

- Saint Gregory the Great -



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Pope Gregory the Great is a Patron Saint of teachers and students as well as musicians and singers. Pope Gregory was famous for the importance he put on missionary work. He sent many people out to bring numerous peoples to Jesus and into the Church. Pope Gregory made many changes to the Mass, some of which remain today, the position of the Our Father in the Mass remains where Pope Gregory placed it. When a famine struck Rome in the 590s, Pope Gregory ordered the Church to use its assets to feed the poor. At that time, the Church controlled nearly two thousand square miles of land, overseen by the clergy and used to generate income. Now, instead of selling the produce of the land, Pope Gregory ordered the food shipped to Rome and given away for free. In this way, he saved thousands of people from certain death. Because of his great respect for the poor, Pope Gregory and the Church became the most respected --and obeyed power in Rome and across Italy. Pope Gregory the Great died March 12, 604 and is buried at St. Peter's Basilica. His Feast Day is September 3rd.