

# Saint Anthony of Padua

1195-1231

*Saint Anthony of Padua* was born in Lisbon in 1195. He entered into the Canons Regular of Saint Augustine at a very young age and became a priest. However, one day he heard the tale of a martyr in Morocco from some Friars Minor, sent by Saint Francis of Assisi to announce the Gospel to the sultans.

Fascinated by the spirit of the new order founded by Saint Francis, Fernando left his own order and joined the Friars Minor, taking the name of Anthony. Thanks to his great eloquence, his superiors sent him to Italy to preach. He ended up in the city of Padua, where he preached the Lenten sermons that upset the entire town.

to imitate his love for the poor and lonely, would join him. When the supply of food ended Saint Anthony would send them to look for help in the nearby village. One night on the way back from the village, some of his friends saw a band of pimps that were destroying a camp of one of their benefactors. They went right away to warn the Saint.



It is here where he died in 1227. After his death the miracles obtained through his intercession were so numerous that he was canonized the following year.

Often Satan tormented Saint Anthony with diabolic illusions when he retired in prayer to his small hermitage of Brive. Oftentimes fellow petitioners, that wanted

Saint Anthony replied to them: "Do not be afraid. It is only a decoy from the demon that wants to distract you from prayer." The next day, in fact, the camp of the benefactor was found completely intact just as Saint Anthony assured them.