

Saint Anastasius

The Martyrology relates: At Bethsaloen in Assyria, Saint Anastasius, a Persian monk, who made a pilgrimage to the Holy Places at Jerusalem in the reign of the Emperor Heraclius , during which journey he endured bonds and strips on account of his confession of Christ at Caesarea, in Palestine.

Soon after his return, he was arrested by the Persians for the same cause, and, after enduring divers torments, he was beheaded while seventy other Christians companions were drowned in a river by order of King Chosroes. His relics were carried to Jerusalem where he made his monastic profession, and afterwards to Rome, at Aquæ. By the sight of his revered image, demons are expelled and diseases cured, as is attested by the Acts of the second Council of Nicea. The saint is highly venerated in Rome.

*(excerpted from: www.catholicculture.org; [//louangedesagloire.blogspot.com](http://louangedesagloire.blogspot.com))

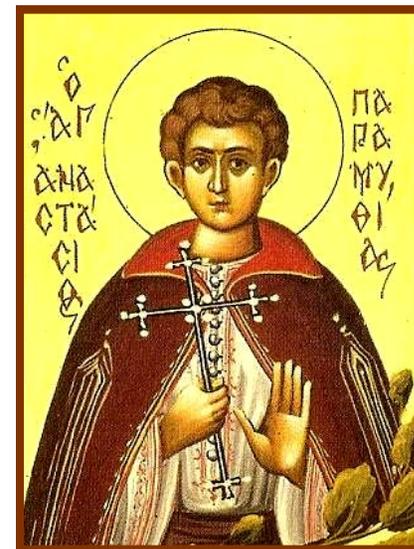
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Saints Vincent and Anastasius

Feast Day: January 22



Saint Vincent



Saint Anastasius

**Saints Vincent and Anastasius,
help us to pray for Christian Unity.**

Saints Vincent and Anastasius

Saint Vincent of Saragossa

*Saint Vincent of Saragossa was born at Huesca in Granada in Spain, and is considered one of the Church's three most illustrious deacons, the other two being Stephen and Lawrence. He is also Spain's most renowned martyr.

He was early turned to study, and learned sacred letters from Valerius, Bishop of Saragossa and was ordained a deacon by the same bishop. He was accustomed to deliver discourses for this Prelate, who, owing to an impediment of speech, was not able to preach himself.

This coming to the attention of Dacian, Prefect of the province under Diocletian and Maximian. He was arrested at Saragossa, and brought before Dacian at Valencia in chains. The saint was scourged, and afterward tormented on the rack, in the presence of numerous spectators. However, neither torture, threats, or fair words could bend his resolution. He was then laid on a grating over hot coals, his flesh mangled with iron hooks. White-hot plates of metal were applied to the wounds. The still breathing remains

were taken back to prison, where the floor was heavily strewn with pieces of broken glass. This was done so that his naked body would be prevented from sleeping from exhaustion. While lying on the floor, a heavenly brightness flooded the entire dungeon, filling all who saw it with great awe.

The gaoler informed Dacian, who caused the martyr to be brought out and cared for in a soft bed, hoping that though Dacian had failed to move Vincent by cruelty, he might seduce him by pretended kindness. But the indomitable soul of Vincent, armed with faith and hope in Christ Jesus and the hope of everlasting life, remained unconquered even to the end, and triumphing over fire, the steel, and the cruelty of the tormentors, passed away to receive the victorious crown of martyrdom. His body was thrown out unburied. A raven perched upon it and kept off with his beak, claws and wings, both the other birds and a wolf, which came to prey on it. Dacian then had it thrown into the sea, but by God's will, it was washed up, and Christians took and buried it.