



Saints of the Season

Third Week of Advent

December 14 - Celebrate the Feast of St. John of the Cross

[St. John of the Cross](#) Saint John of the Cross, a 16th century Carmelite priest best known for reforming his order together with Saint Teresa of Avila, and for writing the classic spiritual treatise "*The Dark Night of the Soul.*" *The Dark Night* John also became the spiritual director and confessor to St. Teresa and her 130 nuns, at their monastery of the Incarnation in Avila. It was there, while praying in a loft, that John had a vision of Our Lord on the Cross, leading him to create his famous drawing of "Christ from Above." On December 14, 1591, just before midnight, John of the Cross was dying. He wanted to make up his bed in case anyone would come to visit him. He asked to have "Song of Songs" read to him. While listening, he was heard to say, "So beautiful are the flowers!" And then he died. St. John of the Cross is the patron saint of contemplatives, mystics, and Spanish poets.

Here are a few of his quotes to ponder:

"God passes through the thicket of the world, and wherever his glance falls he turns all things to beauty."

"In the evening of our lives we shall be examined in love."

"Keep your heart in peace; let nothing in this world disturb it; everything has an end."



Family Activity

In this third week of Advent as we see the light the third candle of the Advent wreath, we can see how the light is overcoming the darkness of the night. Today, as you light the candle, use the prayer below by St. John of the Cross.

Prayer

Light And Love

"Mine are the heavens and mine is the earth. Mine are the nations, the just are mine, and mine the sinners. The angels are mine, and the Mother of God, and all things are mine; and God himself is mine and for me, because Christ is mine and all for me. What do you ask, then, and seek, my soul? Yours is all of this, and all is for you. Do not engage yourself in anything less or pay heed to the crumbs that fall from your Father's table. Go forth and exult in your Glory! Hide yourself in it and rejoice, and you will obtain the supplications of your heart."

(By St John of the Cross)

... St John of the Cross, Pray for Us ...

More Information

[Carmelite.com](#) - St. John of the Cross

[Teachingcatholickids.com](#) -St. John of the Cross:Doctor of the Church

[Catholicapostolatecenterfeastdays.org](#) - St. John of the Cross

