



PART V

Lives of Saints

This section contains seventy-five lives of saints, blessed, and venerables. They are written specifically with RCIA participants in mind — explaining certain things in greater depth, and drawing out certain themes having to do with conversion, dealing with sin, deepening one's prayer and devotional life, handling adversities, and other aspects of holy lives that would be particularly edifying or helpful to those considering becoming Catholic.

The selection of these particular saints and other holy men and women is not intended to suggest that others are less applicable to a catechumenal situation. Instead, the intention is to present a suitable cross-section of our elder brothers and sisters in the faith, so that participants can gain a feel for the universal Church and the blessed variety of divine callings and heroic human responses.

These stories focus less upon the actions or deeds of a given person, and more upon the ways God called each of them, and the difficulty and beauty of each one's struggle to attain genuine sanctity. The stories can be given out on or near a feast day or as a means of giving emphasis to a certain teaching. Of course, as with the rest of this *Participant's Book*, RCIA leaders may opt to use these handouts weekly, less frequently, or not at all. This section is supported by several indexes that list the saints in alphabetical order, by feast day, by various biographical categories, and by century of death.

Declaration:

In accordance with the decree of Pope Urban VIII, we declare that in speaking of events, prodigies, and revelations in this work, we wish to accord them no other authority or belief than that which is usually given to narratives resting on merely human evidence and we in no way presume to pronounce on their authenticity or supernatural character, or to anticipate the judgment of the Holy See and the Sacred Congregation for the Causes of Saints, to which we unreservedly submit.