12 Apostles

Jesus gathered disciples (= friends) around him. From these friends he chose twelve as apostles. The word "apostle" comes from Greek and means "envoy". In a way, all Christians are ambassadors of Jesus, and thus apostles.



Matthew

Former customs officer. Patron saint of finances.

Thomas

He bears the nickname "twin". Patron saint of East India and the architects.

Simon

Patron saint of weavers, dyers and forest workers.

Peter

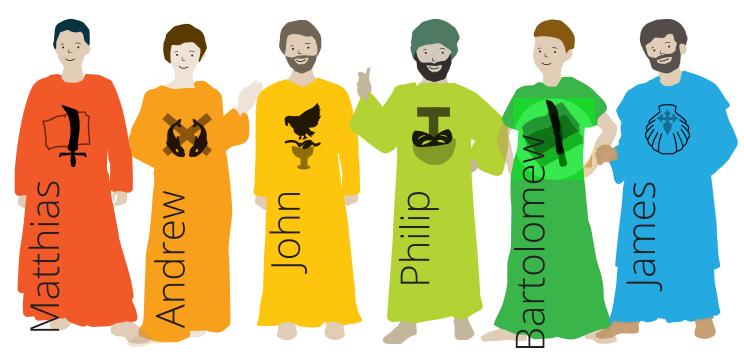
Was the 1st Pope.

Missionary in the Near East and helper in hopeless situations.

Thaddeus

James

His nickname is also "the smaller" or "the just".



Matthias

Replacement apostle for Judas Iscariot, who betrayed Jesus. Matthias is the patron saint of builders.

Andrew

Brother of Peter. Died on a cross that looked like an X.

John

Favorite disciple of Jesus, patron saint of writers and brother of James the Elder. Jesus also called the two brothers the "sons of thunder".

Philip

Formerly a disciple of John the Baptist. Missionary in Asia Minor.

Amostloof

Bartholomew

Patron saint of Spain and the pilgrim.

James

Apostle of the Orient.