St. Blaise

Early Life

St. Blaise was born in Sivas, Turkey most likely during the mid-200s. It is believed that he was born into a honorable family, and was well educated. St. Blaise was very faithful to the Christian faith. He was the bishop of Sebastea, Armenia and was a doctor.

Helping Others

St. Blaise was known for helping patients who were suffering from diseases the of the throat- particularly those who had an object stuck in their throat. There are many stories of St. Blaise curing people, and many of them are recorded in the "Acts of St. Blaise" which was written about 400 years after his death.

Later Life

Later in his life, St. Blaise retired to a cave where he spent his days praying. Please often came out to his cave to receive healing miracles.

Arrested & Death

In 316 the government arrested St. Blaise for being Christian. There are two stories told about his journey to prison. In the first story a woman places her only son, who is chocking on a fish bone, in front of St. Blaise. Blaise cured the child, but still would not renounce his faith, so his arrestor beat him and beheaded him.

The Second Story

In the second story of his journey to prison a woman came up to St. Blaise and told him that a wolf had taken her pig. Blaise commanded the wolf to return the pig- which it did, unharmed. Later giving thanks, the woman brought two fine wax candles to St. Blaise to brighten his dark cell.

Remembering St. Blaise

Today St. Blaise is the patron saint of illnesses of the throat, animals, and wool trading. Many churches celebrate St. Blaise on February 3 by placing two candles by a persons throat and recited the prayer: Through the intercessions of St. Blaise, bishop and martyr, may God deliver you from every disease of the throat, and from every other disease. In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit." The two candles are tied together with a red ribbon and are in the shape of an X. The red ribbon represents the blood of martyrs and the X represents the martyrdom of St. Andrew.