



monica and Augustine

Blessed Are They Who Mourn

Monica: 332–387

**Born in Tagaste,
North Africa**

Feast Day: August 27

**Patron of
Wives and Mothers**

Augustine: 354–430

**Born in Tagaste,
North Africa**

Feast Day: August 28

**Patron of
Theologians**

**“Blessed are they who mourn,
for they shall be comforted.”**

Matthew 5:4

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Dedication

To my family:
my parents Jim and Peg,
my husband Bill,
our son Sam and daughter-in-law Erin,
and our precious grandchildren
Ben, Lucas, and Andrew

To all the children I have had the privilege
of teaching throughout the years.

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First Edition

Dear Parents and Teachers:

Saints and Me! is a six-set series of children's books about saints, including: *Saints of North America* who served our homeland; *Saints of Christmas*, who teach us to love Jesus; *Saints for Families*, who modeled God's love within and for the domestic Church; *Saints for Communities*, who served Jesus through various roles and professions; and *Saints for Sacraments*, who showed great love for the sacraments.

The eight books in *Saints of the Beatitudes* (a word meaning "a list of blessings from God") introduce nine holy people who exemplify attributes Jesus articulated in his Sermon on the Mount. Faustina Kowalska's diary *Divine Mercy in My Soul*, read by millions, helped spread God's message of mercy. Patrick, a missionary, brought Christianity to Ireland. Monica prayed her wayward son, Augustine, would return to the faith. He did and was canonized. Katharine Drexel abandoned her comfortable life to become a nun. Carlo Acutis shared his faith and love of the Eucharist through technology. Bernadette Soubirous experienced visions of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Pope John XXIII convoked the Second Vatican Council, hoping to revive the Church. Jude was an apostle of our Lord.

Which saint was captured by pirates and sold into slavery? Name the saints with back-to-back feast days (August 27–28). Who gave \$20 million to build churches and schools? Who created a website about eucharistic miracles? Who did Jesus appear and speak to? Who said, "My job is to inform, not to convince"? Who wrote *Peace on Earth* in 1963? Who is the patron of impossible causes? Find out in the *Saints of the Beatitudes* set—part of the *Saints and Me!* series—and help children connect to the lives of the saints.

Introduce your children or students to *Saints and Me!* as they:

- READ** about the lives of the saints and are inspired by their stories.
- PRAY** to the saints for their intercession.
- CELEBRATE** the saints and relate them to their lives.

Free activities for children to use with this book
may be downloaded at Liguori.org.

The Beatitudes

Divine blessings Jesus names in his Sermon on the Mount

Matthew 5:3–12



saints of the Beatitudes

patrick

Blessed Are the Poor in Spirit (Verse 3)

monica and Augustine

Blessed Are They Who Mourn (Verse 4)

Katharine Drexel

Blessed Are the Meek (Verse 5)

Carlo Acutis

Blessed Are the Righteous (Verse 6)

Faustina Kowalska

Blessed Are the Merciful (Verse 7)

Bernadette

Blessed Are the Pure of Heart (Verse 8)

Pope John XXIII

Blessed Are the Peacemakers (Verse 9)

Jude the Apostle

Blessed Are the Persecuted (Verses 10–12)



Monica is the mother of Augustine, a great saint in the Catholic Church. Monica is a saint, too. She was a woman of great faith. She trusted God and prayed for her son, Augustine, when he did not want to follow the Christian faith. Monica was very sad that her son did not love God. After several years, her prayers were answered.





Born in northern Africa, Monica grew up in a Christian family, where she learned about prayer and the sacraments from her parents. She married a man named Patricius. He was not a Christian and did not believe in God. Monica loved God very much. *"Maybe someday I can teach my husband about the Christian faith,"* she thought.



Monica was a good wife and loved her husband. But her life with Patricius was not a happy one. He made fun of Monica when she prayed or helped someone in need. "Monica," he laughed, "why do you pray so much? It is a waste of time." "I like to pray. I feel at peace when I pray," she answered.

