St. Paul

Died AD 67

Feast Day:
June 29

Paul was a Jew and a Roman citizen who lived around the time of Jesus.

For years, Paul made trouble for Christians. He thought Christianity was false. He traveled to Damascus, a city in Syria, to go after Christians. On his way a light shone from heaven. Paul fell to the ground.

A voice said: "Why do you persecute me?"

Paul asked, "Who are you?"

The voice answered, "I am Jesus."

Then Paul believed that Jesus is God. When Paul stood up, he could not see. God sent Ananias, a Christian man, to Paul. Ananias miraculously healed Paul's eyes and baptized him.

Right away, Paul preached the Gospel to everyone. He worked miracles and started Christian churches in many cities. Some Romans who hated Christianity ordered Paul to be beaten and put in jail. An earthquake shook the prison doors open. But Paul did not try to escape. Instead he stayed and preached to the guard. He baptized the guard and his family.

Paul traveled to many different parts of the world. Everywhere he went, he preached the Gospel. When returned to Rome, he was accused and out in jail again. The Roman emperor had Paul beheaded.

Paul wrote fourteen letters to the people he converted to Christianity. These letters are in the Bible.