



Patron Saint: Armenia; those suffering from neurological diseases; leather workers; book binders; diseases of the skin

In the New Testament, Bartholomew is mentioned only in the lists of the apostles. Some scholars identify him with Nathanael, a man of Cana in Galilee who was summoned to Jesus by Philip. Jesus paid him a great compliment: “Here is a true Israelite.

There is no duplicity in him” (John 1:47b). When Nathanael asked how Jesus knew him, Jesus said, “I saw you under the fig tree” (John 1:48b).

Whatever amazing revelation this involved, it brought Nathanael to exclaim, “Rabbi, you are the Son of God; you are the King of Israel” (John 1:49b). But Jesus countered with, “Do you believe because I told you that I saw you under the fig tree? You will see greater things than this” (John 1:50b).



Nathanael did see greater things. He was one of those to whom Jesus appeared on the shore of the Sea of Tiberias after his resurrection (see John 21:1-14). They had been fishing all night without success.

In the morning, they saw someone standing on the shore though no one knew it was Jesus. He told them to cast their net again, and they made so great a catch that they could not haul the net in. Then John cried out to Peter, “It is the Lord.”

When they brought the boat to shore, they found a fire burning, with some fish laid on it and some bread. Jesus asked them to bring some of the fish they had caught, and invited them to come and eat their meal.

John relates that although they knew it was Jesus, none of the apostles presumed to inquire who he was. This, John notes, was the third time Jesus appeared to the apostles.

Nothing is known for sure about the life of Nathaniel/Bartholomew after the Ascension of Jesus, but tradition holds that he preached in the East and died a martyr’s death in Armenia, being flayed alive for having won converts to the Lord Jesus.

<https://www.vatican.com/powerful-prayer-for-protection-to-saint-bartholomew/>

Chaplet of the 12 Holy Apostles

Hold the crucifix in hand, make the sign of the cross, and recite the Apostles Creed.

On the next three beads recite the Our Father, Hail Mary, and Glory be. Then begin each of the 12 segments of the chaplet by invoking the Apostle by name, reflecting on his life, and then saying the three prayers.

St. Andrew

Andrew was the brother of Peter, and a son of Jonas. He lived in Bethsaida and Capernaum and was a fisherman before Jesus called him. Originally he was a disciple of John the Baptist (Mark 1:16-18). He was crucified on an X-shaped cross, which is still called Saint Andrew’s cross and which is one of his apostolic symbols. A symbol of two crossed fish has also been applied to Andrew, because he was formerly a fisherman. *Our Father, Hail Mary, and Glory be.*



St. Bartholomew known also as Nathanael

Bartholomew Nathanael, son of Talmai, lived in Cana of Galilee. His apostolic symbol is three parallel knives. His first name was Nathanael, whom Jesus called “An Israelite indeed, in whom there is no guile” (John 1:47). He was skinned alive and beheaded. *Our Father, Hail Mary, and Glory be.*

St. James, the Elder

James, the Elder, Boanerges, son of Zebedee and Salome, brother of John the Apostle; a fisherman who lived in Bethsaida, Capernaum and Jerusalem. He preached in Jerusalem and Judea and was beheaded by Herod, AD 44 (Acts 12:1,2). He was the first of the twelve to become a martyr. His symbol is three shells, the sign of his pilgrimage by the sea. *Our Father, Hail Mary, and Glory be.*

St. James, the Lesser (or the Younger)

James, the Lesser or Younger, son of Alphaeus, or Cleophas and Mary, lived in Galilee. He was the brother of the Apostle Jude. Died as a martyr and his body was sawed in pieces. Thus the saw became his apostolic symbol. *Our Father, Hail Mary, and Glory be.*

St. John

John Boanerges, son of Zebedee and Salome, brother of James, the Apostle. He was known as the Beloved Disciple. A fisherman who lived in Bethsaida, Capernaum and Jerusalem. He wrote the Gospel of John, I John, II John, III John and Revelation. From the cross Jesus entrusted Mary, His mother to John. It is said that

an attempt was made on his life by giving him a chalice of poison from which God spared him. Thus a chalice with a snake in it is his symbol. *Our Father, Hail Mary, and Glory be.*

St. Matthias

Matthias was selected to replace Judas Iscariot, the traitor, Acts 1:15-26. Judas betrayed Jesus for thirty pieces of silver and afterwards hanged himself (Matthew 26:14,16). Lots were cast and eventually Matthias was chosen. Acts 1:24-26 and he was numbered with the eleven apostles. *Our Father, Hail Mary, and Glory be.*

St. Jude Thaddeus

He was a brother of James the Younger. He preached in Assyria and Persia and died a martyr in Persia. St. Jerome called Jude "Trinomious" which means "a man with three names." In Mark 3:18 he is called Thaddeus. In Matthew 10:3 he is called Lebbeus. His surname was Thaddeus. In Luke 6:16 and Acts 1:13 he is called Judas the brother of James. He was killed with arrows at Ararat. The chosen symbol for him is the ship because he was a missionary thought to be a fisherman. *Our Father, Hail Mary, and Glory be.*

St. Matthew (Levi)

Matthew, or Levi, son of Alphaeus, lived in Capernaum. He was a publican or tax collector. He wrote the Gospel that bears his name. He died a martyr in Ethiopia. The apostolic symbol of Matthew is three money bags which reminds us that he was a tax collector before Jesus called him. *Our Father, Hail Mary, and Glory be.*

St. Peter

Simon Peter, son of Jonas, was a fisherman who lived in Bethsaida and Capernaum. He authored the two New Testament epistles which bear his name. In every apostolic list, the name Peter is mentioned first. His Greek name was Simon (Mark 1:16; John 1:40, 41). His Hebrew name was Cephas (1 Corinthians 1:12; 3:22; 9:5 and Galatians 2:9). The Greek meaning of Simon is rock. The Arabic meaning of Cephas is also rock. Peter was martyred in Rome on a cross. Peter requested that he might be crucified head downward for he was not worthy to die as his Lord had died. His apostolic symbol is a cross upside down with crossed keys. *Our Father, Hail Mary, and Glory be.*

St. Philip

Philip preached in Phrygia and died a martyr by hanging at Hierapolis in 80 AD. Philip came from Bethsaida, the town from which Peter and Andrew came (John 1:44). The Gospel of John shows Philip as one of the first to

whom Jesus addressed the words, "Follow Me." When Philip met Christ, he immediately found Nathanael and told him that "we have found him, of whom Moses ... and the prophets, did write." The symbol of Philip is a basket, because of his part in feeding of the five thousand. *Our Father, Hail Mary, and Glory be.*

St. Simon the Zealot

Simon, the Zealot, called the Canaanite or Zelotes, lived in Galilee. He died as a martyr by crucifixion. His apostolic symbol is a fish lying on a Bible, which indicates he was a former fisherman who became a fisher of men through preaching. *Our Father, Hail Mary, and Glory be.*

St. Thomas (Didymus)

Thomas lived in Galilee. He labored in Parthia, Persia, and India, suffering martyrdom near Madras, at Mt. St. Thomas, India. Thomas was his Hebrew name and Didymus was his Greek name. Thomas making the greatest confession of faith, "My Lord and my God." Thomas was killed with a spear as a martyr for his Lord. His symbol is a group of spears, stones and arrows. *Our Father, Hail Mary, and Glory be.*

<https://sacredheartgallup.org/rector-chaplet-12-holy-apostles/>

Closing Prayer on the Centerpiece: (*can adjust according to the particular Apostle you are invoking*)

God and loving father, you have given us the glorious Apostle Bartholomew as our beloved Patron Saint and powerful advocate in heaven. We offer you our prayers, animated by a spirit of confidence that through the efficacious intercession of Saint Bartholomew, we shall merit your unfailing help and protection and shall ever remain loyal and devoted to Divine will all the days of our life.

Teach us to cherish, proclaim, and practice the Gospel message of Christ, which Saint Bartholomew so eloquently preached and finally sealed with his heroic martyrdom. As we prepare devoutly for his solemn feast by this chaplet of prayers, we trustingly raise our minds and hearts to you.

Refuse not, o Lord God, our humble petition but unite it with that of Apostle Bartholomew and of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Queen of the Apostles, so that we may obtain the grace of true repentance for our Sins, of divine assistance in our spiritual and temporal wants, and of constant fidelity to all our Christian duties. This we ask through Jesus Christ, Our Lord, Amen

