

Saint Felix of Nola

III century - IV century

Saint Felix was ordained a priest by Maximus, Bishop of Nola, during the persecution of Emperor Decius.

The biographies narrate of how Felix was imprisoned and bound with chains, and of how Bishop Maximus had to find refuge for himself in the desert. Many days passed and Maximus began to lose strength due to the cold and the lack of food. In the middle of the night an Angel of the Lord appeared to Felix and awakened him, almost blinding him with his dazzling light. Initially Felix thought he was dreaming, but then the Angel ordered him to get up: the chains to which his hands and feet were bound fell to the ground, the guards had fallen asleep and Felix, helped by the Angel, was able to leave without problems. Together they passed the sentries unnoticed until they arrived in the desert in the place where Bishop Maximus was lying down and near the end of life. The elderly man recognized him at once and warmly hugged him even though his strength had completely left him. Then a cluster of grapes appeared above him and its juice was squeezed into the mouth of the Bishop who quickly recuperated his strength and he said: "You

arrived late, my son; it has been days since God had promised me you would have come to my aid. Bring me back, I beg you, to my flock." Felix loaded him upon his shoulders and brought him back to his faithful who by then believed him to be already dead.

