

# St. John Chrysostom

# September 13

### Who was St. John Chrysostom?

St. John Chrysostom was an influential figure in early Christianity and perhaps one of the most prominent Church Fathers in history. He lived from 349 to 407 AD and had a lasting impact on the Christian way of living as a preacher, theologian, and bishop.

Born in present-day Turkey, he was known for his amazing and powerful preaching style, which earned him the title "Chrysostom," which means "golden mouth" in Greek. St. John Chrysostom's homilies were characterized by their passionate delivery, rich imagery and moral appeal. His ability to captivate audiences and communicate profound spiritual truths made him one of the most celebrated preachers of his time. However, his spiritual influence over the people made him the enemy of many emperors and bishops, who had him exiled from their territories.

St. John Chrysostom's theological writings also played a significant role in shaping Christian doctrine. He emphasized the importance of scripture, particularly the New Testament, in guiding Christian life and teaching. Chrysostom's commentaries on the Bible, his homilies and commentaries on the Gospel, have been widely studied, admired and preached throughout the centuries.

In addition to his preaching and theological writings, St. John Chrysostom served as the Archbishop of Constantinople. During his time as a bishop, he worked hard to reform the Church and address various social issues, including the lavish lifestyle of the clergy and the unequal distribution of wealth. Chrysostom's strong stance against corruption and his commitment to social justice often brought him into conflict with the political and religious authorities of his time.

St. John Chrysostom's influence extended beyond his lifetime. His teachings on humility, charity, and the pursuit of holiness continue to inspire people today. He is recognized as a saint in the Eastern Orthodox, Oriental Orthodox and Roman Catholic churches. Throughout history, St. John Chrysostom's legacy as a preacher, theologian and advocate for social justice has earned him a revered place among the great figures of Christianity.

#### **Quotes**

"Prayer is the place of refuge for every worry, a foundation for cheerfulness, a source of constant happiness, a protection against sadness." "Happiness can only be achieved by looking inward & learning to enjoy whatever life has and this requires transforming greed into gratitude." "The bee is more honoured than other animals, not because she labours, but because she labours for others."

# **Prayer**

In the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit;

Remember, O Lord, this city where we dwell and every other city and country, and all the faithful who dwell in them.

Remember, O Lord, all who travel by land or water, all who labour under sickness or injustice. Remember them, and give them health and safety.

Remember, O Lord, all in your Holy Church who bring forth good fruit, are rich in good works and remember the poor.

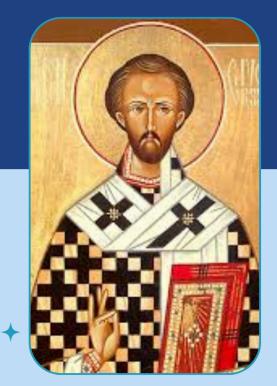
Grant your mercy and loving-kindness to us all, and grant that we may praise and glorify your great and glorious name with one mouth and one heart;

Amen.

#### **Patron Saint**

Preachers Constantinople Lecturers Education Public Speakers





**FEAST DAY:** September 13

**SCHOOL LOCATION:** Newmarket, ON

"Everywhere, wherever you may find yourself, you can set up an altar to God in your mind by means of prayer." -St. John Chrysostom

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