

## ST LAWRENCE JUSTINIAN BISHOP & CONFESSOR

### BIOGRAPHY

Born at Venice of the illustrious family of the Giustiniani, from his youth Lawrence was distinguished for his wonderful zeal in chastising his body. He scorned the pleasures of the world and the marriage his mother had arranged for him, and was received among the Canons of St. George's-in-Alga. He was appointed Bishop of his own city by Eugene IV and changed nothing in his way of life; he never ceased relieving the needs of the poor, even borrowing money to do so, trusting in divine Providence, which always gave him aid in an unexpected way. He founded many monasteries of nuns or established them in a more perfect way of life. He was an outstanding example of Christian humility and was particularly zealous for the reform of ecclesiastical discipline and habits. He deserved the title given him by the Popes, the Glory of the Episcopate, and was named first Patriarch of Venice, the title having been transferred from the City of Grado. Famous for the gift of tears, of prophecy, and of healing, he also wrote books outstanding for heavenly teaching and devotion, though he had little training in composition. He fell asleep in the Lord on the 8th of January 1456, but his Feast is celebrated on the day on which the man of God was raised to the Episcopal Chair.

**FEAST DAY:**  
**5 SEPTEMBER (1962)**  
**8 JANUARY (1969)**

### COLLECT

Grant, we beseech Thee, Almighty God, that the worshipful feast of Thy blessed Confessor and Bishop Lawrence may avail us to the increase of both of goodliness toward Thee, and the healthfulness of our own soul.  
Through Jesus Christ, Thy Son our Lord, Who Liveth and Reigneth with Thee, in the Unity of the Holy Ghost, God, world without end. Amen

### PRAYER TO ST. LAWRENCE JUSTINIAN

O glorious St. Lawrence, whom God blessed to be Bishop and first Patriarch of Venice, and to whom it was given to reform the Canons of St. George, look with love upon thy fellow brothers still fighting for their salvation, and upon the Church in this time of turmoil and confusion. Behold how the Church is violently tossed to and fro, and how Her very life is threatened by the Evil One and his agents. Intercede for the Church, but especially for the Supreme Sovereign Roman Pontiff, who sits upon the Supreme Chair of Truth, that the Lord may bestow upon him grace, faith and charity. And may the Most Holy Virgin also by thy intercession, guide the Church out of confusion and doubt into the brilliance of the saintly faith. Amen