

CNY Marian Center Saints' Relics



This month, we conclude the stories of the Saints whose relics are in the Marian Center Chapel for veneration, prayer and intercession – Vincent Ferrer, Catherine of Siena, Andrew Avellino, and

Anthony of Padua. The first class relics are Ex. Ossibus, meaning from the bones.

St. Anthony of Padua

St. Anthony was born in Lisbon, Portugal, in 1195 and baptized Ferdinand. Ferdinand entered the order of *Canons Regular of St. Augustine*. He studied intently and gained amazing knowledge of the Bible. Ferdinand was in charge of hospitality after a transfer to the Abbey at Coimbra. Here he met and befriended five Franciscans who were enroute to preach to the Muslims in Morocco. The following year, the remains of his martyred friends were returned to Portugal. This inspired him to become a Franciscan and serve God heroically. His Augustinian Superior finally gave permission and with his new name, Anthony, he set sail for Morocco. Illness prevented him from becoming a martyr in Morocco and his wind-blown ship landed him in Sicily, where he attended a general chapter of the Franciscan Order. Anthony listened to the teachings of St. Francis and left the Chapter of Mats with the provincial of Bologna. He became an accomplished orator with a great zeal for saving souls. Stories abound like his preaching to the fish at Rimini when the people would not listen to him. The fish revered God and the people converted. A newborn baby spoke and proclaimed the innocence of her mother, who had

been accused of adultery. One story related to our prayer to St. Anthony for lost objects: Anthony had a book of psalms that was very important to him. The psalter had the notes and comments he had made to use in teaching students in his Franciscan Order. An unhappy novice took Anthony's psalter when leaving the Order. Upon realizing his psalter was missing, Anthony prayed it would be found or returned to him. And after his prayer the thieving novice was moved to return the psalter to Anthony and accepted back into the Order. During Anthony's final illness, a friend noticed a powerful light in Anthony's room. Thinking it was a fire, he burst into the room and observed Anthony in ecstasy embracing the Infant Jesus. Anthony died at 36 and miracles began to occur at his tomb immediately. A majestic basilica was built and in 1263 the Saint's remains were transferred to the basilica. His tongue and vocal cords, the instruments with which he had glorified God in so many homilies were found to be intact.

View a Webcam of St. Anthony's tomb on our website. www.cnymariancenter.com; download and share the articles on these four great saints. Request prayer and our Saints' intercession via phone or website.

Feastday: June 13

Patron: Lost things, barren women, amputees, shipwrecks, starvation, American Indians, boatmen, elderly people, expectant mothers, fishermen, harvests, horses, mail, mariners, pregnant women, sailors, swineherds, travel hostesses, travelers and watermen.

Resources for St. Vincent and St. Anthony:

<http://www.shrineofstanthony.org/>, Butler's Lives of the Saints, marypages.com, catholiceducation.org

St. Vincent Ferrer

Born January 23, 1357*, in Valencia, Spain, St. Vincent learned from his parents, a great devotion to Our Lord and his Blessed Mother and love for the poor. He entered the Order of St. Dominic in 1374* and made rapid progress in the paths of perfection. St. Vincent delivered lectures on philosophy and after a transfer to Barcelona, continued his scholastic duties and devoted himself to preaching. His sermons were written at the foot of a crucifix and they roused people to penitence and fervor. Multitudes of careless Catholics and a number of Jews were converted to the faith. In 1394, the Pope called Vincent to Avignon to be master of the Sacred Palace. He tried to put an end to the Great Schism. Those efforts created health problems but after Our Lord appeared with St. Francis and St. Dominic and made him understand he was to go and preach penance as they had done, he was restored to health instantly. Vincent evangelized Spain, France, Italy, England, Ireland, Scotland, Germany, and Flanders. Numerous conversions were attributed to his preaching, which God himself assisted by the gift of miracles. The Saint was welcomed in both geographical locations of the papacy, Avignon and Rome. He preached in Mohammedan Granada with great success and baptized some of the Moors. Vincent lived to behold the end of the Great Schism and see the election of Pope Martin V before his death April 5, 1419.

Feastday: April 5 **Patron:** Builders (for building up and strengthening the Church) *Source dates differ