

St Lucy

Lucy was a Christian, who lived at the beginning of the fourth century. Her home town was Syracuse, on the Italian island of Sicily. It was the dearest wish of her sick mother that Lucy be married. But Lucy wanted to dedicate her life to Jesus, rather than marry. However, she kept these thoughts to her self, she didn't want too upset her mother.

One day, Lucy suggested that they make a pilgrimage to the tomb of Saint Agatha to pray for her mother's healing. Following the visit, a wonderful miracle happened, her mother was cured, and she allowed Lucy to put aside all thoughts of marriage. Lucy was overjoyed. Now, she could devote her life to Jesus. Her joy soon turned to sadness. The man Lucy's mother had already chosen as her bridegroom, was so upset by the cancellation of the wedding, he took her to court. Lucy was not afraid of the judge. She courageously stood in front of him, and declared loudly that she loved only Jesus. She knew that acknowledging her belief in Christ could result in her death. Later she was thrown onto an ox cart to be taken to her execution. But the ox could not move the cart. The judge angrily ordered that Lucy should be immersed in boiling oil, but she remained uninjured. He was so frightened by what had happened, he gave a final command and Lucy was killed by the sword.

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