

July 3 *(New)*

St. Thomas

(1st Century)

December 21 *(Trad.)* Apostle, Martyr, Apostle of India



It is easy for a Christian aware of his own weakness to identify with St. Thomas. He is commonly remembered as the Apostle who at first refused to believe in Christ's Resurrection, saying, "Except I shall see in his hands the print of the nails, and put my hand into his side, I will not believe." (*John 20:25*). We can only imagine the terrible remorse of the Apostles at having deserted the One whom they loved during His Passion. Since Thomas was not present at the risen Christ's first appearance to the Apostles, he was not there to hear Jesus' consoling greeting to them: "Peace be to you." However, when Our Lord again appeared eight days later, Thomas saw Him with his own eyes; with joy he responded: "My Lord, and my God." (*John 20:28*). Though Thomas faltered in his faith, his courage and love had empowered him to say, "Let us also go, that we

may die with him" (*John 11:16*) when others had tried to dissuade Jesus from going to Lazarus because of danger. It is commonly believed that after Pentecost, St. Thomas preached in India as well as to the Persians, Medes, Hyrcanians and Parthians and that he was martyred in India.

SUN 4th Sunday of Advent *(New, Trad.)*
Bl. Urban V (1370), P. *(Hist.)*

19

MON St. Dominic of Silos (1073), Ab., Pt. of captives *(Hist.)*
Sts. Abraham, Isaac & Jacob, Old Testament Patriarchs *(Hist.)*

20

TUE St. Peter Canisius (1597), Pr., D. *(New)*
St. Thomas (1st C.), Ap., M., Ap. of India, baptized the Magi *(Trad.)*

21

WED St. Frances Xavier Cabrini (1917), V., R., F. of Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart, Pt. of immigrants *(Trad./some places)*
Sts. Chaeremon & Ischyron (3rd C.), Ms. *(Hist.)*

22

THU St. John of Kanty (John Cantius) (1473), Pr., Pt. of Poland *(New)*
St. Yvo of Chartres (1115), B. *(Hist.)*
St. Servulus (590), Beggar *(Hist.)*

23

FRI Vigil of Christmas *(Trad.)*
Sts. Adam & Eve (First Age of the World) *(Hist.)*
St. Adele (1137), W. *(Hist.)*

24

SAT Christmas—The Birth of Our Lord Jesus Christ *(New, Trad.)*
—Holy Day of Obligation
St. Anastasia (304), M. *(Trad.)*

25