathers, and social justice.

*Hail Mary...*



Friday 2nd May



St. Athanasius

St. Athanasius, also known as A...  
was a bishop and doctor of the...  
"Pillar of the Church" and "Cha...  
of the most dedicated oppose...  
testimony to the divinity of Jes...

### Prayer:

Father,  
you raised up Saint Athanasius  
to be an outstanding defender  
of the truth of Christ's divinity.  
By his teaching and protection  
may we grow in your knowledge.  
Through our Lord Jesus Christ  
who lives and reigns with you  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, for ever and ever.  
Amen.