



Roman Martyrology: At Canterbury, in England, the birthday of St. Lawrence, bishop, who succeeded St. Augustine in the government of that church, and converted the king himself to the faith.

SHORT BIOGRAPHY

He was born on the 6th century. Benedictine monk. At the order of Pope Saint Gregory the Great, he accompanied Saint Augustine of Canterbury to evangelize England in 597. Upon Augustine's death, Lawrence became archbishop of Canterbury. When the Britons began to abandon Christianity and return to the old pagan customs, Lawrence planned to abandon them and return to France.

However, he had a dream in which he was rebuked and scourged by Saint Peter the Apostle for giving up on his flock. Lawrence remained, redoubled his efforts at evangelization, and converted King Edbald who brought many of his subjects to the faith. Legend says that Lawrence carried physical scars from his dream beating by Saint Peter.

He died on February 2, 619 in Canterbury, England of natural causes.