

Sister's Spin

August 25, 2020

The Church celebrates two very different saints on this day, but two who had one quality in common--their love for the poor. The first is St. Louis of France--the ONLY king of France to be declared a saint. He became king at the age of 12, but his mother served as Regent until Louis took over at the age of 22. He worked hard for justice, especially for the poor, was the first to establish the "innocent until proven guilty" idea and led two Crusades. It is said that every night he invited 13 poor people to join him for dinner.

The other saint for today is Joseph of Calasanz who lived much later than King Louis and was from Spain. He became a priest and started schools for poor children, and not just poor Catholic children, but included all who desired an education. Some of those who attended his schools included Mozart, Mendel, and Victor Hugo. He was also a good friend of Galileo and defended his ideas about the universe which brought him into conflict with Church authorities, but he was eventually exonerated and declared a saint based on his devout life. He is considered one of the patrons of the Catholic School System--a good saint for the beginning of this school year.

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