

Saint Study Podcast

Podcast # 105

- **Hello everyone and welcome to Saint Study Episode #105 – “St. Matthew The Apostle”**
 - *Thank you for joining us – maybe we can all learn enough today that by the end of the program we will say, “I didn’t know that” (But now I do!)*
 - *What is a saint? A Canonized Saint is someone recognized by the Church as having led a life of great charity & heroic virtue. Their example of how to conquer any sin imaginable is so important that it was worth recognizing these men & women in a significant way. Anyone (canonized or not) whose soul was cleansed in Purgatory and now resides in Heaven is a Saint.*
- We always begin our learning by inviting the Holy Spirit to be with us...
 - *In the Name Of The Father, Son & Holy Spirit. Amen.*
 - *Dear Heavenly Father we ask you to be with us as we hear about the lives of your Saints. We ask that our minds be open and that you may fill us with the knowledge that was so loved by the men and women who lived lives of heroic virtue and great charity. Allow us to understand and emulate these Saints who we now know are in your company. In your name we pray, Amen.*
- **Let’s look at The Saint for this weeks study - St. Matthew The Apostle ...**
 - Saints Birth, Life, Death, Feast Day,
 - Son of Alphaeus, he lived at Capernaum on Lake Genesareth.
 - No data could be found about his childhood other than his Fathers name and where he lived.
 - He was a Roman tax collector, a position equated with alliance with the enemy by those from whom he collected taxes. (Publican)
 - Jesus Saw him in the tax office and approached him and said, “Follow Me”
 - Jesus' colleagues were astounded to see the Christ with a traitor, but Jesus made it clear that he had come *"not to call the just, but sinners."*
 - (remember Rome was center of world as reason for Vatican in Rome)
 - Matthew's *Gospel* is given “pride of place” in the canon of the *New Testament*
 - The most quoted by early Christians
 - He preached among the Jews for 15 years; his audiences **may** have included the Jewish enclave in Ethiopia, and Parthia & Persia.

- Its purpose was to convince Jewish readers that their anticipated Messiah had come in the person of Jesus.
- Many after Jesus died began to wonder if Jesus was the Messiah or not.
- The Gospel of Matthew is the narrative of Jesus. **(28 chapters)**
- The first three Gospels are similar in telling of Jesus life.
- St. Matthew composed his Gospel in his native Aramaic, the "Hebrew tongue" mentioned in the Gospel and the Acts of the Apostles.
- It is thought that Matthew's Gospel was composed while he was in Antioch. The capital of the then Roman province of Syria.
- Antioch was large city populated by Greek speaking Gentiles & Jews.
- We don't know how he died.
- Feast day is September 21st

- Patronage

- **is the patron saint for**

bankers bookkeepers customs officers financial officers guards money managers	Salerno, Italy security forces security guards stock brokers tax collectors
--	---

- You don't have to have a relationship to these patronages to ask for St. Matthew's prayers.

- Conclusions – Interesting notes about their life or sainthood

- Jesus gives us another example of how he doesn't use the righteous to pass on His word.
 - He converts "sinners" to pass on His message.
 - The Church is a "hospital for sinners" not a monument to Saints.

"Jesus saw a man called Matthew sitting at the tax office, and he said to him: Follow me." Jesus saw Matthew, not merely in the usual sense, but more significantly with his merciful understanding of men."

He saw the tax collector and, because he saw him through the eyes of mercy and chose him, he said to him: "Follow me." This following meant imitating the pattern of his life - not just walking after him. Saint John tells us: "Whoever says he abides in Christ ought to walk in the same way in which he walked."

"And he rose and followed him." There is no reason for surprise that the tax collector abandoned earthly wealth as soon as the Lord commanded him. Nor should one be amazed that neglecting his wealth, he joined a band of men whose leader had, on Matthew's assessment, no riches at all. Our Lord summoned Matthew by speaking to him in words. By an invisible, interior impulse flooding his mind with the light of grace, he instructed him to walk in his footsteps. In this way Matthew could understand that Christ, who was summoning him away from earthly possessions, had incorruptible treasures of heaven in his gift.

- Preview of next episode
 - St. Simon The Apostle
- References, Plugs & Web Sites
 - **New American (Catholic) Bible**
 - **Catechism of The Catholic Church (C.C.C.)**
 - www.newadvent.org
 - <http://www.vatican.va/> - Official Vatican Web Site
 - <http://www.catholic.org/> - Catholic Reference
- **Follow SaintStudy on Itunes, Facebook and Twitter – Visit the SaintStudy Store...**
- **The SaintStudy store is affiliated with Amazon.com – Find video's, books and other items associated with Saints and the Catholic Church.**

1 Peter 3:15 - 16

...Always be ready to give an explanation to anyone who asks you for a reason for your hope, but do it with gentleness and reverence, keeping your conscience clear, so that, when you are maligned, those who defame your good conduct in Christ may themselves be put to shame.

**May The Peace of our Lord
Be always with you...Have a good day!**