



**SAINT RITA OF CASCIA AUGUSTINIAN (1381-1457)**

May 22<sup>nd</sup> is the Feast of Saint Rita of Cascia one of the most popular of women saints in the Church. Born in Umbria, Italy, she followed the path of holiness as a mother, a widow and later as a contemplative sister. She is known as the patron of impossible causes.

She is also venerated as a peacemaker because of her great act of forgiveness towards the assassins of her young husband and in dissuading her sons from revenge. Her symbols are the rose and the cross.

**PRAYER**

*O God, who bestowed on St. Rita such grace that she loved her enemies, and bore in her heart and on her forehead the mark of Your love and Passion, grant us too a love for our enemies and through our contemplation of Your Son's sufferings and Passion, may we merit the reward promised to the suffering. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen*