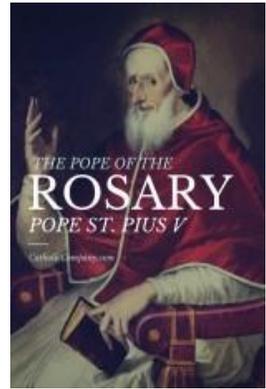


Did you know . . .

Pope St. Pius V: Pope of the Rosary

Pope St. Pius V is one of the foremost leaders of the **Catholic** Reformation.

He was born Antonio Ghislieri in Bosco, Italy, to a poor family; he worked as a shepherd until the age of fourteen when he joined the Dominicans, and was ordained in 1528. He studied at **Bologna** and Genoa, and then taught theology and **philosophy** for sixteen years. He was known for his long hours of prayer and fasting, and his holy speech.



Due to his reputation for holiness and his great intelligence, he rose to a number of prominent positions in the Church, including Inquisitor and bishop. When Pope Pius IV died in 1565, he was unanimously elected Pope and took the name Pope Pius V.

As pope, Pius was a great reformer and saw as his main objective the full implementation of the decrees of the Council of Trent. He also supported the foreign missions and worked for the reform of the clergy.

He published the Roman Catechism, the revised Roman Breviary, and the Roman Missal; he also declared Thomas Aquinas a **Doctor** of the Church, commanded a new edition of the works of Thomas Aquinas, and created a commission to revise the Vulgate.

Pope Pius V was especially known for his devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary and for being a great promoter of the Holy Rosary. He was given the title of “The Pope of the Rosary” for issuing a papal bull, *Consueverunt Romani Pontifices*, in which he secured the uniformity of the Holy Rosary for recitation throughout the Catholic Church and for establishing the feast of Our Lady of the Holy Rosary. At the time it was called Feast Day of Our Lady of Victory, in thanksgiving for the victory of the Christian fleet over the Ottoman Turks at the Battle of Lepanto which occurred on October 7, 1571.

Pope Clement **beatified** him on May 1, 1672, and Pope Clement XI canonized him on May 22, 1712.

His Feast Day is April 30.

On an interesting note, during his first day as Holy Father, **Pope Francis** prayed at the tomb of the great reformer Pope Pius V, which resides at St. Mary Major Basilica in Rome.

Judy Pearson