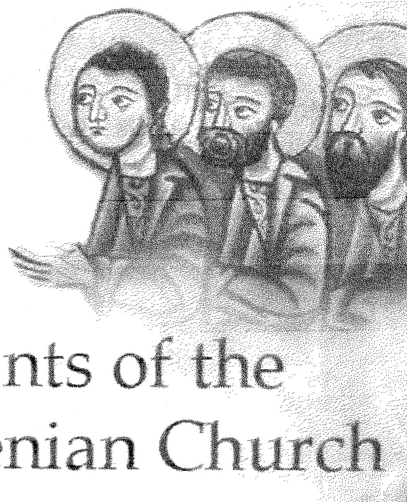
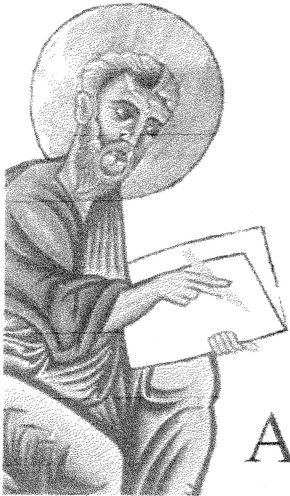


About the Apostles



Saints of the Armenian Church

The Twelve Holy Apostles of Christ

On the Feast of the Twelve Holy Apostles of Christ and St. Paul, the Thirteenth Apostle, we honor the lives of these men who worked with Jesus to spread the word of the Lord to people around the world.

The Apostles brought the teachings of Jesus and God's message of salvation from sin and everlasting life to men and women living in countries far from the Holy Land—many of whom had never heard the word of God before. The Apostles courage, dedication, and deep faith still serve as an example to all of us today.

The two Apostles who brought Christianity to Armenia are St. Bartholomew and St. Thaddeus.

All About the Twelve Apostles

Name	Occupation	Outstanding characteristics	Major events in his life	What Jesus said about him
Simon Peter (Andrew's brother)	Fisherman	Impulsive, perceptive, given to bursts of enthusiasm and depression, bold in preaching Jesus after Pentecost	One of three in core group of disciples; recognized Jesus as the Messiah; denied Christ and repented; preached Pentecost sermon; a leader of the Jerusalem church; baptized Gentiles; wrote 1 and 2 Peter	Named him Peter, "a rock"; called him "Satan" when he urged Jesus to reject the Cross; said he would become a fisherman of men's souls; he received revelation from God; he would deny Jesus; he would later be crucified for his faith
James (son of Zebedee)	Fisherman	Ambitious, energetic, zealous in his work, high-spirited, judgmental, deeply committed to Jesus	Also in core group; he and his brother John asked Jesus for places of honor in His kingdom; first disciple to be martyred	Called James and John "Sons of Thunder"; said they would fish for the souls of men; they would drink the cup Jesus drank; they did not understand their own hearts
John (Son of Zebedee) "The disciple Jesus loved"	Fisherman	Ambitious, judgmental, later very loving	Third disciple in core group; asked Jesus for a place of honor in His Kingdom; a leader of the Jerusalem church; tradition says he wrote the Gospel of John and 1, 2, 3 John and Revelation	Called James and John "Sons of Thunder"; said he would fish for the souls of men; would drink the cup Jesus drank; did not understand his own heart; would take care of Jesus' mother after his death
Andrew (Peter's brother)	Fisherman	Eager to bring others to Jesus	Accepted John the Baptist's testimony about Jesus; told Peter about Jesus; he and Phillip told Jesus that Cepha-	Said he would become a fisherman of men's souls

Philip	Fisherman	Questioning attitude	Told Bartholomew (Nathanael) about Jesus; wondered how Jesus could feed the 5,000; asked Jesus to show his followers God the Father; he and Andrew told Jesus that the Greeks wanted to see him	Asked if Philip realized that to know and see him was to know and see the Father
Bartholomew (Nathanael)	Unknown	Honesty and straightforwardness	Initially rejected Jesus because he was from Nazareth but acknowledged Jesus as the "Son of God" and "King of Israel" when they met	Called him "an honest man" and "a true son of Israel"
Matthew (Levi)	Tax collector	Despised outcast because of his dishonest career	Abandoned his corrupt and financially profitable way of life to follow Jesus; invited Jesus to a party with his notorious friends; wrote the Gospel of Matthew	Called him to be a disciple
Thomas (the twin)	Unknown	Courage and doubt	Suggested the disciples go with Jesus to Bethany -- even if it meant death; asked Jesus about where he was going; refused to believe Jesus was risen until he could see Jesus alive and touch his wounds	Said Thomas believed because he actually saw Jesus after the resurrection
James (son of Alphaeus)	Unknown	Unknown	Became a disciple of Jesus	Unknown
Thaddaeus (Judas, son of James)	Unknown	Unknown	Asked Jesus why he would reveal himself to his followers and not to the world	Unknown
Simon the Zealot	Unknown	Fierce patriotism	Became a disciple of Jesus	Unknown
Judas Iscariot	Unknown	Treacherous and greedy	Became a disciple of Jesus; betrayed Jesus; killed himself	Called him "a devil"; said he would betray Jesus