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## ***Saint Waldetrudis of Belgium***

**Feast Day: April 9**



***Patronage: Mons, Belgium***

## ***Saint Waldetrudis of Belgium***

**(date born unknown– died April 9, c. 688)**

\*Waldetrudis was born in Belgium in the seventh century. Her mother, her father and her sister have all been declared saints. She grew up to be a beautiful girl. Even when she was enjoying herself, she had a way of edifying people. Several young men wanted to marry her. In those days, parents chose husbands for their daughters. Her parents chose Count Madelgar. They could not have picked a better man, because he became a saint too. He is St. Vincent Madelgar. The couple had four children. Incredibly, all have been declared saints.

St. Waldetrudis was happy that God had given her such a wonderful family. Yet she had to suffer very much in her lifetime. Jealous ladies spread terrible stories about her. The women were not pure and kind as she was. They did not want people to think that she was better than they. So they said she only prayed and did good deeds to hide her secret sins. Of course, that was a lie, but the saint did not defend herself. She thought of how Jesus had suffered on the cross and, like him, she forgave her enemies.

Quite a while after the birth of their last child, St. Vincent explained that he wanted very much to be a monk. In fact, he hoped to spend the rest of his life in the monastery. His wife understood and gave him her permission. St. Vincent made sure that his family was well provided for. The couple was going to miss each other very much. But Waldetrudis would not hold her husband back. She made the sacrifice for God.

Two years later, Waldetrudis decided to become a nun. She lived a very self-sacrificing life and was generous with the poor. People came to her for spiritual advice and some who came reported healings. St. Waldetrudis died in 688. After her death, many people who prayed at her tomb reported miraculous healings.

### **Reflection:**

*There are sad events at times in our lives. We especially pray to have the courage to act, as Jesus would do in these situations to feel his comfort.* \*(Excerpted from: [www.holy spiritinteractive.net](http://www.holy spiritinteractive.net))