



RELIGIOUS ED

LIFE WITH CHRIST IS A WONDERFUL ADVENTURE!-POPE ST. JOHN PAUL II



St. Monica and Patience

St. Monica has taught us that patience must be cultivated by our lives of prayer. Prayer helps us to develop the strength and love to bear with one another's defects and faults. This saint proved her patience especially with how she lived with her pagan husband, Patricius, and her son Augustine who would later become one of the greatest saints in the Catholic Church.

Monica's husband, Patricius, had a very sharp temper. She responded with patience and gentleness and prayed for twenty years for her him. He eventually converted to Catholicism and a year later died at peace with God and family.

Monica raised all her children as Catholics and taught them their faith and prayers. Augustine was gifted with a brilliant mind, but he did not like to study. As a teenager he indulged in drinking, cheating and stealing.

Monica asked priests, and even a bishop, to speak with Augustine in the hopes that he would change his ways. Just as with her husband, Monica never gave up praying for her son. Her prayers were often accompanied by many tears.

Augustine, determined to teach public speaking in Rome, gave his mother the slip after she tried to talk him out of it. While in Italy, he was influenced by Ambrose, the Bishop of Milan, whose sermons he heard regularly. As never before, he was attracted to the teachings of the Catholic Church. Monica traveled to Milan where she was pleased to hear of Ambrose's influence on Augustine. Her prayers knew no end and on Easter Sunday, Augustine was baptized. Shortly afterward, his patient mother died. Augustine did as his mother bade him and had her buried in Italy instead of her homeland.

Augustine never forgot his mother and wrote movingly of her in his great book, Confessions. He portrayed her as a model Christian and saint. He said, "To her I owe all that I am." May we inspire people to say that of us.

RE Calendar

November 14th: Class (10am-11:30am)

November 21st: Class (10am-11:30am)

November 28th: No Class-Thanksgiving Break

December 5th: Class (10am-11:30am)

VOLUNTEER



Are you looking for a way to get involved? The RE Program is putting together a list of people who would be willing to sub, if needed. Please contact Kathleen Driscoll (kadriscoll@archchicago.org), for more information.