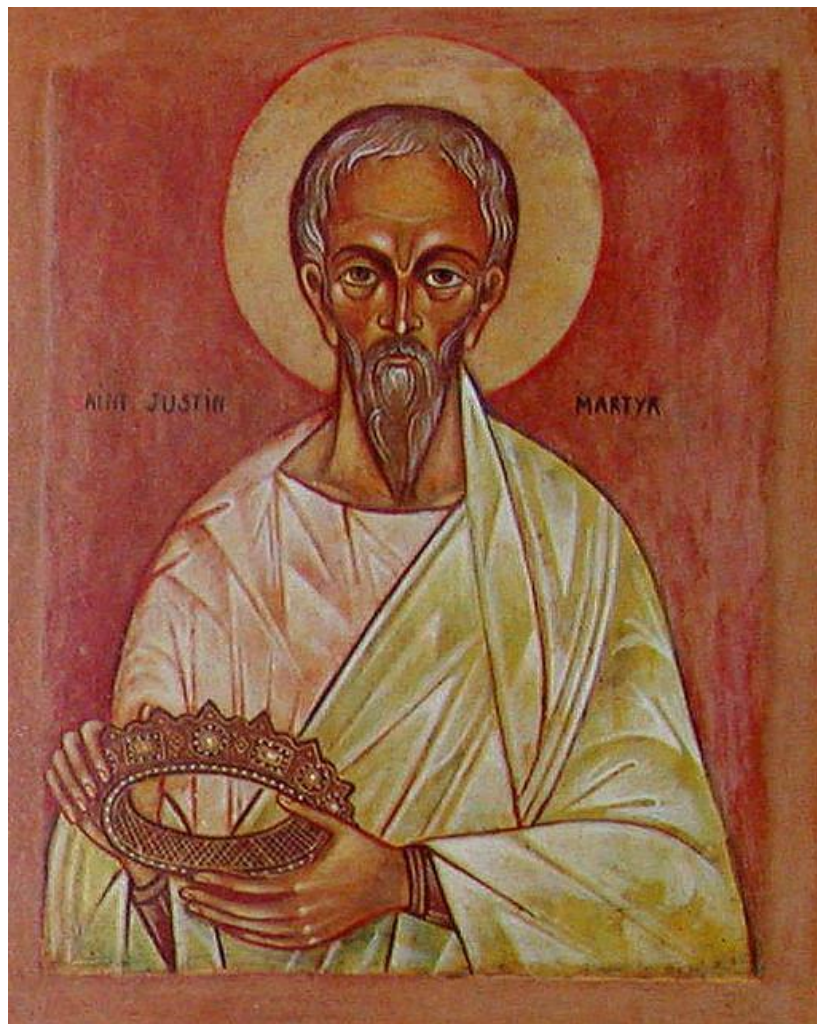


# SAINT JUSTIN

(Martyr)

1 June



## About Saint Justin (?-165)

Saint Justin was born at the beginning of the second century in Nablus, Samaria, of a pagan Greek family. He sought the truth and studied many systems of philosophy before being led through Platonism to Christianity. While remaining a layman he accepted the duty of making the truth known and he traveled from place to place preaching the Gospel. In the year 151 he travelled from Ephesus to Rome, where he opened a school of philosophy and wrote treatises defending and explaining Christianity, which have survived to this day. He wrote the first explanation about the Mass.

In the year 165, during the reign of the Emperor Marcus Aurelius, Justin and his companions were denounced as Christians, and they were subsequently arrested and beheaded.

### **Bibliography**

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## What can we learn from Saint Justin?

It is interesting to note that the transcript of Justin's trial with the Prefect of Rome, Rusticus, has survived to this day. In the transcript there is dialogue, a bit like a tennis match where Justin and Rusticus are going backwards and forwards, but unfortunately for Justin he isn't making any head way. Justin proclaimed Christ as the true God and that worship of Christ is true worship.

Justin was authentic in his worship of Christ and how he led the Christian life. We too must do the same, always seeking the truth in everything we do. He remained faithful to Christ when it may have been easier to do otherwise. In this way, the words of the Gospel for today's liturgy are exemplified by Justin:

Therefore, the man who infringes  
even one of the least of these commandments  
and teaches others to do the same  
will be considered the least in the kingdom of heaven;  
but the man who keeps them and teaches them  
will be considered great in the kingdom of heaven.'

## Prayer Resources

### COLLECT

O God, who through the folly of the Cross  
wondrously taught Saint Justin the Martyr  
the surpassing knowledge of Jesus Christ,  
grant us, through his intercession,  
that, having rejected deception and error,  
we may become steadfast in the faith.  
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,  
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

### GOSPEL

**Matthew 5:13-19**

*You are the light of the world.*

Jesus said to his disciples:  
‘You are the salt of the earth.  
But if salt becomes tasteless, what can make it salty again?  
It is good for nothing,  
and can only be thrown out to be trampled underfoot by men.

‘You are the light of the world.  
A city built on a hill-top cannot be hidden.  
No one lights a lamp to put it under a tub;  
they put it on the lamp-stand where it shines for everyone in the house.  
In the same way your light must shine in the sight of men,  
so that, seeing your good works,  
they may give the praise to your Father in heaven.

‘Do not imagine that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets.  
I have come not to abolish but to complete them.  
I tell you solemnly, till heaven and earth disappear,  
not one dot, not one little stroke,  
shall disappear from the Law until its purpose is achieved.  
Therefore, the man who infringes  
even one of the least of these commandments  
and teaches others to do the same  
will be considered the least in the kingdom of heaven;  
but the man who keeps them and teaches them  
will be considered great in the kingdom of heaven.’

**Communion Antiphon**

Cf. 1 Cor 2:2

I resolved to know nothing while I was with you  
except Jesus Christ, and him crucified.

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## **A Hymn for the Memorial of Saint Justin**

1. Saint Justin, you were a pagan,  
but in your life the truth you sought.  
Until at last the Lord you found,  
he guided you in deed and thought.

2. As you travelled from place to place  
your task was to make Christ's truth known.  
The Gospel you always proclaimed,  
the seeds of Christ from your heart sown.

3. The Roman Prefect Rusticus  
questioned you during your trial;  
demanding you make sacrifice:  
you gave him a firm denial.

4. Faithful to Christ you always were,  
which led you to a martyr's death,  
you proclaimed Christ as your Saviour  
until you uttered your last breath.

Text: Chris deSilva and Alessio Loiacono  
Tune: TALLIS CANON LM 88.88

# Saint Justin

(1 June)

Chris deSilva and Alessio Loiacono, revised April 2022

TALLIS CANON LM 88.88

Voice

1. Saint Jus - tin, you were a pa - gan, but  
2. As you trav - elled from place to place your  
3. The Ro - man Pre - fect Rus - ti - cus ques -  
4. Faith - ful to Christ you al - ways were, which

Organ

3

Voice

1. in your life the truth you sought. Un -  
2. task was to make Christ's truth known. The  
3. tioned you dur - ing your tri - al; de -  
4. led you to a mar - tyr's death, you

Org.

5

Voice

1. til at last the Lord you found, he  
2. Gos - pel you al - ways pro - claimed the  
3. mand - ing you make sac - ri - fice: you  
4. pro - claimed Christ as your Sav - iour un -

Org.

7

Voice

1. guid - ed you in deed and thought.  
2. seeds of Christ from your heart sown.  
3. gave him a firm de - ni - al.  
4. til you ut - tered your last breath.

Org.

The image shows a musical score for a hymn. It features a Voice part and an Organ part. The Voice part is written on a single staff in G major (one sharp). The melody consists of a half note G4, followed by a half note A4, then a half note B4, then a half note C5, then a half note D5, then a half note E5, and finally a half note G5. The Organ part is written on two staves, Treble and Bass, both in G major. The Treble staff has a half note G4, and the Bass staff has a half note G3. The Organ part is a simple harmonic accompaniment for the Voice part.