



## **The Church is in the business of Canonizing Saints, not Damning Sinners: Part 2**

In my last column, I introduced seven of the seventeen new saints and observances added to the Third Edition of the Roman Missal that will be used beginning November 27, 2011. This week, I will conclude this portion of our study with the final ten saints added to the Roman Missal. That does not mean that the canonization process has ended at the Congregation for the Causes of Saints at the Vatican. As I pointed out last week, the Church is in the business of recognizing and holding up men and women who cooperated with the grace of Jesus Christ through a life steeped in the Sacraments of the Church and service to others for the glory of God. I hope you take an opportunity to get to know these saints a little better; you can find out more through internet searches. These saints are also a reminder that the word Catholic means universal, and that the Catholic Church founded upon St. Peter, spans the entire world.

**July 9: Sts. Augustine Zhao Rong, priest and martyr, & Companions, martyrs** – Canonized with 119 other Chinese martyrs, Augustine began his career as a soldier. Inspired by the martyrs, he was baptized and eventually became a priest and martyr himself.

**July 20: St. Apollinaris, bishop and martyr** – Martyred in the second century, Apollinarius was the Bishop of Ravenna in Italy. He was known as a great preacher and miracle worker.

**July 24: St. Sharbel Makhluf, priest** – A Maronite priest in Lebanon, Saint Sharbel spent much of his life as a hermit in the desert, living a life of extreme penance.

**August 2: St. Peter Julian Eymard, priest** – Founder of the Congregation of the Blessed Sacrament, Saint Peter devoted his life to promoting First Communion and devotion to the Eucharist as the sacrament of Christ's love.

**August 9: St. Teresa Benedicta of the Cross, virgin and martyr** – Born of Jewish parents as Edith Stein, she received academic renown as a philosopher. After her conversion to Catholicism, she became a Carmelite nun. She died in Auschwitz in 1942.

**September 12: Most Holy Name of Mary** – Starting in Spain in 1513, this celebration became a universal feast in the 17th century. A companion to the Memorial of The Most Holy Name of Jesus, it follows the Feast of the Nativity of Mary.

**September 23: St. Pio of Pietrelcina, priest** – Padre Pio was known throughout Italy and the world for his patient hearing of confessions and for his spiritual guidance. In poor health for much of his life, he conformed his sufferings to those of Christ.

**September 28: Sts. Lawrence Ruiz & Companions, martyrs** – Saint Lawrence and his companions spread the Gospel in the Philippines, Taiwan, and Japan. Saint Lawrence was born in Manila and was a husband and father.

**November 24 – Sts. Andrew Dũng-Lạc, priest and martyr, & Companions, martyrs** – Saint Andrew and his 107 companions, both priests and laity, were martyred in Vietnam in the seventeenth through nineteenth centuries. Through their preaching, lives of faith, and witness unto death, they strengthened the Church in Vietnam.

**November 25 – St. Catherine of Alexandria, virgin and martyr** – Martyred in the early part of the fourth century, Catherine was known for her intelligence, her deep faith, and the power of her intercession. ~ Fr. Jesse