**SAINT LUCY**

**FEAST DAY 13TH DECEMBER**

Saint Lucy was born in 283 into a rich family. Her father died while she was young. Lucy’s mother told her about all the stories of Jesus and the first martyrs and so she decided to dedicate herself to Jesus. Her mother was ill for four years. Lucy persuaded her mother to go to the tomb of St Agatha where they prayed all night and then fell asleep exhausted. Saint Agatha appeared in a vision to Lucy and at that point her mother was cured and became a Christian.

As Lucy had given herself to Jesus, she sold all her belongings and gave the money to the poor. People often came to her house and Lucy and her mother gave to everyone who asked and were a shining example of Christian Charity.

Lucy’s mother encouraged her to marry a man who did not believe in Christ. She refused to marry him. The man was so angry at her refusal that he informed the governor she was a Christian. Lucy admitted she was a Christian and was prepared to give herself to God. She told the governor "I will never sin, so that the Holy Spirit will give me a greater reward. You see now that I am the temple of the Holy Spirit, and that He protects me."

Lucy was led to the city for trial.The governor ordered a fire to be lit around her, but Lucy was not harmed. At last, a sword was thrust into her heart. She did not die until a priest came to her with Holy Communion. In one legend it says that Lucy's eyes were torn out and later healed by God, that is why St Lucy is known as the Patron Saint for people who have trouble with their eyes.

Saint Lucy, pray for us.