Saint Louis Bertrand
1526 - 1581

Saint Louis Bertrand was born in Valencia in 1526. At the age of 19, he entered the Dominican Order and at 25 became novice master.

In 1562, he decided to leave as a missionary for Central America, where he worked great miracles that pave the way to the conversion of many Indians. In seven years, he converted 150,000 of them. Sensitive to social values, he also denounced the abuses of the Spanish conquistadores. One of them attempted to assassinate him with a bullet, but his rifle changed into a crucifix. In 1569, he returned to Valencia, where he became novice master and then prior. He died on October 9, 1581, with these words: "Lord, on this earth burn, on

day of his burial, the Franciscan priest, Blessed Pierre Nicolas, experienced a long ecstasy during which he was able to contemplate the glory which St. Louis was enjoying in Heaven. His merits and his outstanding virtues had raised him to the very Choir of the Seraphim. Blessed Pierre said that when Saint Louis entered Paradise, he first presented himself to the Choir of Angels, who, after congratulating him, told him: "Go up higher, go up higher!" The Archangels also welcomed him with great joy but, like the Angels, invited him to go up higher among the glorious

this earth cut, on this earth do not pardon, as long as you pardon me eternally!" Notwithstanding the fact that, even before his death, all acknowledged his fame of sanctity, he was canonized by Pope Clement X alone on April 12, 1671. Pope Alexander VIII declared him Patron of Colombia. On the

hosts of Angels. The same thing happened with the other celestial hierarchies until his soul finally arrived at the Choir of the Seraphim. Singing songs of thanksgiving to the Lord, these heavenly spirits led him to the throne that had been prepared among them for him.