

# SAINT JOHN THE APOSTLE

FEAST DAY: DECEMBER 27

PATRON SAINT OF: LOYALTY, FRIENDSHIPS, AND AUTHORS

## *Origins of Saint John*

SAINT JOHN WAS THE SON OF ZEBEDEE AND SALOME AND THE YOUNGER BROTHER OF THE APOSTLE JAMES. THEY BOTH WORKED WITH ANDREW AND PETER FISHING ON THE SEA OF GALILEE BEFORE JESUS CALLED THEM TO BECOME FISHERS OF MEN.



AFTER AN ATTEMPT WAS MADE TO ASSASSINATE SAINT JOHN WITH POISON, HIS SYMBOL BECAME A CHALICE HOLDING A SNAKE.

THE NAME JOHN IS DERIVED FROM THE HEBREW NAME "YOCHANAN," WHICH MEANS "YAHWEH IS GRACIOUS." JOHN IS ALSO KNOWN AS THE "BELOVED APOSTLE."

## *The Beloved Apostle*

SAINT JOHN WAS ONE OF ONLY THREE APOSTLES ALLOWED TO ENTER THE HOUSE OF JAIRUS (LUKE 8:51), EXPERIENCE THE TRANSFIGURATION (MATTHEW 17:1), AND ACCOMPANY JESUS IN THE GARDEN OF GETHSEMANE (MARK 14:33). JOHN WAS THE ONLY APOSTLE WHO ACCOMPANIED THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY AT THE FOOT OF THE CROSS (JOHN 19:25-27).

## *After the Ascension*

JOHN WAS THE ONLY APOSTLE WHO WAS NOT MARTYRED. HE WAS MARY'S GUARDIAN BEFORE HER ASSUMPTION (JOHN 19:27). AFTER THIS, HE WENT ON TRIAL IN ROME AND WAS SENT INTO EXILE TO THE ISLAND OF PATMOS, FROM WHICH HE WROTE THE BOOK OF REVELATION. HE WAS LATER FREED AND DIED AT EPHESUS.



## *Biblical Contribution*

SAINT JOHN WROTE TWO BOOKS OF THE NEW TESTAMENT, THE GOSPEL OF JOHN AND THE BOOK OF REVELATION. HIS GOSPEL WAS MOST LIKELY WRITTEN IN EPHESUS AROUND 90 A.D.