

St Demiana

(Year 7 Girls)

Her Martyrdom (Tuba)

On this day also, St. Demiana, a virgin, was the daughter of Marcellus and Wadi Al-Saysaban in the city of Antioch. She was the only daughter to whom her father took her to the church. She offered alms, candles and oil to keep her in His care.

When she was fifteen years old, she refused, and told him that she loved Christ. When she saw that her father was angry, she asked him to build her a house of seclusion with her virgin friends. She spent their time reading the holy books.

Shortly after, Emperor Diocletian came to Antioch and ordered him to worship the idols. The Emperor appeased him he offered a sacrifice and forsook the Creator of the world. He took his official seat, and St. Demiana came to meet him. She did not greet him but said, "You? I would have preferred to hear that you have renounced the Creator who created you from non-existence. Take note that if you renounce the worship of stones and wood, I will give you your daughter," and she left him.

Her father was greatly moved and wept bitterly. In haste, he went to Christ. When the Emperor came to his promises, he ordered him behind bars.

When Diocletian knew that the only virgin who refused the idols was St. Demiana, he



gently to convince her to worship idols, and if she disobeyed him to behead her. The prince went to her with a sword of torture. When he arrived at her palace, he said to her, "I am a messenger sent from Emperor Diocletian. I bring the Emperor's orders, to worship his gods, so that he can grant you all that you want." The saint shouted in anger at the messenger and the one by whom he was sent. Don't you have any shame at all to call stones and wood gods? There is no god in heaven or on earth except one God, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, the Eternal Creator, the One Who knows all the secrets, and Who can throw you in hell where is the everlasting torment. As for me, I am the Virgin of Jesus Christ, and His Good Father and the Holy Spirit, the Holy Trinity, Him I confess and upon Him I depend for life forever."

The prince became exceedingly angry and ordered her to be placed in the Hinbazeen (the squeezing press), and she was thrown on the ground. The virgins were standing weeping over her. When they put her in prison, the angel of the Lord