

THE SCHOLASTIC PERIOD

The Medallion, a Jerusalem cross, represents the five wounds of Christ. This window depicts the scholastic period, 900-1400, when great universities and schools were founded by the Church.

St. Thomas Aquinas (1225-1274) (January 28), patron saint of students and teachers, holds his great work, the *Summa Theologica*. He holds a chalice because of his definition of transubstantiation. His hymns to the Eucharist are still sung today. The sun on his chest is a symbol of divine inspiration. He was a great figure in philosophy, and is known as the “*Angelic Doctor*” of the church for his teaching.

St. Francis (1182-1226) (October 4), who composed the great peace prayer and the song of the creatures, was the poor man of Assisi. He founded the largest of the begging orders, and is known for his poverty, gentleness and love of animals. Among his miracles was the taming of the wolf of Gubio, which is shown here. His friend **St. Clair** (1193-1251) (August 11), also from Assisi, founded the Poor Clairs, a cloistered order of nuns that did humble service--hence the broom.

St. Dominic (1170-1221) (August 8), born in Spain, was the founder of the Dominicans, whose calling was to travel about preaching the faith. They were known as great teachers and defenders of orthodoxy. Their clothing was a white gown with a black cape. Dominic is said to have given the church the rosary in its modern form.

St. Catherine of Siena (1347-1380) (April 29) was the 24th of 25 children. She refused marriage, took private vows as a Dominican and lived in her parents' house, but kept the Dominican discipline. She persuaded pope Gregory XI to return to Rome from Avignon. She died at the age of 33 and on her body were found the stigmata, the wounds of Christ. She and St. Francis of Assisi are the patron saints of Italy.

St. Anthony of Padua (1195-1231) (June 13), born in Portugal and buried in Padua, Italy, became a Franciscan and is among the most popular of saints. He was such a great preacher it is said that even the fish in the sea stopped to listen. Through his inspiration and conversions, the Franciscans became a large order. His preaching converted criminals and reconciled enemies. Even today in Italy he is known as “*The Saint*” and thousands bring requests to his tomb. He is the popular patron saint of things lost.

St. Cyril (826-869) (April 14) and **St. Methodius** (815-885) (July 5), brothers and apostles to the Slavs, were born in Thessalonica, and were sent by the Byzantine emperor as missionaries to Germany and eventually to all the Slavic peoples. St. Cyril developed the Cyrillic alphabet and is shown holding it. St. Methodius, (left) dressed in the stole of an archbishop, was bishop of the Germans.

