

# **nicholas of myra**

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**Giver of Many Gifts**

**270–345/352**

**Born in present-day Turkey**

**Feast Day: December 6**

**Patronage:**

**Children, Russia, brides, sailors**

**Text by Barbara Yoffie**

**Illustrated by Katherine A. Borgatti**



**Liguori**

## 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.

*Imprimi Potest:*

Harry Grile, CSsR, Provincial  
Denver Province, the Redemptorists

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## Dear Parents and Teachers:

*Saints and Me!* is a series of children's books about saints, with six books in each set. The first set is titled *Saints of North America*. This set, *Saints of Christmas*, selects seven heavenly heroes who teach us to love the Infant Jesus. Some saints in this set have feast days within Advent and Christmas time, but others are celebrated within ordinary time and Easter time. We selected these saints based on their connection to the Christmas story and how they inspire us to let the mystery of Christ's birth grow within our hearts.

*Saints of Christmas* includes the heroic lives of seven saints from different times and places who loved Jesus. Saints Mary and Joseph witnessed the miracle of God's abundant love for humanity as our Infant Savior entered the world to bring us home to God. Saint Lucy followed Jesus in a time when Christianity was against the law. The story of Saint Nicholas was so incredible that it inspired our secular notion of Santa Claus. Saint Francis of Assisi added much flavor to our current Christmas traditions. Saint Martin de Porres was a biracial saint who taught us about divine love for all people. And a saint of our own era, Gianna Beretta Molla, witnessed a deep belief in the gift of life.

Which saint cared for slaves from Africa? Who became a doctor and mother? What saints were present at Jesus' birth in Bethlehem? Who desired to be a knight? Which saint was a bishop of a seaport city? Do you know which saint's name means "light"? Find the answers in the *Saints of Christmas* set, part of the *Saints and Me!* series, and help your child identify with the lives of the saints.

Introduce your children or students to the *Saints and Me!* series 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 to their lives.



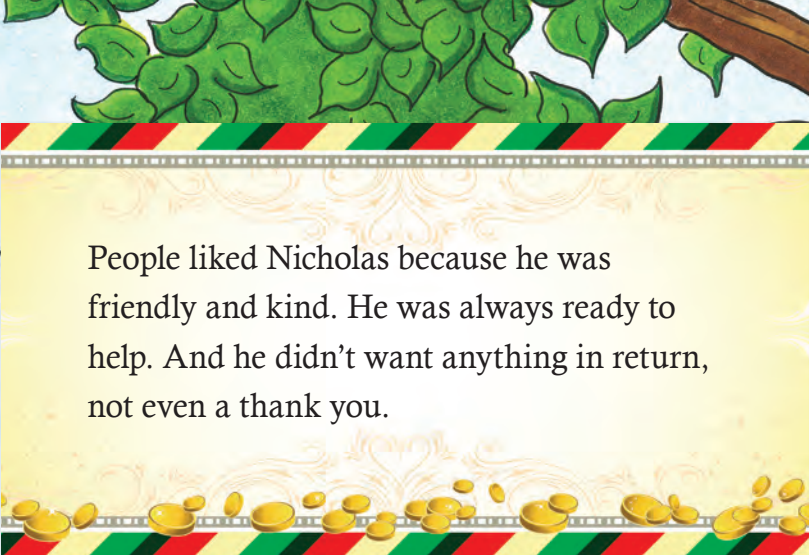
Saint Nicholas lived a long, long time ago.  
There are many wonderful stories told about  
Saint Nicholas. He is a popular saint in  
the Church and is celebrated in countries  
around the world.





Nicholas was born in the town of Patara in the country now called Turkey. His parents taught him about God. They taught him how to pray. They also taught Nicholas how to share with others.





People liked Nicholas because he was friendly and kind. He was always ready to help. And he didn't want anything in return, not even a thank you.



