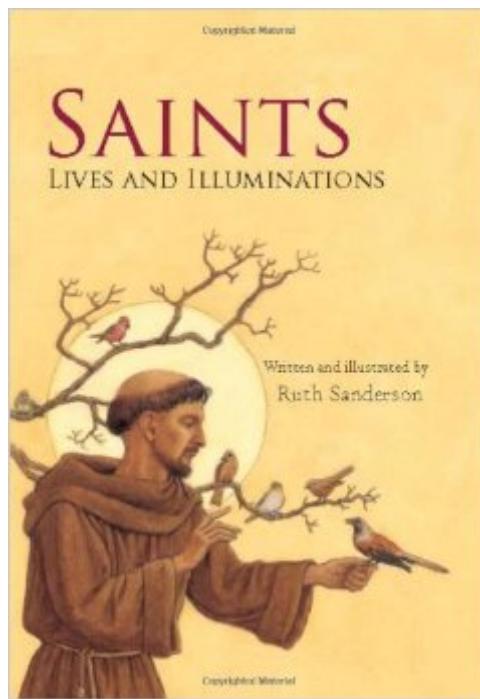


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# Saints: Lives And Illuminations



## Synopsis

This combined edition of our picture books *Saints & More Saints* presents the stories of remarkable people — martyrs, hermits, miracle workers, scholars, and evangelists — who were the pioneers of the early Church and who spread the Christian faith to the rest of the world. / With brief biographical sketches and lush pencil and oil portraits, author and illustrator Ruth Sanderson stokes the flame of our centuries old and ongoing interest in the faith and lives of these spiritual examples — saints who have forever changed the way we look at and live our lives in relationship to God.

## Book Information

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Shipping Weight: 13.6 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 starsÂ See all reviewsÂ (10 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #587,040 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #85 inÂ Books > Children's Books > Religions > Christianity > Biographies #195 inÂ Books > Children's Books > Biographies > Religious #903 inÂ Books > Christian Books & Bibles > Biographies > Saints

Age Range: 8 - 18 years

Grade Level: 4 and up

## Customer Reviews

This is a beautiful book for children which has one page per saint. Each page has about 2/5 of it with a beautiful colored picture of the saint. The other 3/5 of it has equally beautiful stories of the saints. The saints included in this book are as follows. Alexandra . . . . Anthony . . . . Augustine . . . . Barbara . . . . Basil . . . . Bede . . . . Benedict . . . . Brendan . . . . Brigid . . . . Catherine . . . . Cecilia . . . . Christopher . . . . Columba . . . . Constantine . . . . Dorothy . . . . Dunstan . . . . Edmund . . . . Eloi . . . . Ephraim . . . . Genevieve . . . . George . . . . Gregory the Great . . . . Helen . . . . Jerome . . . . John Chrysostom . . . . Kevin . . . . Lawrence . . . . Martin of Tours . . . . Mary of Egypt . . . . Maud . . . . Monica . . . . Moses . . . . Nicholas . . . . Nina . . . . Paula . . . . Patrick . . . . Scholastica . . . . Spyridon . . . . Stephen . . . . Theodora

The illustrations are sweetly innocent and charming, but somehow neither holy nor inspiring (the best one is the cover). The descriptions of the different saints are quite interesting, and although they include the details of how the different saints died, it would be a matter of how you raise your children that decides you on this book. Example on Saint Catherine: "Catherine was tied between great spiked wheels, but it is said that lightning struck the wheel and saved her from this torture. Catherine was then beheaded, and milk, not blood, flowed from her body. "I suppose that one of the cornerstones of Saints & martyrs being declared is the manner of their death, therefore it is relevant. Recommended reading group 8+

A lovely book for children to get acquainted with Catholic saints. This contains the biographies of 76 popular and some lesser-known saints, from St. Stephen, the first martyr of the Church to Mother Teresa, a really good collection for all Catholics to know about. This book would appeal to girls and boys alike as there is a fair distribution among male and female saints. (Note: is this a later publication as it contains more saints than listed in the description and reviews? A few saints are coupled, such as St. Scholastica and St. Benedict). It seems to be nicely bound with a hard-cover and dust jacket. The writing is easy to read, perhaps 2nd grade and up, simple enough for children, though appealing for adults as well. The illustrations are very beautiful, done with stunning, illumination-style frames. None of your insipid, effeminate saints here! I think boys and girls alike, as well as adults, will appreciate the art in this book. Each saint has two pages, one with an illustration and the facing page with his or her biography. The biographies are well-written. These are generally composed of several paragraphs describing the saint's life, and usually includes some anecdote from his or her life. At the bottom of the page is a mention of what the saint is patron of and the saint's feast day. At the back is a short glossary of terms used, such as "martyr" or "doctor of the church". This makes a good gift, especially because it has a special page to personalize a dedication with a little embellished frame with "For..." --good for godparents, sponsors, etc. I'm giving it four stars because of two reasons: I find that the book is rather small for having such excellent pictures, about 8" by 5", and some of the saints' costumes are not accurate (a pet peeve of mine), though most of the inaccuracies are mostly variations in religious habits: St. Monica in medieval garb, St. Bede in teal, St. Scholastica in blue (Benedictine=black), St. Clare in white (Franciscans=brown), St. Thomas Aquinas in a brown cloak (Dominicans=black), St. Catherine of Siena in black veil and scapular (Dominican Tertiary=white veil and white scapular, though modern orders have black veils), St. Francis Xavier in brown (Jesuits=black), St. Rose of Lima in black veil and brownish habit (Dominican Tertiary), St. Therese of Lisieux in BLACK-oh, no! (Carmelite=brown)...yes, this is a bit

nit-picky of me since many illustrations in other books of saints are equally inaccurate, but many moms rely on books of Saints for dressing their little ones on All Saints Day, and I find it very confusing and embarrassing when a child is unidentifiable because Mom followed an inaccurate picture in a book. Other than the minor inaccuracies, a thoroughly handsome book I would recommend for the family bookshelf, especially if you need to replace a current, hideous book of saints (like the one with St. Michael depicted with a Marilyn Monroe head and Schwarzenegger body-ugh!).

This is NOT merely a book for children. Millions love saints. Their heroic goodness fuels our own hopes, because unlike fairy tales--the lives of saints supposedly are factual. I add "supposedly" because we all know that many saints' lives are part fact and part legend. One reason I'm so strongly recommending Ruth Sanderson's new "Saints: Lives and Illuminations" today is that her collection of more than 70 saints' stories and iconic illustrations leans toward some of the documented real-life saints of particular interest to North Americans. For example, you'll find St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, pioneering American educator and passionate advocate for the poor and orphaned. Plus, Sanderson has included two saints who the Vatican has not yet officially canonized, but who already are very important: One is Mother Teresa, whose personal example of service as well as her writings continue to inspire millions around the world. The other very welcome addition in this regard is Kateri Tekakwitha, the remarkable 17th-century Algonquin-Iroquois woman who now is widely regarded as patroness of ecology, the environment and youth. While the Vatican has not yet canonized them, which is the Vatican's official declaration of their sainthood, Christian teaching clearly indicates that they're both saints already. What most impressed me about this collection, though, is the inclusion of another very important saint: St. Moses the Ethiopian, sometimes known as St. Moses the Black. Sanderson includes him in this collection with an illustration depicting him as a youthful monk. So often, when St. Moses' image is displayed these days, he's shown as a much older father of the church. St. Moses is a vital bridge between Africa and the rest of the Christian world. He's also a bridge between East and West in Christianity--venerated both by Orthodox and Western-Rite Christians. This book is not just for children, although the reading level does make it great for young readers. This book, in fact, is terrific for the whole family.

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