

Can you work out the names of each of these 25 saints whose lives are sketched out below?



## SAINTS OF GOD 1

Brought up by Elizabeth and Zechariah he was just a few months older than Jesus.

He had a small band of disciples and was a famous preacher based around the River Jordan.

Although many came to hear him he was hated by Herodias who persuaded Herod to cut his head off after her daughter danced for him at a big feast.



## SAINTS OF GOD 2

He was the writer of the first (but not the oldest) Gospel.

He was probably the tax collector mentioned twice in his Gospel. His other name may have been Levi.

His Gospel story has many sayings from the Old Testament so his hearers would have been Jews. He may have been a close friend of St Peter.



## SAINTS OF GOD 3

Almost a third of the New Testament are made up of his letters - which were written before any of the Gospels.

He was a great traveller who toured Israel, Turkey, Greece, Malta and finally Rome before he was executed.

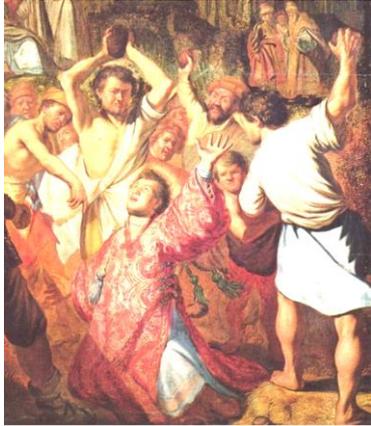
He never met Jesus but he often talked about a dream he once had on the road to Damascus.

## SAINTS OF GOD 4



The writer of the shortest Gospel is thought to be the same person as the young man who escaped when Jesus was being arrested in the Garden of Gethsemane by wriggling out of his thin tunic.

Strangely his Gospel story ends without any of disciples meeting Jesus after the resurrection.

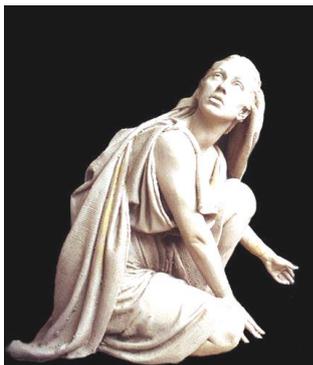


## SAINTS OF GOD 5

Stoned to death for following Jesus this man was the first person in the Bible to die because of what he believed.

A good man, he was a deacon, someone who cared for the poor, the widows and the orphans in the new Church.

His death was supervised by Saul, a leader of the Jews who would later become a Christian.



## SAINTS OF GOD 6

Apart from his mother, this person was the closest women in Jesus' life. She may be the person who washed his feet with tears and anointed his feet with perfume at a dinner party.

She was certainly the first person to run to the tomb on Easter Day and to meet Jesus in the garden. It was she who told the disciples that Jesus had risen from the dead.



## SAINTS OF GOD 7

He may have been the most senior of Jesus' disciples but he also got into the most hot water! Full of enthusiasm but stubborn, Jesus had to tell him off more than once. When Jesus had been arrested and needed his support most, he even denied he knew Jesus.

Jesus forgave him and he was finally crucified - upside down - in Rome.



## SAINTS OF GOD 8

He was known as 'the brother of Jesus' and he was in the room at Pentecost. He was a great leader of the new Church and brought together the Jews and Gentiles at the Council of Jerusalem. He may have written a letter still to be found in the New Testament.

He was often called 'the Just' because of his leadership but he was killed on the orders of Ananias the High Priest in AD61.



## SAINTS OF GOD 9

Born in Rome in about 230AD, she was married to a pagan but she still allowed the local Church to meet in her house despite the risk of discovery.

She is said to have converted both her husband and her brother in law to the Christian faith before they were all martyred.

Her symbol is an organ and she is the patron saint of musicians.

## SAINTS OF GOD 10



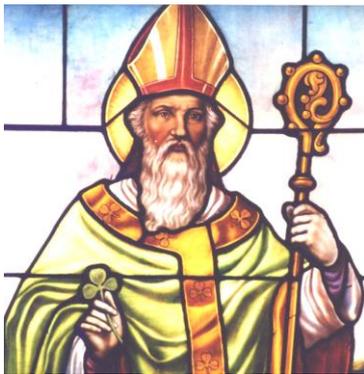
She was a native of Sicily and died in 204AD. As a young girl she gave all her goods to the poor - much to the annoyance of her intended husband who betrayed her to the authorities.

She has become a major saint for the Swedish and girls wear a crown of lights on her feast day in December as her name means light in Latin. Her life announced the coming of 'Christ our light'.



## SAINTS OF GOD 11

She was born about 250AD and died in 330AD. She was the mother of the first Christian Roman emperor, Constantine. Towards the end of her life she made a tour of Syria, Palestine and Jerusalem and believed that she had discovered the True Cross on which Jesus died. Splinters of the True Cross are said to exist in many churches, even today.



## SAINTS OF GOD 12

Taken as a slave from Britain at the age of sixteen, it was many years before he managed to escape and to train to be a missionary bishop in France. Returning to Ireland in his mid 40s, he began a slow and challenging campaign to bring the warring tribes to faith.

He founded monasteries and wrote a testimony to what God had done called 'the Confessions'.

## SAINTS OF GOD 13



Born in Uganda in 1922 his early days were spent herding goats. But his abilities were spotted by a local missionary and he was sent to train as a teacher.

Converted to Christianity as an adult he got ordained and was made a bishop.

However he became a critic of the dictator Idi Amin. He and two government ministers were found dead after a 'traffic accident' in 1977.

## SAINTS OF GOD 14



Brought up in El Salvador, he was known to be very 'quiet' under a corrupt and violent government. But increasingly his sermons demanded justice for the poor and he made many enemies among the militias that controlled the country.

Despite frequent warnings he used local broadcasting stations to voice his opposition. He was shot dead while saying Mass in 1980.

## SAINTS OF GOD 15



Born in 1808, she emigrated to Madras in 1831 to care for the daughters of serving soldiers. In 1838 she moved to Australia to care for female immigrants who were abused and neglected. She returned to London in 1846 to press for emigrants legal rights and the care of the poor.

She has a blue plaque in her honour on a house in Charlton Terrace off Islington High Street.



## SAINTS OF GOD 16

The son of an Anglican Vicar, he had a religious experience in 1738 that so 'warmed his heart' that he sought a new kind of holiness with a special concern for the religious and moral education of the poor.

With his brother he toured the UK and Ireland, setting up alternative meeting houses and chapels in which their hymns were regularly sung.



## SAINTS OF GOD 17

When Pope Gregory stood in the market place in Rome and saw some British (Angle) slaves he is supposed to have said: 'Not Angles but Angels!'

So he sent this man to Kent in 597AD to convert King Ethelbert to Christianity.

That is why it is Canterbury not London that is the centre of the Church in England (Angle-land).



## SAINTS OF GOD 18

He was an Irish monk who, after building the monastery at Kells, had a violent argument and killed a man.

As part of his penance he left his homeland, setting sail for Scotland, not knowing where he would settle.

He landed on the island of Iona which became a great centre of faith and pilgrimage. Each year thousands still gather there.



## SAINTS OF GOD 19

This saint was a Roman soldier who gave shelter to a priest avoiding arrest. After they talked the soldier was converted and was baptised.

When the hiding place was discovered the soldier put on the clothes of the priest and was arrested, tortured and beheaded. A city in Hertfordshire was named after him. The Cathedral there is the longest in England.

## SAINTS OF GOD 20



When Jesus appeared to the disciples in the Upper Room after his resurrection, one member of the group wasn't there.

When the others told him that they had seen the Lord, he wouldn't believe what they said.

It was only when Jesus came a second time (when he was there) that he was able to say, 'My Lord and my God'.



## SAINTS OF GOD 21

There were still slaves in England in 1780 when this man became an MP at the age of 21.

He worked with a number of Evangelical Christians based in Clapham (the Clapham Sect) until slavery was finally abolished in the British Empire in 1807.

## SAINTS OF GOD 22



One of the many monks sent to Auschwitz during the second world war, this man had been a teacher and a publisher in Poland before the country was invaded by Germany.

After an escape from the camp ten men were due to be starved to death. When one of those chosen cried out for his wife and children, this man offered to take his place.



## SAINTS OF GOD 23

Born in Bedfordshire in 1628 he hardly ever went to school and taught himself to read - using the Bible!

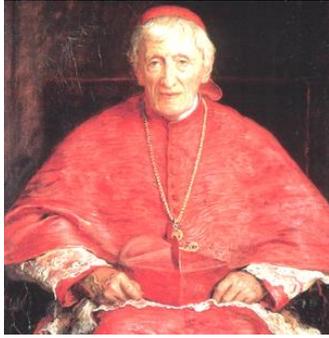
A non-conformist preacher, he was often arrested and spent many years in jail. During one of those times he wrote Pilgrim's Progress about how life should be seen as a journey towards the salvation that only God can give. He died in 1688.



## SAINTS OF GOD 24

He was born into a very rich family in central Italy in 1181. He always had a difficult relationship with his father and, at the age of 15, he walked out of the house with nothing. He then started caring for lepers and rebuilding broken down churches.

In time others joined him in a community which would become worldwide. He is said to have invented the Christmas crib.



## SAINTS OF GOD 25

Born in England in 1801 he was a brilliant scholar and went to Oxford. Though at first a Bible based Evangelical he learnt more about the Early Church and came to see how the Church of England was a half-way house between the Protestants and the Catholics. However he came to doubt his own arguments and he became a Catholic in 1845. His books have helped many in both churches ever since.

## **Saints of God:**

- 1 John the Baptist
- 2 Matthew
- 3 Paul
- 4 Mark
- 5 Stephen
- 6 Mary Magdalene
- 7 Peter
- 8 James
- 9 Cecilia
- 10 Lucy
- 11 Helena
- 12 Patrick
- 13 Janani Lewum
- 14 Oscar Romero
- 15 Charlotte Chisholm
- 16 John Wesley
- 17 Augustine of Canterbury
- 18 Columba
- 19 Alban
- 20 Thomas
- 21 William Wilberforce
- 22 Maximilian Kolbe
- 23 John Bunyan
- 24 Francis
- 25 John Henry Newman