

APRIL 2010 FEAST DAYS

Thursday, April 8 — 249th Birthday of Blessed William Joseph Chaminade



Blessed William Joseph Chaminade was born in Périgueux, France, on April 8, 1761. He was the fourteenth of fifteen children of Blaise Chaminade and Catherine Béthon.

Friday, April 23 — Saint George



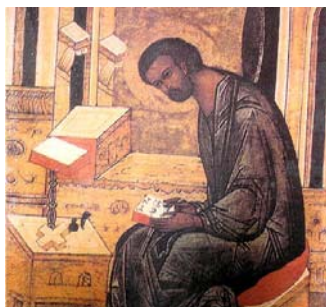
Legend portrays Saint George as a knight and a dragon slayer. He is the patron of England and Constantinople and is highly venerated in the Greek church. Tradition holds that Saint George was decapitated in Palestine sometime before the reign of Constantine (337).

Sunday, April 25 — Fourth Sunday of Easter



“Good Shepherd Sunday” has been designated *World Day of Prayer for Vocations*. We are asked to pray that the Church is provided with the leaders needed to spread the Gospel as priests and religious. It also is an opportunity to pray for the vocation of each of us to build up the Christian community and to spread the Gospel message in whatever way we can.

Sunday, April 25 — Saint Mark *(superseded this year by the Fourth Sunday of Easter)*



Mark is a cousin of Barnabas and is associated with Paul and Peter. The gospel ascribed to him is the shortest and the oldest — probably written prior to the fall of Jerusalem in 70 A.D. Tradition holds Mark as the first bishop of Alexandria. He is portrayed as a winged lion in art.

Wednesday, April 28 — Saint Peter Chanel



Saint Peter was a French Marist missionary on the Pacific Islands of Wallis and Futuna. Born in 1803 in Clet, France, he joined the newly formed Society of Mary (Marists) in 1831. He was martyred in 1841 on the island of Futuna.

Wednesday, April 28 — Saint Louis Mary de Montfort



Saint Louis was the founder of the Congregation of the Daughters of Wisdom, the Brothers of St. Gabriel and the Company of Mary, known as the Montfort Missionaries. His preaching led to a spiritual renewal in his native Brittany, where he established numerous confraternities for the recitation of the rosary. He died in 1716 at the age of 43. His treatise, “True Devotion to the Blessed Virgin,” is a classic work on Mary.

Thursday, April 29 — Saint Catherine of Siena



Born in 1347, this extraordinary woman was a Dominican tertiary, a mystic and an author. Saint Catherine was a peacemaker within the church and a renewer of religious life. She was declared a Doctor of the Church in 1970 and is a patroness of Italy.* She died in 1380.

**With St. Bridget of Sweden and St. Teresa Benedicta of the Cross (Edith Stein), she is co-patroness of Europe.*