

Albertus Magnus

Saint Name: St. Albert the Great

Dates: Born before 1200 – 1280 A.D.

Location: Bavaria

Feast Day: November 15

St. Albert the Great, born before the year 1200 AD, likely in Bavaria, is the patron of scientists, philosopher, medical technicians and the natural sciences. St. Albert the Great would come to be known as Albertus Magnus.

Albert was an educated man who attended the University of Padua, studying the writings of Aristotle. Around the year 1223, Albert experienced an encounter with the Blessed Virgin Mary which moved him so much that he joined the Dominican Order. He began studying theology and later became a lecturer for the Dominicans of Cologne. Albert was the first German Dominican to obtain a Master of Theology.



In 1254, Albert became the Provincial of the Dominical Order and five years later with Thomas Aquinas (another saint) and several others, Albert created a program of study for the Dominican Order and developed a curriculum for philosophy. From these programs and philosophy, the Pontifical University of Saint Thomas Aquinas (currently known as Angelicum) would arise in Rome. He was also the founder of the oldest university in Germany. In 1260, Pope Alexander IV appointed Albert as bishop of Regensburg; he resigned 3 years later because the life of a bishop did not agree with him.

Albert became ill in 1278 and died two years later. He was Beatified in 1622 by Pope Gregory XV and Canonized by Pope Pius XI in 1931, Since 1954, his remains have been protected in a Roman sarcophagus in the crypt of the Dominican St. Andreas Church in Cologne. His feast day is November 15.