

# Saint Paschal Baylon

1540-1592

*He was born* in Torre Hermosa, in Spain, on May 16, 1540. From the time he was a little boy he demonstrated a great piety and intense love for prayer and the Eucharist, which then characterized his whole religious life.

As a shepherd of domestic herds, and then others, in the solitude of the fields, he dedicated long periods of the day to prayer and meditation. At 18 years old Saint Paschal asked to be admitted into the monastery of Saint Maria of Loreto of the Franciscan Reformed Alcantarine of Saint Maria of Loreto, but he still had two years yet to tend before being granted his wish. His whole life was characterized by a profound love of the Eucharist that he later validated in the *Theologian of the Eucharist*.

trusted him with the extremely dangerous task of transporting important documents to Paris, risking being killed by the Calvinists. In his trip the Saint was mocked and insulted, and in Orleans, after having a debate about the Eucharist he risked getting stoned to death.

Upon the return of his delicate and dangerous mission, Paschal Baylon composed a small book of definitions and sentences about the Real Presence of Jesus in the Eucharist and on the Divine Power transferred



Blessed with much charisma, one day he was witness to a great miracle: Paschal was out in the fields with his sheep and he could not go hear Mass at the Monastery. He waited for the church bell to ring, at the moment of consecration, his strong desire to be present at the sacrifice of the Holy Mass made him scream: "My Master, my adorable Master, oh, if only it were possible to have you here!" Suddenly he saw some Angels kneeling in front of a Chalice with the Blessed Sacrament floating above it. In the Divine Presence of Our Lord, Paschal fell with his face on the ground to adore the Lord. In 1576 the provincial ministry

to the Roman Pope. His favorite motto was "Whoever wants to save his soul, has to have three hearts in one: he has to have the heart of a son towards God, the heart of a mother towards her neighbor and the heart of a judge towards himself". He died in the monastery of Villa Real near Valencia on May 17, 1592, on the Sunday of Pentecost.