

Patron Saints for Catholic Charities of Louisville Programming

Program	Saint	Reflection
Common Earth Gardens	St. Isidore Feast day May 15	Isidore took a vow of continence to serve God. Isidore's life is a model of simple Christian charity and faith. He prayed while at work. He shared what he had with the poor, even his meals. He often gave them more than he had for himself. A story told about St. Isidore is that he often came later to work in the fields than other laborers because he would first attend Mass in the morning. Yet his work never suffered, and he always met the chores required of him. It was said two angels, one on either side of Isidore, appeared and joined their pious companion in plowing the fields.
Common Table	St. Hildegard of Bingen Feast day September 17	Hildegard was elected magistra by her fellow nuns in 1136; she founded the monasteries of Rupertsberg in 1150 and Eibingen in 1165. One of her works as a composer, the Ordo Virtutum, is an early example of liturgical drama and arguably the oldest surviving morality play. She wrote theological, botanical, and medicinal texts, as well as letters, liturgical songs, and poems, while supervising miniature illuminations in the Rupertsberg manuscript of her first work, Scivias. She is also noted for the invention of a constructed language known as Lingua Ignota.
Communications/ Development	St. Gabriel the Archangel Feast day September 29	St. Gabriel is an angel who serves as a messenger for God to certain people. He is one of the three archangels. Gabriel is mentioned in both the Old and the New Testaments of the Bible. First, in the Old Testament, Gabriel appears to the prophet Daniel to explain his visions. In the New Testament, Gabriel, described as "an angel of the Lord," first appears to Zacharias, the father of John the Baptist. After Elizabeth conceived and was six months pregnant, Gabriel appears again. The Book of Luke states he was sent from God to Nazareth to visit the virgin married to a man named Joseph. Gabriel said to Mary, "Hail, thou that art highly favored, the Lord is with thee: blessed art thou among women." Luke 1:28. Gabriel told Mary she would conceive from The Holy Ghost and the baby will be the Son of God. After the Annunciation of Mary, Gabriel is not spoken of again. Gabriel is recognized as the patron saint of messengers, telecommunication workers, and postal workers.

Patron Saints for Catholic Charities of Louisville Programming

Community Support Services	St. Gianna Beretta Molla Feast day April 28	Early in her sixth pregnancy, doctors discovered that Gianna had both a child and a tumor in her uterus. She allowed the surgeons to remove the tumor but not to perform the complete hysterectomy that they recommended, which would have killed the child. Seven months later in April 1962, Gianna Emanuela Molla was born at the hospital in Monza, but post-operative complications resulted in an infection for her mother. The following week, Gianna Molla died at home in Mesero, where she was buried. Gianna Emanuela went on to become a physician herself. Gianna Beretta Molla was beatified in 1994 and canonized 10 years later.
Executive Office	St. Pope John XXIII Feast day October 11	Pope John XXIII became pope in 1958. His favorite title was "Servant of the Servants of God." Pope John XXIII initiated the Second Vatican Council. This is what the church needed, a breath of fresh air and he was exactly that. Pope John XXIII at bedtime would in a childlike manner put his trust in God and say, "I've done my best I could in your service this day, Oh Lord. I'm going to bed. It's your church. Take care of it!"
Finance	St. Matthew Feast day September 21	Born in Palestine in the 1st century, St. Matthew was one of Jesus's 12 apostles and one of the four Evangelists. Matthew authored the first Gospel of the Bible's New Testament, now known as the Gospel of Matthew. Before preaching the word of God, he was a tax collector in Capernaum.
Human Trafficking	St. Josephine Bakhita Feast day February 8	The Lord has loved me so much: we must love everyone... we must be compassionate! – Saint Josephine Bakhita Was born in Darfur, Sudan. Between 1876 and 1882 Bakhita was sold three times. She suffered extreme torture in captivity. Eventually, she was sold to an Italian diplomat who gave her as a "gift" to a friend who took her to Italy to act as a nanny to his children. There she was introduced to the Sisters of Canossa and became a Catholic nun. When she was told to leave Italy by her master she refused and took him to court to be able to stay free and she won.
Kentucky Office for Refugees	St. Maximillian Kolbe Feast day August 14	Maximilian Kolbe was a Polish priest who died as prisoner 16770 in Auschwitz, on August 14, 1941. When a prisoner escaped from the camp, the Nazis selected 10 others to be killed by starvation in reprisal for the escape. One of the 10 selected to die, Franciszek Gajowniczek, began to cry: My wife! My children! I will never see them again! At this Maximilian Kolbe stepped forward and asked to die in his place. His request was granted ...

Patron Saints for Catholic Charities of Louisville Programming

Language Services	St. Bénézet Feast day April 14	Saint Bénézet(1163–1184) Christian tradition states that he was a shepherd boy who saw a vision during an eclipse in 1177. This told him to build a bridge over the Rhône River at Avignon. He was told that angels would watch over his flocks in his absence. He built the bridge single-handedly; ecclesiastical and civil authorities refused to help him. Bénézet, it is said, lifted a huge stone into place, and announced it would be the start of the foundation.
Long-Term Care Ombudmsan	St. Jeanne Jugan Feast day August 30	Also known as Sister Mary of the Cross, L.S.P., was a French woman who became known for the dedication of her life to the neediest of the elderly poor. Her service resulted in the establishment of the Little Sisters of the Poor, who care for the elderly who have no other resources throughout the world. She has been declared a saint by the Catholic Church.
Migration & Refugee Services + Immigration Legal Services	St. Frances Xavier Cabrini Feast day November 13	St. Frances Xavier Cabrini is the patron saint of immigrants. Cabrini went to seek approval of the pope to establish missions in China. Instead, he suggested to her that she go to the United States to help the Italian immigrants who were flooding to that nation in that era, mostly in great poverty. "Not to the East, but to the West" was his advice. New York seemed to be filled with chaos and poverty, and into this new world stepped Mother Frances Cabrini and her sister companions. Cabrini organized catechism and education classes for the immigrants and provided for the needs of the many orphans. She established schools and orphanages despite tremendous odds.
Mission Department	St. Paul the Apostle Feast day June 29	Today, Paul's epistles continue to be vital roots of the theology, worship and pastoral life in the Catholic and Protestant traditions of the West, as well as the Orthodox traditions of the East. Paul's influence on Christian thought and practice has been characterized as being as "profound as it is pervasive", among that of many other apostles and missionaries involved in the spread of the Christian faith. Augustine of Hippo developed Paul's idea that salvation is based on faith and not "works of the law".
Operations	St. Vincent Ferrer Feast day April 5	St. Vincent Ferrer is the patron saint of builders because of his fame for "building up" and strengthening the Church: through his preaching, missionary work, in his teachings, as confessor and adviser.

Patron Saints for Catholic Charities of Louisville Programming

Programs	<p>Pope St. Gregory the Great</p> <p>Feast day September 3</p>	<p>Pope Gregory was well known for his alms to the poor, and he gave quite generously of the riches donated to the Church by the wealthy people of Rome. Everything from money to land was given to the poor in some fashion. He made clear to his subordinates that their duty was to relieve the distress faced by the poor. He ordered his clergy to go out into the streets to find and care for the poor in person. Any clergy who were unwilling to go into the streets and help the poor were replaced. Assets of the Church were liquidated to provide income for alms. Clergy doing this work were paid four times a year and given a gold coin as a sort of bonus. When a famine struck Rome in the 590s, Pope Gregory ordered the Church to use its assets to feed the poor. At that time, the Church controlled nearly two thousand square miles of land, overseen by the clergy, and used to generate income. Now, instead of selling the produce of the land, Pope Gregory ordered it shipped to Rome and given away for free. In this way, he saved thousands of people from certain death. Pope Gregory himself refused to eat until his monks returned from their work of handing out food.</p>
Sister Visitor Center	<p>St. Teresa of Calcutta</p> <p>Feast day September 5</p>	<p>Mother Teresa was a humanitarian. This means she did things to help out other people. Her entire life was fully devoted to helping the poor, the sick, the needy, and the helpless. Mother Teresa was born on August 26, 1910. She established an order of religious women called the Missionaries of Charity. Over time the Missionaries of Charity have built centers throughout the world. In 1979 Mother Teresa, as she was known by then, received the Nobel Peace Prize. She captivated the world as few other people have. Her simple message was: "We are put on earth to do something beautiful for God."</p>