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J.M.J.

Ephesus Notes



A Catholic Newsletter Dedicated to Our Lady of Ephesus

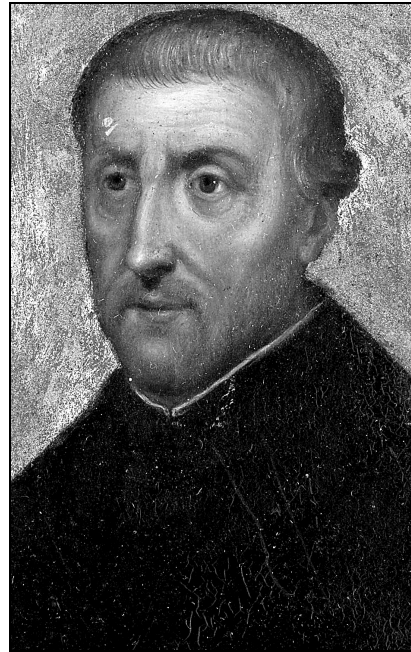
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VOLUME 4 · ISSUE 65 MONDAY, DECEMBER 21, 2026 MONTH OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

SAINT OF THE DAY

December 21: St. Peter Canisius, Priest and Doctor of the Church.

St. Peter Canisius, born at Nijmegen in 1521, was the first Dutchman to join the Jesuits. For nearly fifty years he preached, taught and founded colleges in Germany, Austria and Switzerland, strengthening Catholics in the time of the Reformation. His catechisms went through hundreds of editions. He died at Fribourg, Switzerland, on December 21, 1597, and was canonized and named a Doctor of the Church in 1925.



St. Peter Canisius, engraving (1699)

QUOTE OF THE DAY

“O Emmanuel, our King and Giver of Law: come to save us, Lord our God!”

—Gospel Acclamation, December 21

THE UNIVERSAL PRAYER OF ST. PETER CANISIUS (PART)

Grant us, O God of peace, a true unity in faith, free of all division and separation. Convert our hearts to true repentance and amendment of life. Kindle in us the fire of Your love; give us hunger and zeal for justice in all things, so that we, as obedient children through life unto death, may be pleasing to You and find favour in Your sight.

(Mothers for Priests brochure U21)

CATHOLIC TRIVIA

Q: What title is often given to St. Peter Canisius?

A: The “Second Apostle of Germany,” after St. Boniface.

Mary, Ark of the Covenant, Pray for us.

Recommended Prayer Brochure: U21 Universal Prayer of St Peter Canisius



Daily Gospel Word Find Puzzle

(Luke 1:39-45, December 21, 2026)

Find the all-capitalized words in bold print.

D	J	F	E	N	T	E	R	E	D	J	U	N	S	F
E	L	I	Z	A	B	E	T	H	A	T	I	N	I	U
B	O	G	G	K	Z	E	C	H	A	R	I	A	H	L
H	I	L	L	R	Y	N	O	O	V	A	N	I	A	F
B	L	E	S	S	E	D	U	U	O	V	F	F	S	I
U	M	A	R	Y	L	E	N	S	I	E	A	R	T	L
H	S	P	I	R	I	T	T	E	C	L	N	U	E	L
D	M	E	W	O	M	B	R	E	E	E	T	I	K	E
J	U	D	A	H	J	O	Y	N	D	D	P	T	G	D

MARY set out in those days
and **TRAVELED** to the **HILL COUNTRY** in
HASTE

to a town of **JUDAH**,
where she **ENTERED** the **HOUSE** of
ZECHARIAH

and **GREETED ELIZABETH**.
When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting,
the **INFANT LEAPED** in her **WOMB**,
and Elizabeth, filled with the Holy **SPIRIT**,
cried out in a loud **VOICE** and said,
"Most **BLESSED** are you among women,

and blessed is the **FRUIT** of your womb.

And how does this happen to me,
that the mother of my Lord should come to
me?

For at the moment the sound of your greeting
reached my ears,

the infant in my womb leaped for **JOY**.

Blessed are you who believed
that what was spoken to you by the Lord
would be **FULFILLED**."

Gospel text: Lectionary for Mass (USCCB), Monday of the Fourth Week of Advent.

FROM THE CATECHISM

563. How does the Church pray to Mary?

Above all with the Hail Mary, the prayer with which the Church asks the intercession of the Virgin. Other Marian prayers are the Rosary, the Akathistos hymn, the Paracletic, and the hymns and canticles of diverse Christian traditions.

Compendium of the Catechism of the Catholic Church, Q. 563