



St. René Goupil

September 26

Who was St. René Goupil?

Saint René Goupil was a French Jesuit missionary and martyr who played a significant role in the early teaching of Christianity in North America during the 17th century. Born in 1608, in France, St. René Goupil dedicated his life to serving God and spreading the Gospel.

St. René Goupil initially trained to become a surgeon but later joined the Jesuit order. However, after going deaf, his studies were interrupted. In 1640, he travelled to New France, present-day Canada, as a missionary to work among Indigenous people. He joined the missionary efforts led by St. Jean de Brébeuf and his companions.

During his mission work, St. René Goupil faced numerous challenges, including harsh conditions and cultural differences. Despite the hardships, he displayed great passion and dedication, using his medical skills to treat the sick and wounded among the Indigenous communities.

In 1642, St. René Goupil and his companions encountered hostile warriors. René willingly put himself in danger to defend a fellow Jesuit who was being attacked. Unfortunately, he was captured and faced severe torture. Despite the excruciating pain, he continued to pray and invoke the name of Jesus.

In 1642, René Goupil was condemned for his faith, becoming one of the first Jesuits to be killed for his Christian beliefs in North America. His selfless sacrifice and commitment to his faith serve as an inspiration to many, having a profound impact on his fellow Jesuits, including St. Isaac Jogues, who later suffered a similar fate. St. René Goupil's story of faith and courage contributed to the growth and perseverance of the Jesuit mission in North America.

St. René Goupil was canonized as a saint by Pope Blessed Pius XI in 1930. He is honoured as a model of Christian virtue and his feast day is celebrated on September 26th, alongside other North American Martyrs, who dedicated their lives to spreading the Gospel in North America.

St. René Goupil's life serves as a reminder of the sacrifices made by early missionaries in their efforts to bring the message of Christ to the people of this land. His steady faith and willingness to endure suffering in the name of the Gospel continue to inspire Christians to embrace their faith and to share the love of Christ with others.

More information: [Click Here!](#)

St. René Goupil CES Website [Click Here](#)



Quotes

*"I would rather lose my life than
lose my love for Christ."*

*"Jesus, I trust in You. No matter
what may come, I surrender to Your
will."*

*"Let our actions be a testament to
the love and mercy of our Lord."*

Prayer

In the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit;

Dear God,

who created the determined hearts of the Canadian Martyrs,

With an admirable love of all humanity and an unmistakable desire to help those in need.

Grant us your unwavering strength and devotion in order to become greater beacons of your light.

Through the intercession of St. Rene Goupil,

May we make peace with our pasts and seek to build new and positive relationships with one another.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Patron Saint

Surgeons

Medical Professionals

Anaesthetists

Hospitals/Healthcare Workers

Missionaries

Indigenous People

Torture Victims

Martyrs





York Catholic District School Board



St. Rene
Goupil

FEAST DAY:
September 26

SCHOOL LOCATION:
Thornhill, ON

*"In the face of suffering,
let us offer our pain as a
sacrifice to God."*

—St. Rene Goupil

PATRON SAINT OF:

- Surgeons
- Hospitals
- Anaesthetists
- Indigenous People
- Healthcare Workers
- Medical Professionals

