Namesake Saints of Dignity Health-St. Rose Dominican

Each Dignity Health-St. Rose Dominican hospital is named for a Catholic saint whose life embodied values that inspire modern health care. The extraordinary compassion modeled by these three individuals continues to be a guiding presence to the employees of Dignity Health-St. Rose Dominican. The hospital system gets its name from the original campus, Rose de Lima, while the second and third hospital campuses adopted names of saints who served the sick and helpless – Siena after Catherine of Siena and San Martín after Martín de Porres.

Catherine of Siena, Saint (1347-1380)

Originally named Caterina Benincasa, Catherine of Siena was born in Siena, Italy, on March 25, 1347, to a family of modest means. She was a lay member of the Dominican Order and had great compassion for the poor and sick. Her preaching took the form of prolific writing, extensive travel and active involvement in both church and civil politics which was unusual for a woman of her time.

Catherine died on April 29, 1380, was canonized by Pope Pius II in 1461, and in 1939, Pope Pius XII named her Co-Patroness of Italy. In 1970, Pope Paul VI declared her a Doctor of the Church which means her teachings are considered relevant for the whole church and for all time. She is only one of three women who hold that title.

Rose de Lima, Saint (1586-1617)

Born April 20, 1586, Rose of Lima (Peru) lived two centuries after Catherine. She took the habit of the Third Order of Dominic and followed the dedicated path of Catherine of Siena. Throughout her life, Rose strived to imitate Catherine's prayerfulness and dedication to the poor and sick.

Rose was the first canonized saint of the Americas. She combined her spiritual life with a life of service to oppressed Indians and African slaves. Rose's care of them was so exceptional that she is remembered as a "mother of the poor" to this day in Latin America. Rose died August 30, 1617. She was beatified by Clement IX in 1667 and canonized in 1671 by Clement X.

Martin de Porres, Saint (1579-1639)

Martin de Porres was born in Lima, Peru, on December 9, 1579. Early in his life, Martin apprenticed with a surgeon-barber where he learned about medicine and the basics of caring for the sick and afflicted. Martin begged the wealthy people of Lima to support the poor and sick. At the age of 24, he was the first person of African descent to be given the habit of a Dominican lay Brother and he was assigned to the infirmary of that monastery. He served the people of Lima in that position until his death in 1639 at the age of 60.

Martin de Porres was well loved and his momentous dedication and service to others was recognized in 1962 when Pope John XXIII canonized him. Martin de Porres became the first saint of African descent.

About Dignity Health-St. Rose Dominican
Dignity Health-St. Rose Dominican is the only not-for-profit, religiously sponsored hospital system in southern Nevada and consists of three campuses – Rose de Lima, Siena and San Martín. As a mission driven hospital system, St. Rose is guided by the vision and core values of the Adrian Dominican Sisters and Dignity Health, a network of more than 300 care centers, including hospitals, urgent and occupational care, imaging centers, home health and primary care clinics. For more information, visit our website at www.strosehospitals.org or follow us on Facebook, Twitter, YouTube or our Blog.

Website: www.strosehospitals.org

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