

San Fulgencio, our Patron Saint



Fulgencio (English: *Fulgentius*) was born in Cartagena in the 6th century and died in 630 AD. He was brother of Isidoro, Leandro and Florentina. Like them, he dedicated his life to the service of Christ and his Church.

Fulgencio was Bishop of Ecija (known then as Astigi) and Bishop of Cartagena. He was wise and eloquent, a great orator and pastor, and a peacemaker. Someone writing about him said that his preaching could ignite the coldest heart.

Before the 12th century, any bishop could declare a saint without approval from the Vatican. Fulgencio, and his two brothers and sister, were all recognized as saints and are known as the **'Four Saints of Cartagena'**.

In 1880, San Fulgencio's wisdom and teaching were acknowledged by Pope Leo XIII, who elevated him to the rank of Doctor in the Church. He is celebrated on either the 14th or 16th January.