

up, and everyone condemned himself as the murderer of their holy bishop. Then the saint, thanking God that the tumult was appeased, dispelled their fears by assuring them that he had received no hurt. The Emperor Frederick Barbarossa, in his cruel wars in Italy, having taken and plundered Spoleto, threatened to do the like by Gubbio. Ubaldo, moved by a more than fatherly tenderness for his flock, met the emperor on the road, and on his first interview softened the heart of that tyrant to compassion, and obtained of him the safety of his people.

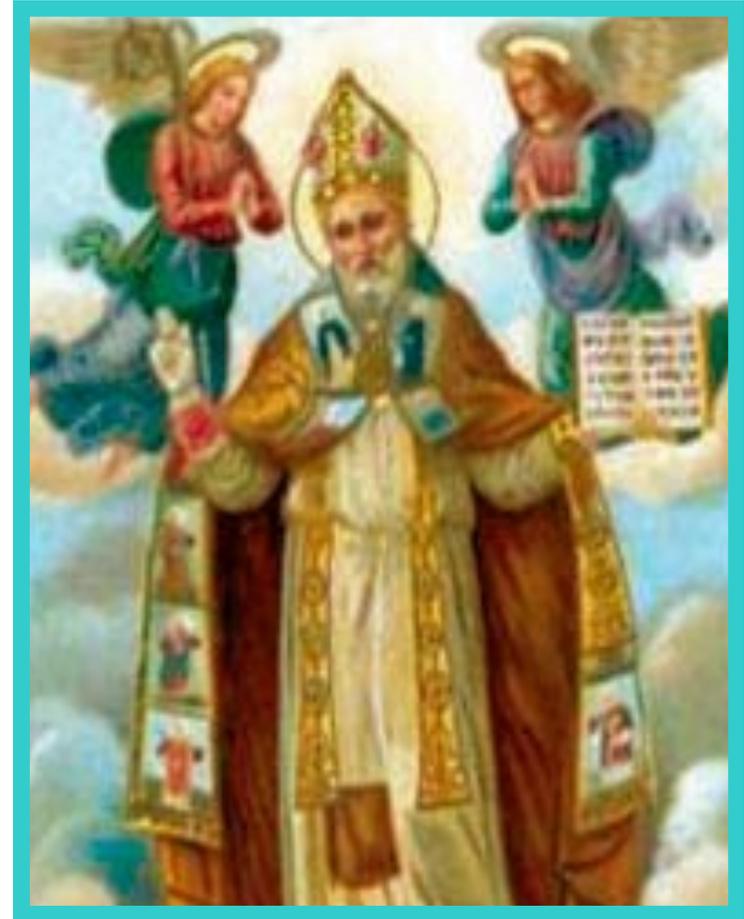
The last two years of his life he labored under a complication of painful distempers, which he bore with the patience of a saint. Having received the rites of the church, he expired on the 16th of May, 1160. The people from all the neighboring provinces attended his funeral and many eye-witnesses reported many miracles God performed at his tomb. So tender was the devotion which this spectacle excited in everyone, that animosities and dissensions over the whole country were extinguished, and a most wonderful spirit of charity was infused into all hearts. Injuries were forgotten, and cities which had been long at variance, renewed the most sincere league of friendship. The saint had the gift of curing diseases in his lifetime, which he performed by the sign of the cross. When a certain blind man addressed him to be cured, the bishop told him that his corporal sight would be prejudicial to his soul, and that his temporal blindness would be recompensed with the clear vision of God in heaven for all eternity: at which the good man was so well satisfied, that he no longer desired to be cured. Saint Ubaldo was canonized by Pope Celestine III in 1192. His power, as we read in the Office for his feast, is chiefly manifested over the evil spirits, and the faithful are instructed to have recourse to him "contra omnes diabolicas nequitas".

*(excerpted from: www.bartleby.com; //en.wikipedia.org)

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Saint Ubaldo, Bishop of Gubbio

Feast Day: May 16



Patronage: against demoniac possession;
migraine, neuralgia, sick children; autistics;
people suffering from obsessive compulsive disorder.

Saint Ubaldo, Bishop of Gubbio

*Born Ubaldo Baldassini ca. 1084 of a noble family at Gubbio, Italy, a city of the Ecclesiastical State, near the marquisate of Ancona. He lost his father when he was very young. He had his education in the seminary of SS. Marian and James, where he made great progress in his studies both profane (secular) and sacred; but the holy scriptures, were his chief delight.

Many honorable matches were proposed to him by his friends; but he rejected all such offers, and made a vow of celibacy. His ardor in the perfect practice of virtue strengthened him against the bad examples of many of his tepid companions. Not approving of certain irregularities which he saw tolerated among them, and feeling that he had a vocation to become a monk, he entered the seminary of Saint Secundus in Gubbio, where he finished his studies and remained for some years. Recalled by his bishop, he returned to the cathedral monastery, where he was made prior, so that he might reform several abuses in the behavior of the canons. Ubaldo prepared himself for this important work by fasting, prayers, and tears, by which he hoped to engage the divine assistance. He easily prevailed on three of his canons who were the best disposed, to join with him in his exercises and rules of life. Having heard that in the territory of Ravenna, Blessed Peter de Honestis, some years before had established a very fervent community of canons regular, to whom he had given special statutes which had been approved by Pope Paschal II, Ubaldo went there, remaining with his brother canons for three months, to learn the details and the practice of their rules, wishing to introduce them among his own canons of Gubbio. When they returned, his example and that of the other three canons began to reform the whole chapter in Gubbio. After some years, their house and cloister burnt down and

Ubaldo wanted to retire into some desert. He communicated his design of quitting the world to Peter of Rimini. This great servant of God opposed the motion as a dangerous temptation, and exhorted Ubaldo to return to his former vocation, in which God had fixed him for the good of others. The saint returned to Gubbio and rebuilt the cloisters to the great edification of the whole country.

In 1126, he was unanimously chosen bishop of Perugia; but he hid himself, so that the deputies of that city were not able to find him; and when they departed, he went to Rome, begging to be excused by Honorius II. He was granted his request; but two years later when the see of Gubbio became vacant, he was elected bishop, and was consecrated by Pope Honorius II early in 1129.

The new bishop made it his whole business to adorn the dignity of his station with all the virtues of a true successor of the apostles. He practiced a perpetual mortification of all his senses, and lived dead to all the enjoyments of the world; he was indefatigable both in the exercise of penance, and in the labors of his ministry; frugal, humble, sincere, and full of compassion for all the world. Mildness and patience, were the brightest parts of his character.

The saint often defended his flock in public dangers. Hearing one day that a sedition was raised in one of the streets, wherein some were wounded, others killed, he ran out, and venturing himself between the combatants, fell down amidst their naked swords. The mutineers thinking him dead, all threw away their weapons, running to take him