

James Intercisus

Saint Name: Saint James Intercisus

AKA James the Mutilated

Dates: 3rd Century – 421 AD

Location: Persia

Feast Day: November 27

James Intercisus was born in the early 5th century in Persia of Christian beliefs; he is also known as James the Mutilated. He was a soldier and courtier of King Yesdigerd I (Sasanian Empire). When King Yesdigerd launched a persecution of Christians, James renounced his faith for fear of death. Upon the death of King Yesdigerd I, James's family beseeched him to reestablish his Christian faith. Through much prayer and soul searching, James gave himself thoroughly to God. Wanting to make amends for denying his faith, he confessed his Christianity to the new king, Bahram, and was condemned to death. James's surname, Intercisus, means cut to pieces - it was given to him because of the manner of his death. His body was slowly cut into 28 pieces, beginning with his fingers, then his toes, hands, and other body parts to follow until finally he was beheaded. The crowd, many Christians, urged James to renounce his faith and worship the sun because they could not bear to see him suffer such excruciating torture; however, he never did.



James Intercisus is the patron saint of lost vocations and torture victims. As a martyr, James was proclaimed a saint by early Christians. Canonization did not begin until the 12th century. His feast day is November 27.