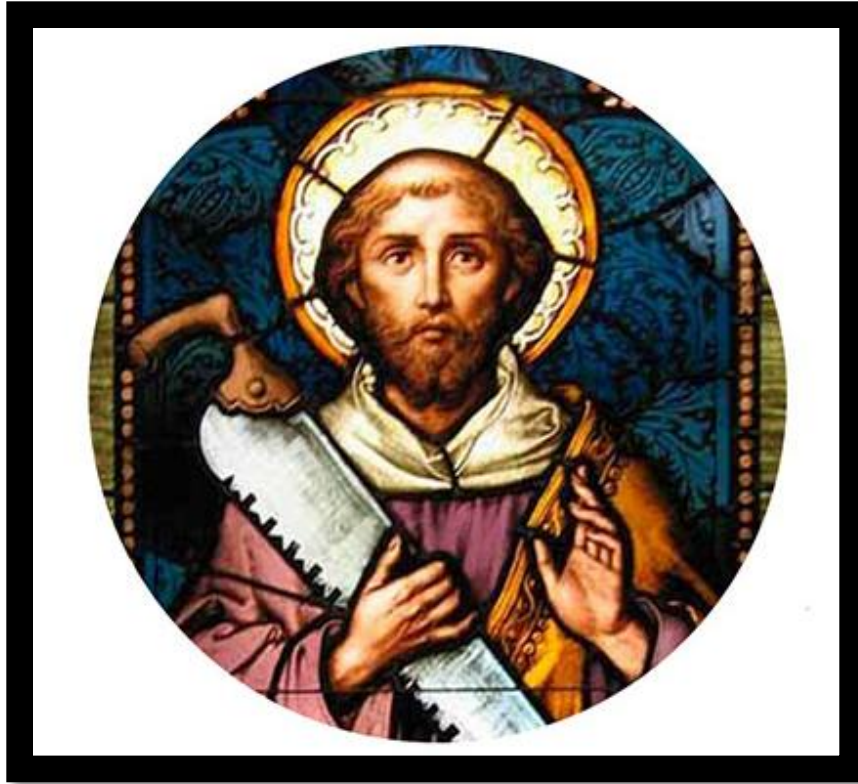




The Apostles, St. Simon

Three brothers—Simon, James and Jude—were granted the great privilege of being among the twelve chosen Apostles of Our Lord Jesus Christ. Furthermore, they were “legal cousins to the Man-God”; their father Cleophas and St. Joseph, the foster father of Jesus, were brothers. Other members of the family are also listed among the saints: St. Cleophas (their father), St. Mary of Cleophas (their mother), St. Mary Salome (their sister), St. Joseph Barsabas (their brother), and St. Simeon (their brother and second bishop of Jerusalem). The Apostles St. James the Greater and St. John were their nephews.

St. Simon was one of the first disciples of Our Lord. He is also called “Simon the Zealot,” “both to distinguish him from Simon Peter and to show his ardor in preaching the true Faith.” In Holy Scripture he is also known as “Simon the Cananean.” He preached in Egypt and Mesopotamia; and he and St. Jude traveled as far as Persia (modern-day Iran) to bring the Faith. There, he was martyred by being sawn in half; thus, he “is represented in art with a saw, the instrument of his martyrdom.” His “relics were brought [to Rome] and placed near those of Saint Peter and Saint Paul in the Vatican.”

St. Simon was martyred in A.D. 67 and his feast day is May 10th in the Byzantine calendar and October 28th in the Roman calendar.

(Sources and Quotations: [Saints to Remember](#), [The Liturgical Year](#), Vol. XIV, Abbot Guéranger, o.s.b., [Encyclopedia of Saints](#), www.thecatholicthing.org)