

against the hereditary enemy, the Turks. In the first year of his pontificate, he had ordered a solemn jubilee, exhorting the faithful to do penance and almsgiving to obtain the victory from God. He supported the knights of Malta, sent money for the fortification of the free towns of Italy, furnished monthly contributions to the Christians in Hungary, and endeavored especially to bring Maximilian, Philip II, and Charles I together for the defense of Christendom. In 1567 for the same purpose, he collected from all the convents one-tenth of their revenues.

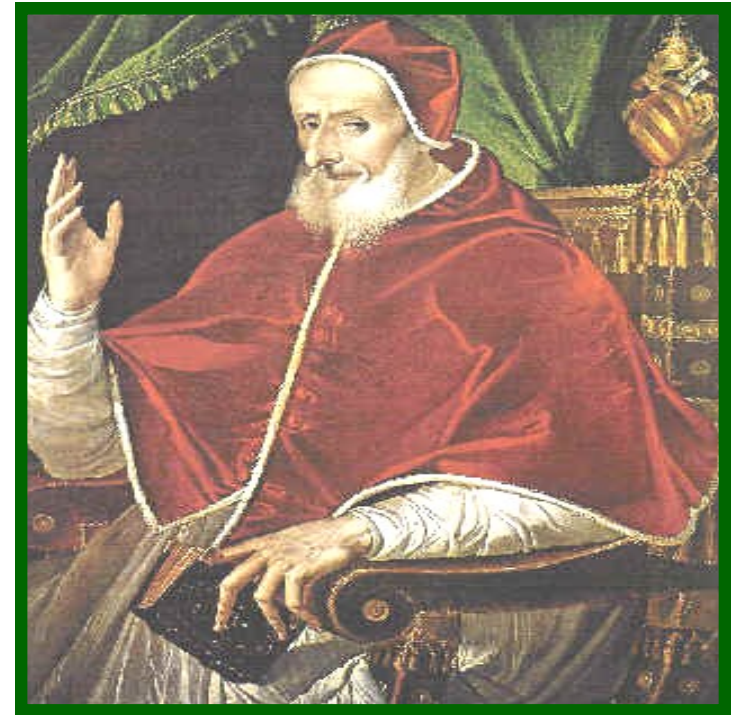
In 1570, when Solyman II attacked Cyprus, threatening all Christianity in the West, he never rested until he united the forces of Venice, Spain, and the Holy See. He sent his blessing to Don John of Austria, the commander-in-chief of the expedition, recommending him to leave behind all soldiers of evil life, and promising him victory if he did so. He ordered public prayers, and increased his own supplication to heaven. On the day of the Battle of Lepanto, Oct. 7, 1571, he was working with the cardinals, when, suddenly, interrupting his work opening the window and looking at the sky, he cried out, "A truce to business; our great task at present is to thank God for the victory which He has just given the Christian army". He burst into tears when he heard of the victory, which dealt the Turkish power a blow from which it never recovered. In memory of this triumph, he instituted for the first Sunday of October the feast of the Rosary, and added to the Litany of Loreto the supplication "Help of Christians". He was hoping to put an end to the power of Islam by forming a general alliance of the Italian cities Poland, France, and all Christian Europe, and had begun negotiations for this purpose when he died of gravel, repeating "O Lord, increase my sufferings and my patience!" He left the memory of a rare virtue and an unflinching and inflexible integrity. He was beatified by Clement X in 1672, and canonized by Clement XI in 1712.

*(excerpted from: www.wf-f.org)

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Pope Saint Pius V

Feast Day May 5



**The Mass of Pope Saint Pius V,
often known simply as the Latin Mass,
was promulgated on July 14, 1570,
through the apostolic constitution *Quo Primum*,
which standardized the traditional Latin Rite Mass.
It was replaced by the Mass of Pope Paul VI in 1969.
This Mass was also known as the Old Mass, the Pre-Vatican II
Mass and the Tridentine Mass.**

Pope Saint Pius V

*Born at Bosco, near Alexandria, Lombardy, Jan. 17, 1504; elected Jan. 7, 1566; died May 1, 1572. Being of a poor though noble family his lot would have been to follow a trade, but he was taken in by the Dominicans of Voghera, where he received a good education and was trained in the way of solid and austere piety. He entered the order, was ordained in 1528, and taught theology and philosophy for sixteen years.

In the meantime he was master of novices and was on several occasions elected prior of different houses of his order in which he strove to develop the practice of the monastic virtues and spread the spirit of the holy founder. He himself was an example to all. He fasted, did penance, and passed long hours of the night in meditation and prayer, traveled on foot without a cloak, in deep silence, or only speaking to his companions of God.

In 1556 he was made Bishop of Sutri by Paul IV. His zeal against heresy caused him to be selected as inquisitor of the faith in Milan and Lombardy, and in 1557 Paul IV made him a cardinal and named him inquisitor general for all Christendom. In 1559 he was transferred to Mondovi, where he restored the purity of faith and discipline, gravely impaired by the wars of Piedmont.

Frequently called to Rome, he displayed his unflinching zeal in all the affairs on which he was consulted. Thus he offered an insurmountable opposition to Pius IV when the latter wished to admit Ferdinand de' Medici, then only thirteen years old, into the Sacred College of Cardinals.

Again it was he who defeated the project of Maximilian II, Emperor of Germany, to abolish ecclesiastical celibacy. On the death of Pius IV, he was, despite his tears and entreaties, elected pope, to the great joy of the whole Church.

He began his pontificate by giving large alms to the poor, instead of distributing his bounty haphazardly like his predecessors. As pontiff he practiced the virtues he had displayed as a monk and a bishop. His piety was not diminished, and, in spite of the heavy labors and anxieties of his office, he made at least two meditations a day on bended knees in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament.

In his charity he visited the hospitals, and sat by the bedside of the sick, consoling them and preparing them to die. He washed the feet of the poor, and embraced the lepers. It is related that an English nobleman was converted on seeing him kiss the feet of a beggar covered with ulcers.

He was very austere and banished luxury from his court, raised the standard of morality, labored with his intimate friend, Saint Charles Borromeo, to reform the clergy, obliged his bishops to reside in their dioceses, and the cardinals to lead lives of simplicity and piety. He enforced the observance of the discipline of the Council of Trent, reformed the Cistercians, and supported the missions of the New World.

He worked incessantly to unite the Christian princes