



Parish Celebration Fit For a King

Saturday, August 3rd | 5pm-8pm

Mark your calendars! Join us for our parish-wide festival to celebrate the 1,000 year feast of the patron saint of our church- Saint Henry. He is truly a remarkable saint. Like any celebration at our parish, there are three main elements- worship, food and community!

Worship

Come together to celebrate the Eucharist at our 5pm Saturday night Mass in the church. We will have a special liturgy, reflecting on the identity of our parish and our Christian lives.

Food

Join us on our school playground for the festival of food and a fun party. The smells and tastes of food trucks...it will be a feast! You will not leave hungry.

Community

All our welcome! Come enjoy the fellowship of our wonderful faith community. Meet new parishioners and visit with old friends. Bring your family. Invite a friend. There will be family activities, games for the children, face painting, music to enjoy, and more!

Who was Saint Henry?

The history of our patron is worth learning. He was King of Germany and Emperor of the Holy Roman Empire. St. Henry was born in 973 and succeeded his father as Duke of Bavaria in 995 and became King in 1002. Pope Benedict VIII crowned him Emperor of the Holy Roman Empire in 1014. St. Henry and his wife, St. Cunigunde, had no children. He was deeply interested in the welfare of the Church. He leveraged his royal and temporal powers to serve the nations and sought in all things, the greater glory of God. He had many victories over his enemies, both at home and abroad, but he ruled with wisdom- in great moderation and clemency. The humility and spirit of justice our patron possessed were equal to his zeal for religion. St. Henry collaborated with the Church to appoint devout and loyal bishops and create new dioceses. He was very generous with his wealth and worked to strengthen the Church, spread faith, and exemplify charity. His generosity extended not only to the poor and the Church, but also to his enemies. He successfully ended wars and uprisings, pardoning those who rebelled against him, and restoring peace to the kingdom.

St. Henry was a devout Catholic with a deep devotion to the Mother of God, regularly receiving the sacraments, and praying the Divine Office. One of St. Henry's greatest contributions to the Church was his dedication to monastic life. He constructed monasteries and supported monastic reform. He built the monastery in Bamberg, Germany- making it a cathedral and a new diocese. He worked to make this monastery the new Rome of Germany and sought to make its spiritual influence felt far and wide. His holy death occurred at the castle of Grone, near Halberstad, in 1024. He was canonized a saint in 1146 and his feast day is July 13. Of all the Holy Roman Emperors throughout the ages, only King Henry II is recognized as a saint.

Prayer to St. Henry

O Good St. Henry, even as an emperor you sought the greater glory of God. You deprived yourself of many things to enrich the house of the Lord. Your humility and spirit of justice when dealing with friend or foe is an excellent example for all people to follow. Through your intercession, may we seek to shun the allurements of the world, and strive to live our life for the greater glory of our Lord. Amen

See you at our St. Henry feast day festival this summer on August 3rd!

Sources:

<https://mycatholic.life/saints/saints-of-the-liturgical-year/july-13-saint-henry/>

<https://www.vaticannews.va/en/saints/07/13/st-henry-ii-emperor.html>