

## St Verena's Life of Love and Service



**S** t Verena was born in Upper Egypt, in the third century. Father Sheramon baptized her and she grew up in the fear and love of God.

She loved to pray, read the Holy Bible, and serve in the Church. She sewed vestments for the priests and deacons. **St Verena** would also clean and sweep the floor of the Church. She loved any church related service.

She loved to go to Church to partake of the Holy Communion. From her heart, she practiced repentance and confession regularly.

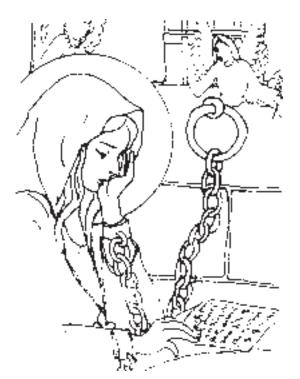
During the reign of Emperor
Diocletian, the emperor sent
an army to Europe under
the leadership of St
Moritz. St Verena
accompanied them as





a young nurse to help care for the wounded soldiers.

The wicked emperor Diocletian wanted St Moritz to worship the idols. But St Moritz loved the Lord Jesus and refused to worship the idols. The emperor became furious and ordered the soldiers to behead St Moritz and every tenth soldier in the army as well. **St Verena** strengthened the believers so they would not deny their faith.





Upon learning of her zealousness, the emperor ordered that **St Verena** be put into prison. She continued to pray to the Lord Jesus Christ and read the Holy Bible. In the middle of the night, St Moritz accompanied by some angels, appeared to her and encouraged her.

5





The Roman governor was very sick with a high fever so his assistants recommended that perhaps he should ask for the help of **St Verena**. She prayed for the pagan Roman governor and right away, he became well. He was very pleased and thanked her. To repay her for her kindness and good deed, he asked that she be released from prison.

After **St Verena**'s release from prison, she lived with her friends in a cave. One day, they ran completely out of food. They prayed to God asking for his help. God answered their prayers and someone delivered them forty barrels of wheat.

Next, **St Verena** lived in a house by the Church, where she taught the people hygiene, that is, how to care for their bodies by showering and combing their hair daily. She taught them cleanliness and how to have physical fitness. As she cared for others, she always taught them the Christian faith and the love of the Lord Jesus Christ.

She love to visit the sick and provide for all those needing care.





One day, **St Verena**, became very sick to the point of death. Our beloved St Mary, along with some angels, appeared to **St Verena** and took her pure soul up to Heaven to her Heavenly Bridegroom. A fragrant aroma of incense filled her room as she left behind this earthly life. She departed in the year 344 AD.

May the prayers of **St Verena** be with us all.

