



St Nicholas

Feast Day Nov. 19th

Nicholas was born in the province of Lycia in the southern part of Asia Minor in the city of Patara to well-to-do parents. Having inherited his parents' estate, of a lot of money and property. He would constantly give gifts to people in need and became known for his

generosity. As a youth, he made pilgrimages to Palestine and Egypt. While on his pilgrimage, he decided he did not want to leave and thought about staying as a monk, but he was visited by Christ, and he told him to go to Myra to be the light for the people, so he left. He was later consecrated Archbishop of Myra as the fourth century began. Nicholas was noted for his defense of Orthodoxy against the Arians. At The Second Ecumenical Council, there became a dispute between Arius and St Nicholas, and Nicholas slapped Arius in the face. After that, he was thrown in jail. During that time, if you hit someone in front of the emperor as clergy, you would have your hand amputated and be defrauct. During the night, while Nicholas was in jail, he was visited by the Theotokos and Christ. Christ handed him the Gospel, and the Theotokos gave him back his omoforia. That night three other bishops at The Second Ecumenical Council witnessed this in a dream. The following day Nicholas was restored to his Bishop seat and received no harm, and the Arian heresy was stopped. He died in Myra on [December 6](#) in a year uncertain, between 342 and 352.