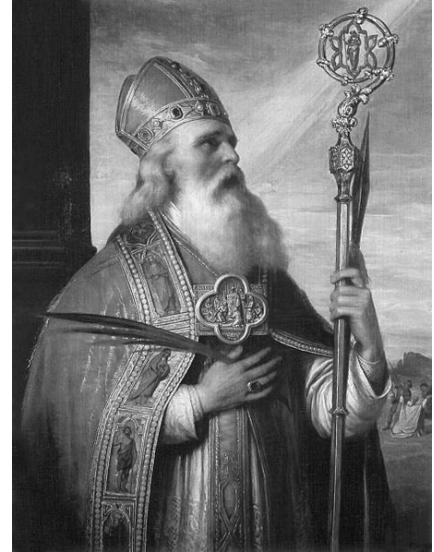


Saint Adalbert

Directions: Read the biography and answer the questions.

Saint Adalbert was born into a noble and powerful Bohemian family in 956. As a young boy he suffered a grave illness, but after his recovery his parents set him on a path for the religious life. As a student he studied under an archbishop named Adalbert from whom he took his name at Confirmation. He was ordained a priest and, when the archbishop died a year later, he was chosen to become the new bishop of Prague at a young age. The political leaders of the area hoped that in his youth he would not oppose them, but they were very wrong. The new Bishop Adalbert was very vocal in his opposition to the sinful practices of the people in his diocese. In response the political leaders forced him into exile in Rome. There he lived in silent prayer in a Benedictine monastery until the leaders in Prague asked the pope to send him back. Saint Adalbert returned with a group of Italian monks and founded a new monastery. His conflicts with the political leaders continued and he was again forced into exile, this time travelling to Poland and Prussia to preach the gospel as a missionary among people who worshiped other gods. This angered the pagan priests so much that they had him killed. After his death, he was a beloved saint among many people in eastern Europe particularly Prague, Poland, Hungary, and Russia.



1. How did Saint Adalbert surprise the leaders in Prague as a bishop?

2. Who do you think needs to hear the message of good news about Jesus Christ today?

3. If you were to be vocal about your Catholic faith like Saint Adalbert, who would be your biggest opposition? Who would be your biggest supporters?
