

SAINTS ANDREW KIM TAE-GON AND PAUL CHONG HA-SANG

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NOVENA TO SAINTS ANDREW KIM TAE-GON, PAUL CHONG HA-SANG AND COMPANIONS

Recited from: September 11th through September 19th (Ordinary Time)



Feast Day: September 20th

Novena

The word Novena derives it name from the Latin word "novem" meaning "nine." A novena can be either a private or public devotion in the Catholic Church to obtain special graces.

Novena to Andrew Kim Tae-Gon and Paul Chong Ha-Sang and Companions

O God,

You have created all nations and You are their salvation.

In the land of Korea Your call to Catholic faith formed a people of adoption, whose growth You nurtured by the blood of Andrew, Paul and their companions. Through their martyrdom and their intercession grant us strength that we too may remain faithful to your commandments even until death.

(Mention your request here)
Amen.

St. Andrew Kim Tae-Gon and St. Paul Chong Ha-Sang Pray for us!

St. Andrew Kim Tae-Gon was a priest and St. Paul Chong Ha-Sang was a lay person. These two martyrs represent 113 Catholics who died for their faith in Korea. They were proclaimed saints by Pope John Paul II during his visit to Korea in 1984.

Christianity reached Korea in the seventeenth century. It was brought there by lay people. The believers nourished their faith on the Word of God. They quietly grew and flourished. Missionary priests came from France. The Korean people were introduced to the sacramental life of the Church. Government persecutions took place, off and on, throughout the nineteenth century. A total of 103 Koreans were killed between 1839 and 1867. Ten members of the Foreign Mission Society of Paris were martyred, too, three bishops and seven priests. This brought the total to 113.

St. Andrew Kim Tae-Gon and St. Paul Chong Ha-Sang represent the glorious and courageous Korean Catholics who paid the price for their love for Christ. St. Andrew Kim Tae-Gon was the first Korean priest. He was martyred on September 16, 1846, just a year after his ordination. Andrew's father had been martyred in 1821. St. Paul Chong Ha-Sang was a heroic lay catechist. He was martyred on September 22, 1846.

Today the Church is growing rapidly in Korea. The gift of faith is being received because of the sacrifice of the martyrs who paved the way.

St. Andrew Kim died at the age 25. Patron saint of Korean clergy.

St. Paul Chong Ha-Sang died at the age 45