# St. Thomas More

**1478–1535**

**Feast Day:**
June 22

Thomas More was born in London. He went to good schools, and impressed his teachers. One of his teachers said he spoke Latin as easily as he spoke English!

More became a successful lawyer. He was also a great speaker and a great writer, penning *Utopia*, *The Sadness of Christ*, and more. He served in Parliament, which makes laws for England. Later he became a helper to the King of England, King Henry VIII.

The king wanted to divorce his wife. He tried to use the Bible to say divorce was okay. More knew that the king was wrong. The king decided to break England away from the Catholic Church and start his own church. The king told More he had to stop being Catholic and be loyal to him. Instead, More said no, and the king put More in jail. He took away More's property. The king even took More's writing materials so he wouldn't be able to send letters to his family. Finally, the king had More beheaded.

More's last words were: "I die the good King's servant, but God's first."