

# Top 25 Saints Under 25 HEAVEN HAS NO AGE LIMIT

## Blessed Laura Vicuña

Age 12 – (1891-1904)

Weakened by physical abuse by her mother's boss, Laura died of pulmonary tuberculosis. On her deathbed, she offered her life for her mother's salvation: "Mama, I offer my life for you."

*The only known photo of Bl. Laura Vicuña (1900)*

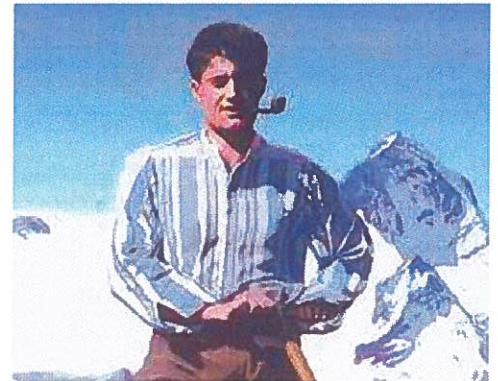


## Blessed Pier Giorgio Frassati

Age 24 – (1901-1925)

Pier Giorgio did not let his young age stop him from continuously helping the poor. He contracted polio and died on July 4, 1925. Many mourners attended his funeral, most of whom Pier Giorgio's parents did not know.

*Bl. Pier Giorgio Frassati*

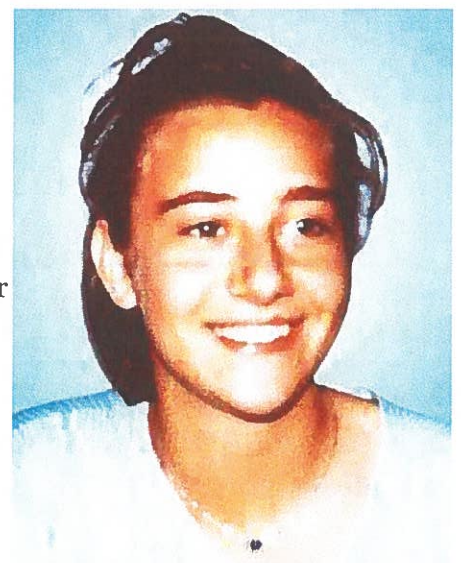


## Blessed Chiara Badano

Age 18 – (1971-1990)

The young and popular Chiara suddenly had a rare form of bone cancer, osteogenic sarcoma. She refused morphine, instead wanting to offer up her sufferings for Jesus Christ. Saint She maintained her joyful demeanor, keeping the other patients happy until her death.

*Bl. Chiara Badano*

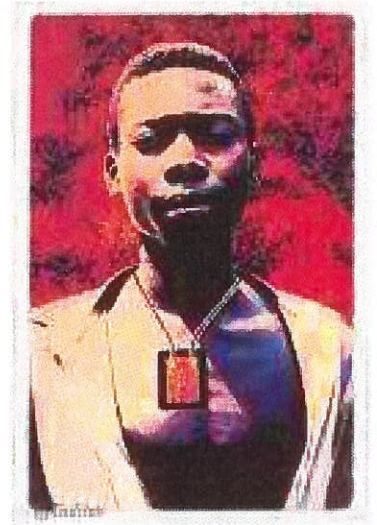


## Bl. Isidore Bakanja

Age 19-24 – (c. 1887-1909)

Working for a colonist on a rubber plantation, the owner brutally beat Isidore for his Christian faith. He suffered agonizing pain from his wounds for 6 months. Isidore forgave the man: “Certainly I shall pray for him. When I am in heaven, I shall pray for him very much.”

*Bl. Isidore Bakanja*

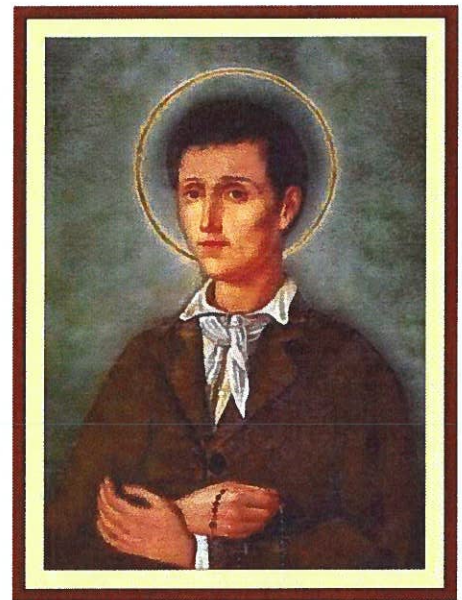


## 25. Saint Nunzio Sulprizio

Age 19 – (1817-1836)

Saint Nunzio’s parents passed away while he was still young. He experienced harsh abuse from his uncle. On one of his supply runs for his uncle, he caught gangrene in one of his legs. He went through excruciating pain for about 5 years more, offering it for God the entire time.

*Saint Nunzio Sulprizio by Abbé Jean-Marie Séaume (1900)*

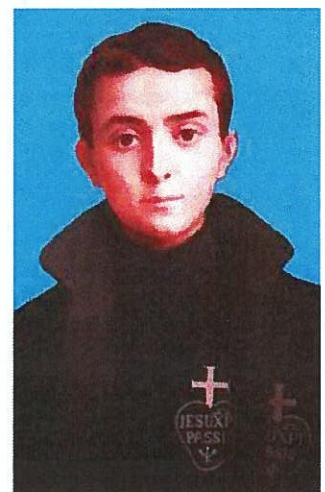


## 24. Saint Gabriel of Our Lady of Sorrows

Age 23 – (1838-1862)

Gabriel lived a perfectly obedient life in the Passionist Order, with a particular devotion to Mary, Our Lady of Sorrows. Despite his tuberculosis, he remained joyful until his death.

*Saint Gabriel of Our Lady of Sorrows*



## 23. Saint Stanislaus Kostka

Age 17 – (1550-1568)

Stanislaus sought to join the Society of Jesus (Jesuits) despite the physical abuses of his older brother. His Jesuit teacher said that “he was a model and mirror of religious perfection.” Wrapped up in prayer, he died from an unknown illness made worse by a high fever.

*Saint Stanislaus of Kostka – Jubilee Museum (Columbus, Ohio)*



## 22. Saint John Berchmans

Age 22 – (1599-1621)

Despite the strong opposition from his father and teachers, John joined the Jesuits. He had a deep love for being an altar server at Mass and died early with Roman fever.

*Saint John Berchmans by Boetius Adams Bolswert c. 1621*



## 21. Saint Teresa of the Andes

Age 19 – (1900-1920)

Inspired by the biography of Saint Thérèse of Lisieux and the call of God, Teresa became a Discalced Carmelite nun in Chile. Despite knowing she would die young from typhus, she lived her life with a complete love for God.

*Saint Teresa of The Andes*



## 20. Saint Agatha of Sicily

Age ~20 – (c. 231- c.251)

A Roman noblewoman, Agatha made the unusual choice to be a consecrated virgin for the Lord. One of the men who wanted to marry her had her tortured until she gave in to his demands. She chose Christ instead.

*Saint Agatha of Sicily by Alessandro Turchi (1578–1649)*

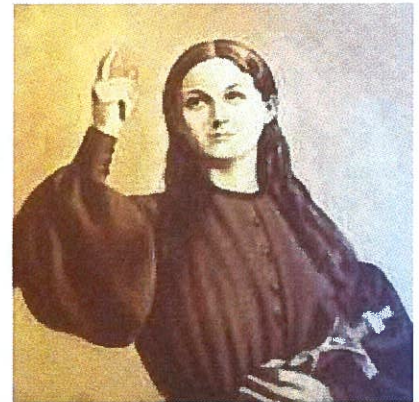


## 19. Saint Clelia Barbieri

Age 23 – (1847-1870)

Clelia is the youngest founder of a religious community in the history of the Catholic Church. She founded the Congregation of the Sisters Minims of Our Lady of Sorrows at the age of 21. Today they continue to serve the poor in Italy, India, and Tanzania.

*Saint Clelia Barbieri*



## 18. Saint Elizabeth of Hungary

Age 24 – (1207-1231)

Elizabeth was a princess with a great love for the Lord. Despite her status and wealth, she chose instead to serve the poor. She even built a hospital after her husband's death where she could treat the sick herself.

*St Elizabeth of Hungary Spinning for the Poor by Marianne Stokes (1855–1927)*



## 17. Saint Lucy

Age 21 – (c. 283-304)

Lucy is one of the most widely revered virgin martyrs in the Early Church. She died during reign of the Emperor Diocletian, unwilling to renounce her Christian faith.

*Saint Lucy by Cosimo Rosselli, Florence, c. 1470*



# 16. Saint Catherine of Alexandria

Age ~18 – (c. 287-c. 305)

Born of noble birth, Saint Catherine was already a notable scholar in the sciences and Christianity by the age of 18. The Emperor Maximinus brought out his top men to debate her, but they could not defeat her. Some of them even converted to Christianity and were instantly martyred. The enraged emperor had Catherine beheaded.

*Saint Catherine of Alexandria by Bernardino Luini (1485-532)*

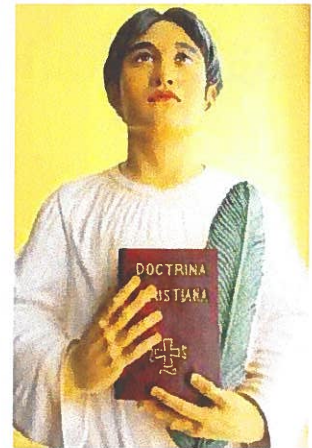


# 15. Saint Pedro Calungsod

Age 17 – (1654-1672)

Pedro was a missionary in Guam, ministering to the Chamorro people. He was pierced by a spear, cut down by a cutlass, and flung into the sea. Pope Benedict XVI canonized him in 2012.

*Saint Pedro Calungsod – Wikimedia Commons*



# 14. Saint Germaine Cousin

Age 22 – (1579-1601)

Germaine was born with a deformed hand and a form of tuberculosis called scrofula. To protect other children, her father had her live her life as a shepherdess, sleeping each night in a stable. The villagers and her own stepmother treated her with cruelty because of her deep love for God.

*Saint Germaine Cousin by Alexandre Falguière (1831-1900) – Photo by: Didier Descouens*

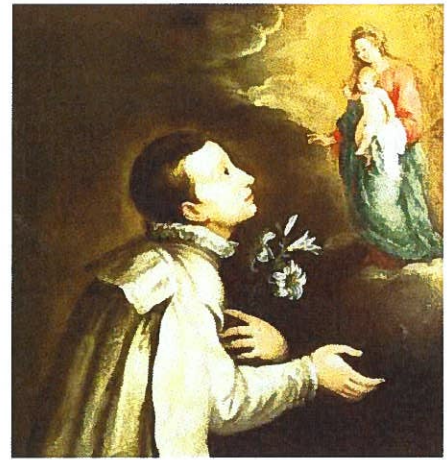


# 13. Saint Aloysius Gonzaga

Age 23 – (1568-1591)

Aloysius was born right into the life of the aristocracy. He was next in line to inherit his father's title as Marquis of Castiglione. After reading about Jesuit missionaries in India, he decided he wanted to join the Jesuits against his father's wishes. At the age of 17, he renounced all of his noble roots to serve God.

*Saint Aloysius Gonzaga by Carlo Francesco Nuvolone (1609-1702)*

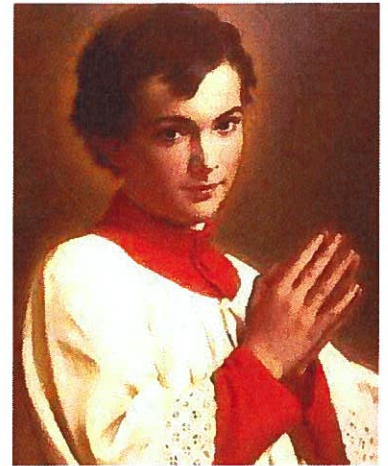


# 12. Saint Dominic Savio

Age 14 – (1842-1857)

Dominic's young, pious life was enough for the Catholic Church to canonize him. Saint John Bosco both guided him and wrote his biography, describing his miracles and intense love for God.

*Saint Dominic Savio*

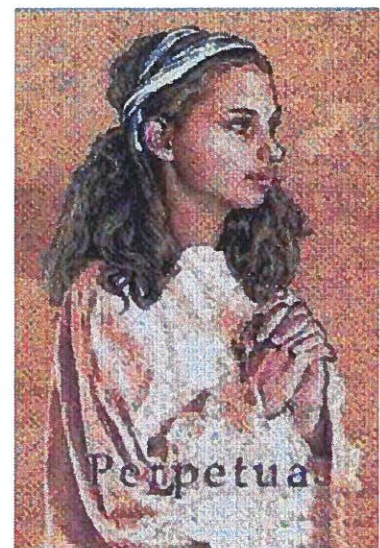


# 11. Saint Perpetua

Age 22 – (c. 181-c. 203)

Living in the Roman Empire, Perpetua's father pleaded with her to renounce her Christian faith. She refused and was both thrown into wild beasts and taken down by the sword.

*Saint Perpetua (Church of Notre-Dame of Vierzon, France) – Photo by Gaetan Poix*

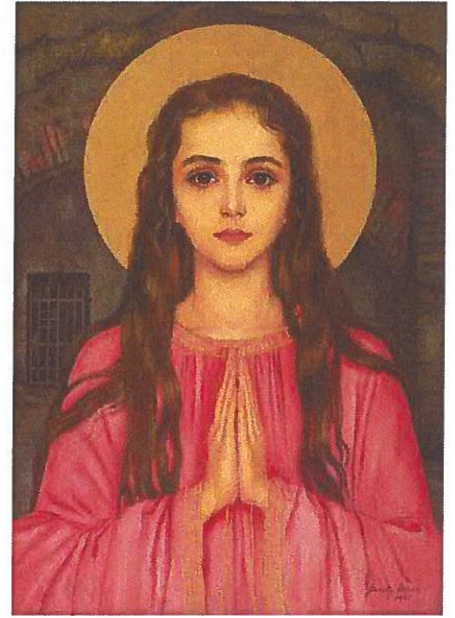


# 10. Saint Philomena

Age 13 – (c. 291-c. 304)

The body of a woman named “Philomena” was found in 1802 in the Catacomb of Priscilla in Rome. According to visions by a nun, Philomena told her that she was a Greek princess who was martyred for her faith. Multiple miracles have been attributed to Philomena’s intercession.

*Saint Philomena – Wikimedia Commons*



# 9. Saint Dymphna

Age 14 – (7th century)

According to traditional narratives, Dymphna was the daughter of a petty king in Ireland in the 7th century. After the death of her mother, Dymphna’s father became mentally ill and desired to marry her. She fled to Belgium, but her father found and beheaded her. She is the patron saint of mental disorders.

*The beheading of Saint Dymphna by Godfried Maes (1649–1700)*



# 8. Saint Kateri Tekakwitha

Age 24 – (c. 1656-1680)

Kateri was an Algonquin-Mohawk Native American who converted to Catholicism at the age of 19. Her tribe shunned her, but she was relentless in her love for Jesus for the rest of her life. She was canonized by Pope Benedict XVI in 2012.

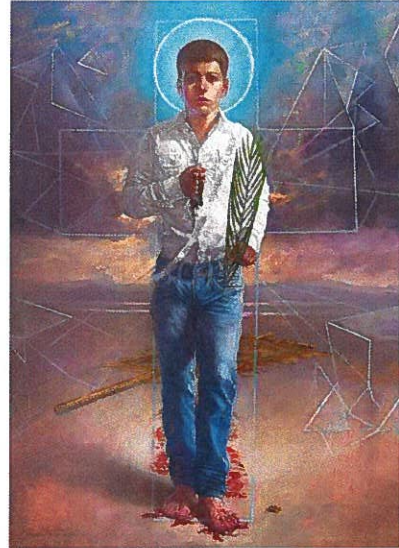
*Saint Kateri Tekakwitha*

# 7. Saint José Sánchez del Río

Age 14 – (1913-1928)

Saint José was captured in Mexico during the Cristero War. The government tried to suppress the Catholic Church and mandate secularization. He was tortured and killed, refusing to betray Christ.

*Statue of Saint José Sánchez del Río at his Beatification Ceremony (2004)*



# 6 and 5. Saints Francisco and Jacinta Marto

Age 10 – (1908-1919) and Age 9 – (1910-1920)

Mary appeared to three shepherd children in 1917, including Francisco and Jacinta. They spread Our Lady of Fátima's message to the entire world. This includes praying the rosary and offering sacrifices for sinners.

*Sts. Francisco and Jacinta Marto by Joshua Benoliel (1917)*



# 4. Saint Maria Goretti

Age 11 – (1890-1902)

While Maria was alone, a teenage boy named Alessandro tried to seduce her. When she refused, he stabbed her 14 times. At the hospital, she forgave him before dying. Alessandro soon repented.

*Saint Maria Goretti - by Giuseppe Brovelli- Soffredini (1929)*





# 3. Saint Agnes of Rome

Age 12 or 13 – (c. 291-c. 304)

Since the fourth century, Agnes has been held at the highest honor of all the virgin martyrs. The specifics of her martyrdom are not known beyond myths and legends. The Church has celebrated her dedication to purity at such a young age, even to death.

*Saint Agnes of Rome – Wikimedia Commons*



# 2. Saint Joan of Arc

Age ~19 – (c. 1412-1431)

Joan, a peasant girl, received visions of Saint Michael the Archangel, Saint Margaret, and Saint Catherine of Alexandria to rise up and help the French defeat the English in the Hundred Years' War. After much convincing, her help led to an eventual French victory. She was captured and sentenced to death by a pro-English bishop. The Catholic Church negated the charges 25 years later.

*Joan of Arc's Death at the Stake – by Hermann Anton Stilke (1843)*



# 1. Saint Thérèse of Lisieux

Age 24 – (1873-1897)

Thérèse is one of the most popular saints in the history of the Catholic Church. She overcame many obstacles to become a Carmelite nun at the age of 15. She is famous for her “Little Way,” where one does everything out of great love. Thérèse describes herself as the “Little Flower” that sits back and lets Jesus love her. Her approach is simple and practical. In 1997, Saint John Paul II gave her the title of “Doctor of the Church.” She is the youngest Doctor of the Church ever.

*St Thérèse of Lisieux*



