

October 19, 2020

Beautiful Monday!

Today's saints did the hard work of going outside of their comfort zone to spread the message of the Lord. It takes very special people to be a leader that others can look up to for their own journey. They truly lived their faith, and the work was hard.

1. Today's Readings: <https://bible.usccb.org/bible/readings/101920.cfm>

2. ***The RE Corner with Jan Heithaus:*** Memorial of Saints John de Brébeuf and Isaac Jogues, Priests, and Companions, Martyrs

Today we remember the North American martyrs, some of whom may be familiar. These 8 men gave their lives in preaching the gospel in Canada. There is a shrine dedicated to their memory in Ontario, Canada. See the following link for more information.

<https://martyrs-shrine.com/>

3. Quote of the Day: Persevere along your way no matter what happens; persevere, cheerfully and optimistically, because the Lord is bent on sweeping aside all obstacles. Hear me well: I am quite certain that if you struggle, you will be a saint. *St. Josemaria Escrivá*

Have a terrific Monday!



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Linda McCormick  
St. Joseph Catholic Church & School  
1200 Cornelia Road  
Anderson, SC 29621

Phone: (864) 225-5341, ext. 102  
Fax: (864) 225-6432

## Saints John de Brebeuf, Isaac Jogues, and Companions



Among the most gifted men of the 17th century were Isaac Jogues, John de Brébeuf, Gabriel Lalemant, Noel Chabanel, Charles Garnier, Anthony Daniel, Rene Goupil, and John de Lalande. The first six were Jesuits, the latter two, laymen.

By 1632, the Jesuits had a mission center in Quebec, where they ministered to 20,000 Huron in 30 villages. The missionaries suffered from cold and heat and were not accustomed to the Huron culture. When the “black robes” arrived, Huron children ran to their mothers, afraid that they were sorcerers. The missionaries were blamed for a smallpox epidemic. Still, they tried to bring the faith to the native people, educate them, and teach them medical and agricultural skills. John de Brébeuf founded schools and wrote a catechism and dictionary in the Huron language. He was once condemned to death but spoke so well that he was spared. Noel Chabanel, a language professor, could barely stutter out Huron phrases. The food and life of the Huron repulsed him, but he vowed to stay. Rene Goupil and John de Lalande, lay missionaries, worked without pay. Charles Garnier sometimes walked 40 miles to baptize one child.

## Parish Office Communication

The missionaries converted about two thousand converts in their many years in Quebec. Then the enemies of the Huron, the Iroquois, who resented the French, captured and tortured the missionaries. Rene Goupil was tomahawked while trying to baptize a baby. Anthony Daniel was at Mass when the Iroquois attacked, shot arrows at him, and threw him into the fire. Isaac Jogues was made a slave but escaped back to France. His left hand had been mutilated, but Pope Urban VIII allowed him to celebrate Mass, saying, "It would be a shame that a martyr of Christ not drink the blood of Christ." Isaac Jogues returned to America. On a peace mission to the Iroquois for the governor of New France, he was accused of bringing a bad harvest. The Iroquois thought his box of religious goods contained the plague. He was attacked and killed. The Indian who killed him was later baptized and took the name Isaac. The sufferings of the missionaries are the seeds of the Church.

*Source: [loyolapress.com](http://loyolapress.com)*