



# Book of Saints

***“SUPERHEROES OF GOD”***

By **REV. LAWRENCE G. LOVASIK, S.V.D.**

**Divine Word Missionary**

## **PART 9**

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NIHIL OBSTAT: Francis J. McAree, S.T.D., *Censor Librorum*

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Printed in China ISBN 978-0-89942-504-7

CPSIA February 2016 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1 L/P

# Saint Louis Mary Grignion de Montfort

April 28

**L**OUIS Mary Grignion is best known for spreading devotion to the Most Blessed Virgin Mary both through preaching and by the printed word.

He was born to a poor family at Montfort, France in 1673. Educated at the Jesuit College in Rennes, he was ordained a priest.

His first assignment was as chaplain to a hospital at Poitiers. During his stay there, Louis established a new congregation of nuns, the Daughters of Divine Wisdom.

Then Louis went to Rome and Pope Clement XI appointed him missionary apostolic, and he began to preach in Brittany.

His emotional style caused much reaction, but he was successful, especially in furthering devotion to the Most Blessed Virgin Mary through the Rosary. And he wrote a very popular book, *True Devotion to the Blessed Virgin*.

Later Louis founded the Missionaries of the Company of Mary known as the Montfort Fathers, and he died in 1716.



# Saint Teresa Benedicta of the Cross (Edith Stein)

August 9

**E**DITH Stein, born in 1891 in Breslau, Poland, was the youngest child of a large Jewish family. She had a brilliant mind and became a doctor of philosophy at age twenty-five.

At a friend's house she saw an autobiography of Saint Teresa of Avila. She read it in a single night and soon after was baptized a Catholic.

Eleven years later Edith entered the Carmel at Cologne. She put behind her the years as a renowned scholar to become a simple nun seeking only closer union with God. She is remembered as a very warm and cheerful person.

Because of the situation in Germany Edith, whose name in religion was Teresa Benedicta of the Cross, was sent to the Carmel at Echt, Holland.

When the Nazis conquered Holland, Teresa was arrested because of her Jewish origin. She was sent to the concentration camp at Auschwitz with her sister Rosa who also became a Catholic. They died together in the gas chamber in 1942. Teresa was declared a Saint in 1998.