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# St. David

March 1

## Who was St. David?

Little is widely known about St. David's early life. Legend holds that he was born during a storm on a cliff near Capel Non (Non's Chapel), along the South-West Wales coast, to parents of Welsh royal descent. His birthplace is marked by the ruins of an ancient chapel and an 18th-century chapel dedicated to his mother, Non, located near St. David's Cathedral.

In his youth, David became a priest, educated at the monastery of Hen Fynyw under St. Paulinus. His life was interwoven with tales of miracles and ascetic practices, such as advising soldiers to wear leeks to differentiate themselves in battle, thus making the leek a symbol of Wales.

Known for his vegetarian lifestyle and ascetic practices, including standing in cold water reciting Scripture, David became a missionary, establishing monasteries and spreading Christianity throughout Wales and Britain. He died in 589 A.D. and was buried at Minevia, though Viking invaders ransacked his shrine in the 11th century.

Despite uncertainty regarding the factual accuracy of his history, St. David's influence grew, leading to his canonization by Pope Callactus II in 1120 and his declaration as the Patron Saint of Wales. Pilgrimages to St. David's were significant, with his impact stretching across Britain, Cornwall and Brittany. Bones discovered in St. David's Cathedral in 1996 were suggested to be his, potentially shedding light on the life of this revered figure.

St. David was reportedly a man of many miracles, such as the resurrection of a dead child, as well as the miracle of giving a blind man the ability to see. These miracles shape and reveal the type of person St. David and recognize the tremendous impact and influence he had in spreading the Catholic faith throughout Europe. There are over fifty churches in Wales alone that are named St. David.

We pray to St. David for help and guidance from the holy bishop in our lives. With his example, we seek his help in prayer and devotion to the Catholic faith and are enlightened by his continued strength and steadfastness in love and Christianity around the world.

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[St. David Catholic Elementary School](#)

[St. David Roman Catholic Church](#)



*“Be joyful, and keep your faith and your creed.  
Do the little things that you have seen me do  
and heard about. As for me. I will walk the  
death that our fathers have trod before us.”*  
- St. David of Wales

*“ Be Happy. Keep your faith and belief.  
Remember the little things you have  
heard and seen me do and do them.”*  
- St. David of Wales

### Prayer

In the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit;  
Dear Lord,  
we thank You for giving us Your servant, St. David, as an example of holiness.  
Almighty God, on this special day for the people of Wales,  
we remember Saint David, your servant.  
We give thanks for his passion for the Gospel  
which helped to spread Christianity;  
We give thanks for his purity and simplicity of life  
which enabled his pursuit of Christian perfection;  
We give thanks for his gentleness, but clear spiritual leadership.  
Grant that we may learn from him  
and respond to the words that are thought to be his last:  
‘Be steadfast, and do the little things’;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Help us to imitate the virtue he showed in holding fast to his love of You as he  
faced opposition for the holy practices in his monasteries.

Amen.





## York Catholic District School Board



**FEAST DAY:**  
March 1

**SCHOOL LOCATION:**  
Maple, ON

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faith and belief.  
Remember the little  
things you have heard  
and seen me do and do  
them."*

— St. David of Wales

# St. David

**PATRON SAINT OF:**

- Wales
- St. David CES

