

Discovering the church in Peru - St Rose of Lima 1586-1617



Fr. Ed celebrates Mass at Our Lady of the Missions parish. The parish was founded by the Columban Fathers and continues to be served by them.

Photo: CAFOD

Saint Rose was born in Lima, Peru. Although Isabel Flores de Olivia was her name at baptism, she was nicknamed 'Rose' because of her beauty.

Rose's parents were keen that she should make a good marriage but she refused in favour of joining a convent. Her parents would not allow this so she remained at home and lived an isolated life of endless prayer, fasting and penance until the age of 20 when she was permitted to join the Third Order of St Dominic.

She died at 31, was eventually beatified in 1668 and canonised in 1671, becoming the first saint of the Americas.

St Rose is the patroness of gardeners, embroiderers, florists, family with problems and victims of religious persecution. 23rd of August is recognised as her feast day.

Prayer to St Rose

God our Father, for love of you Saint Rose gave up everything to devote herself to a life of penance.

By the life of her prayer may we imitate her selfless life on earth and enjoy the fullness of your blessing in heaven.

Grant this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your son, who lives, and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, One God, for ever and ever.

Amen.