



SAINT JOHN PAUL II

"The world you are inheriting is a world which desperately needs a new sense of brotherhood and human solidarity. It is a world which needs to be touched and healed by the beauty and richness of God's love."

- Homily, July 28, 2002

SAINT JOHN XXIII

"Peace is but an empty word, if it does not rest upon that order...that is founded on truth, built up on justice, nurtured and animated by charity, and brought into effect under the auspices of freedom...human resources alone, even though inspired by the most praiseworthy good will, cannot hope to achieve it. God Himself must come to man's aid with His heavenly assistance." — Pacem in Textis



SAINT JOHN PAUL II



Saint John Paul II was born Karol Józef Wojtyła on May 18, 1920 in the Polish town of Wadowice. He attended Krakow's Jagiellonian University in 1938 before Nazi occupation forces closed it in 1939.

He began seminary in 1942, continued his studies after the war, and was ordained as a priest by Archbishop Sapeiha in Krakow in November of 1946. He was then sent to Rome, finished his doctorate in theology two years later, and returned to Poland.

In Poland, he served as the vicar to numerous parishes, became a professor of moral theology and social ethics, and was appointed titular bishop of Ombi and auxiliary bishop of Krakow in 1958. He was appointed archbishop of Krakow in 1964, made a cardinal in 1967, and took part in Vatican Council II.



The Cardinals elected him as Pope on October 16, 1978 and he took the name of John Paul II. His papacy lasted nearly 27 years, comprised of more pastoral visits, meetings with the people of God, and audiences with world leaders than any of his predecessors, and authored dozens of encyclicals, exhortations, constitutions, and letters.

Pope John Paul II also established World Youth Days, encouraged dialogue with members of other religions, and tirelessly promoted the spiritual renewal of the church until the end of his life. He died on April 2, 2005. Between his day of death and funeral on April 8, more than three million pilgrims came to Rome to pay homage.

Born May 18, 1920

Ordained a Priest 1946 Named Cardinal 1967 Elected Pope October 16, 1978

Died April 2, 2005



SAINT JOHN XXIII



Saint John XXIII was born Angelo Giuseppe Roncalli on November 25, 1881, in Monte, Italy. He entered the Bergamo seminary in 1892 and was admitted to the Secular Franciscan Order in 1896.

He continued his studies at the Pontifical Roman Seminary in 1901, was ordained in Rome in 1904, and was appointed secretary to the new Bishop of Bergamo a year later, a position he held until the bishop's death in 1914.

In 1921 he was brought to Rome by Benedict XV to be Italian president of the Society for the Propagation of the Faith. He was named Apostolic Visitator in Bulgaria four years later and ordained as bishop. In 1935 he was named Apostolic Delegate in Turkey and Greece.

During World War II, he helped many Jews escape from Greece and aided numerous prisoners of war. After the war, he lived a life striving for Gospel simplicity and was a living example of prayer, pastoral care, and trust in the Lord.

The cardinals elected him Pope on October 28, 1958, and he took the name of John XXIII. Although his papacy—defined by his meek, gentle, simple, and courageous spirit—lasted less than five years, his decision to summon the Second Vatican Council launched an extensive renewal of the Church still felt fifty years later. He died on June 3, 1963.



Born November 25, 1881 Ordained a Priest 1904 Named Cardinal 1953 Elected Pope October 28, 1958 **Died** June 3, 1963