



Roman martyrology: Virgin martyr of Rheims, in France. She was tortured cruelly and martyred at Tismes, Champagne, in the persecutions conducted by Emperor Diocletian.

SHORT BIOGRAPHY

Born near Reims, Gaul (modern day France), maiden Macra was martyred for her faith in 287.

She is said to have suffered under a Roman governor named Rictiovarus. The latter pressed Macra to worship pagan gods, promising to reward her with riches and honours if she yielded while threatening her with torments if she refused.

Macra remained steadfast in her profession of faith.

As she was being tortured, the governor asked her, "By what name are you called?" Macra answered, "I am a Christian, and I adore the true God, not false images."

When Rictiovarus again urged her to sacrifice the pagan gods, she replied by reaffirming her trust in God, declaring, "I believe, unworthy though I be, that I shall nonetheless see the good things of the Lord in the land of the living."

She died after being burned and mutilated. The discovery and subsequent enshrinement of Macra's body in the ninth century were followed by miracles attributed to her intercession, including healings of the blind, the deaf, and the lame.

"With love for the God who has so loved us, we pray: Teach us your ways, O Lord!"