



Saint of the Week

John the Apostle

Feast Day—December 27
First Century



The Call of the First Disciples

(Matthew 4:18–22)

As [Jesus] was walking by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon who is called Peter, and his brother Andrew, casting a net into the sea; they were fishermen. He said to them, “Come after me, and I will make you fishers of men.” At once they left their nets and followed him.

He walked along from there and saw two other brothers, James, the son of Zebedee, and his brother John. They were in a boat, with their father Zebedee, mending their nets. He called them, and immediately they left their boat and their father and followed him.



John and his brother, James, Galilean fishermen called the “sons of thunder,” were chosen to be among the Twelve Apostles. John was with Jesus at the Transfiguration, in the Garden of Gethsemane, and on Calvary. It was to this “beloved disciple” that Jesus entrusted his mother’s care. John evangelized in Ephesus (Turkey), was exiled to the island of Patmos, and according to tradition lived to be 100 years. John and his community of followers are credited with writing the fourth Gospel, three epistles, and the Book of Revelation.

