

THE APOSTLES in The Church -St. Joseph Side

Do we notice the Apostles on the Ceiling – They were the first to be with Jesus and spread His Word and the Mass.

Pictures of the Apostles with their Symbol Below (Note: St. Simon is not on our ceiling).

Below are Apostles Ceiling Pictures – St. Joseph Side in order from Sanctuary to back of the Church.

Picture

Image

Symbol

Description

Information



St. Paul is represented by an open Bible (the new Law he preached) and the sword of the Spirit; he is pictured as being short and bald with a bushy beard.

St. Paul was known as Saul of Tarsus before his conversion. He embarked on three missionary journeys that took him to Syria, Cyprus, Asia Minor, Macedonia, Greece and elsewhere. He is the traditional author of 14 of the Epistles.

Paul was martyred in Rome, probably by beheading, in 68 A.D. Paul spoke of the Word of God as the "Sword of the Spirit."

St. Paul's day is January 25.



An early story of St. John drinking from a poisoned chalice and coming to no harm.

St. John was the bishop of the church at Ephesus. He was exiled to Patmos and then returned.

Tradition claims that John was the only disciple to die a natural death, at great age. Various attempts were made on his life, including a poisoned chalice from which he was miraculously spared.

St. John's Day is December 27.



St. Bartholomew (Nathanael?)
The flaying knives represent the manner of Bartholomew's death; he was flayed alive..

St. Bartholomew probably preached near the border of India and in Armenia.

According to tradition, Bartholomew was flayed alive, crucified and then beheaded.

Saint Bartholomew's Day is August 24.

Picture



Image



Symbol

Description

St. Matthew (Levi)
The three purses represent Matthew's work as a tax collector before Jesus called him (Matthew 10:3). He is also represented with a hatchet or halberd and is pictured as a bearded old man, accompanied by an angel dictating the Gospel.

St. James the Great (of Compostella)
The scallop shells are pictured because the Spanish coast was said to abound in them; they represent pilgrimage and James's missionary zeal. He is also represented by a pilgrim's staff (as a patron of pilgrims) and gourd bottle.

St. Philip
The loaves of bread on either side of the cross remind us of Philip's comment at the multiplication of the loaves and fishes (John 6:5-7). Another representation is a staff (upon which he was suspended by the neck from a pillar), surrounded with a cross.

Information

St. Matthew was a son of Alphaeus and a tax collector. He was also known as Levi. According to tradition, he went to Ethiopia after preaching to the Jews in Palestine. Traditional accounts of Matthew's death vary. Some say he died a natural death. Others say that he was crucified in Ethiopia and was then beheaded. His shield displays three purses.

St. Matthew's Day is September 21.

St. James was the brother of John and a son of Zebedee. He traditionally preached in Spain after working in Jerusalem. James was beheaded by Herod Agrippa. He is the only apostle whose death is recorded in scripture (Acts 12:2). His shield shows a scallop (or cockle) shell, a symbol of pilgrimage by sea, and the sword of martyrdom. Sometimes three shells are shown without a sword.

St. James' the Greater's Day is July 25.

A questionable tradition holds that St. Philip was a missionary to Phrygia and Galatia. Philip is said to have been martyred by crucifixion or the spear, or bound to a cross and stoned to death. Two loaves of bread recall Philip's comment at the feeding of the multitude recorded in John 6:7.

St. Philip's Day is May 1.

St. Philip's picture is located in the Choir Loft