

Portraits of Men and Women of Faith at Hinsley Hall



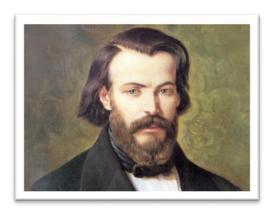


Blessed Luigi Beltrame Quattrocchi (1880-1951) Blessed Maria Corsini Beltrame Quattrocchi (1884-1965) Patrons of Married Couples Feast Day 25th November ~ Beatified 21st October 2001

Blessed Luigi and Maria Quattrocchi 'lived an ordinary life in an extraordinary way. Among the joys and concerns of a normal family life, they had an extraordinarily rich spiritual life.' (Pope John Paul II at their Beatification).

Luigi and Maria met as young adults and were married on 25 November 1905. They went on to have four children; however, Maria's fourth pregnancy had complications. She was diagnosed with placenta praevia, giving both mother and child only a 5% chance of survival. Although the doctors encouraged her to have an abortion, the couple knew that this was not an option and so they entrusted the pregnancy to the Lord. Eight months later, Maria gave birth to a healthy child: Enricchetta.

The couple began each day with Mass, they prayed the Rosary as a family and encouraged one another in ever more selfless acts. Their holiness inspired their children, three of whom went on to enter the Religious life.



Blessed Frédéric Ozanam 1813-1853 Patron of the Society of St Vincent de Paul and Lay Apostolate to the Sick and Poor Feast Day 9th September ~ Beatified 22nd August 1997

Blessed Frédéric Ozanam was the fifth of fourteen children, only three of whom reached adulthood. Growing up Frédéric began to have doubts about his religion. When he was at the University of the Sorbonne studying law, certain professors mocked the Catholic teachings in their lectures and Frédéric defended the Church.

Frédéric organised a discussion group where Catholics, atheists and agnostics debated the issues of the day. This group was the turning point in his life and he soon decided that his words were not enough; they needed to be supported by action.

Frédéric went on to live his life continually serving the poor as well as encouraging others to do likewise. He and a few others decided that this work had to continue and so they founded the St Vincent de Paul Society (SVP) in 1833 and its work continues to this day.



Saint Gianna Beretta Molla (1922-1962) Patron of Physicians, Pregnant Mothers and Unborn Children Feast Day 28th April ~ Canonised 16th May 2004

Gianna was an Italian paediatrician. The tenth of thirteen children, as a young girl Gianna had openly accepted her faith and she grew up viewing life as God's beautiful gift. As an adult Gianna lived her faith in service for the poor and elderly as a member of the St Vincent de Paul Society (SVP).

Having received degrees in both medicine and surgery, Gianna considered this to be her mission, and she treated it as such. Gianna wanted to join her brother who was a missionary priest in Brazil, but chronic ill health prevented her.

In 1954, Gianna met Pietro Molla and together they had four children. However, the fourth pregnancy had severe complications as doctors discovered she had a tumour. Gianna was given three options: to have an abortion; a hysterectomy; or an operation to remove the tumour risking further complications. Gianna wanted at all costs to preserve the life of her child and opted for the removal of the tumour. Her love for her child was so strong that she was willing to sacrifice her own life and repeatedly told doctors to save the child over herself.

After the operation, complications continued but Gianna had strength and faith in God. And in 1962, her fourth child was delivered successfully, although Gianna herself contracted an infection and died a week later.

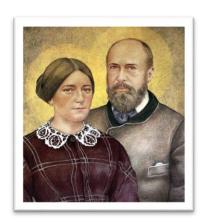


Saint Giuseppe Moscati (1880-1927) Patron of Physicians and Bachelors Feast Day 16th November ~ Canonised 25th October 1987

Intelligent and pious, Giuseppe Moscati, was the son of a lawyer and the seventh of nine children. Originally intending to study law himself but, owing to an incident where his brother, Alberto, fell from a horse and sustained incurable head trauma, Giuseppe decided to study medicine. Giuseppe helped care for his brother for years and he later reflected on the limitations of human remedies as opposed to the consoling power of religion.

After medical school, Moscati practiced medicine at the Hospital for Incurables in Naples where he demonstrated extraordinary skill in diagnosing his patients' ailments, combining traditional methods with the new findings of biochemistry.

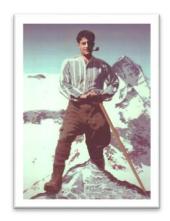
Giuseppe Moscati regarded his medical practice as a ministry; placing himself in the presence of God before each examination and encouraging his patients to receive the Sacraments. He also treated poor patients free of charge, often sending them away with an envelope containing a prescription and money. Moscati lived his life in service of others and stayed dedicated to his faith. One day in 1927 aged 46, he went to Mass and received Communion as usual; but later in the day he felt weary, lay down and died peacefully.



Saint Louis Martin (1823-1894) Saint Marie-Azélie 'Zélie' Guérin Martin (1831-1877) Patrons of Married Couples and Families Feast Day 12th July (their Wedding Day) Canonised 18th October 2015

Saints Louis and Zélie Martin both sought to enter religious life however, they were unsuccessful. Louis, a watchmaker, and Zélie, a lace maker, met in 1858 and had nine children together: seven girls and two boys.

Sadly, tragedy struck the family as within the space of three years, they lost two of their daughters and both of their sons. The family tragedies only served to strengthen their faith in God and intensify the love between Louis and Zélie who now poured out their love and affection on to their remaining daughters. When their last child was born, she was weak and frail, and doctors feared for her life. She did not have a long life, but did survive into adulthood and we now know her as St Thérèse of Lisieux.



Patron of Students, Young Catholics, Youth Groups and Mountaineers Feast Day 4th July ~ Beatified 20th May 2000

Pier Giorgio Frassati was a very active young man. With his many friends he hiked, climbed mountains and rode horses. He also invited his friends to Mass, to read scripture, and to pray the Rosary together. As he was growing up, Pier developed two habits that became part of his everyday life. He went to Mass daily to receive the Eucharist, and he also prayed the Rosary. He never hesitated to share his faith with others.

Pier had great concern for the poor and often gave his own money and possessions to others. At the age of 17, he joined the St Vincent de Paul Society (SVP) and dedicated much of his spare time to its service.

When he was 24, just before receiving his degree, Pier Giorgio became ill with polio. Many said he got the disease from caring for people in the slums of Turin, but Pier saw Jesus in the people he served. In his last days, he whispered the names of people who still needed assistance to his family and friends who gathered at his bedside.



Saint Josephine Bakhita (1869-1947) Patron of Sudan and of Survivors of Human Trafficking Feast Day 8th February ~ Canonised 1st October 2000

St Josephine Bakhita, born in Southern Sudan, was kidnapped at the age of 7, sold into slavery and was given the name Bakhita, meaning 'fortunate'. She was resold many times, finally to the Italian consul in Sudan. In 1885 he took her to Italy and gave her to his friend Augusto Michieli. Bakhita became the babysitter to Mimmina Michieli and accompanied her to Venice's Institute of the Catechumens which was run by the Canossian sisters.

Bakhita felt very drawn to the Catholic Church and in 1890, she was baptised and confirmed taking the name Josephine. On the Michieli's return from Africa, they wanted to take Mimmina and Josephine with them but Josephine refused. During the court case, the Canossian sisters intervened on her behalf and the judge concluded that, since slavery was illegal in Italy, she had actually been free since 1885.

Bakhita entered the Institute of St Magdalene of Canossa in 1893 and made her profession three years later. During her ministry she brought great joy and service to her religious community, the children attending the sisters' school and the local community.



Saint Teresa Benedicta of the Cross (b. Edith Stein 1891-1942) Co-Patroness of Europe Feast Day 9th August ~ Canonised 11th October 1988

St Teresa Benedicta of the Cross, was born Edith Stein into a prominent Jewish family in Poland. During her teenage years Edith stopped believing in God but as she studied Philosophy in Germany and read the autobiography of St Teresa of Jesus, she felt called to a spiritual journey which led to her Baptism in 1922. Edith later followed in the footsteps of St Teresa of Jesus and became a Carmelite nun, taking the name Teresa Benedicta of the Cross.

After the Nazis rise to power in Germany Sister Teresa Benedicta was sent to the Netherlands. When the Nazis occupied the Netherlands, all the Jews and Jewish converts were arrested including Sister Teresa Benedicta and her sister Rosa. They both died in the gas chambers of Auschwitz on 9 August 1942.



Blessed Chiara 'Luce' Badano 1971-1990 Patron of Youth and of Athletes Feast Day 29th October ~ Beatified 25th September 2010

Chiara Badano was born on 29 October 1971 to Ruggero and Teresa Badano who had been praying and hoping for a baby for ten years. At a young age, Chiara seemed aware of the needs of others as she would sort through her best toys – not just the old or broken ones - to give some to poor children.

Chiara loved to serve others and often invited the less-fortunate to stay in the family's home, visited the elderly and visited children who were sick in bed. This largely came from her love of the Gospel stories and of attending Mass. She later joined the young people's branch of the Focolare movement. Chiara was a very active, popular girl who tried to bring Jesus to others with her example and how she lived her life.

At the age of 17, Chiara was diagnosed with a very serious form of bone cancer. The treatments were painful and unsuccessful leading her to become paralysed. Chiara felt closer to Jesus as she suffered, at time even refusing to take pain medication. Despite being ill, Chiara attended Focolare youth meetings and inspired everyone who she encountered with her faith and love for others. During her final hours, Chiara made her final confession and received the Eucharist. She died praying alongside her family and friends on 7 October 1990.



Saint José Sanchez del Rio (1913-1928) Patron of Young People Feast Day 10th February ~ Canonised 16th October 2016

St José Sanchez del Rio, born in Mexico on 28 March 1913, was the third of four children. José loved his faith and grew up with a strong devotion to Our Lady of Guadalupe. When José was 12 years old, the Cristero wars began, when the Mexican government tried to extinguish the influence of the Catholic Church throughout the country. In response, many of the poor people rebelled against the government. Even though he was too young to join the rebellion, José desperately wanted to be a Cristero and stand up for his faith. He was eventually allowed to join the war effort as a flag bearer.

During a battle, José was captured and was asked to deny his faith and the Cristero cause. José refused and was horrifically tortured. During his torture, José would not give in; he recited the Rosary and prayed for his enemies. Aged just 14, José was put to death by government officials, still refusing to renounce his Catholic faith and loudly proclaiming 'Viva Cristo Rey!' ('Long Live Christ the King!').