

Name _____

ABC'S WITH SAINT Monica

Directions: Cut out the words below that describe Saint Monica and her life and put them in alphabetical order. To put them in the right order, match the first letter of the word you cut out to the box with the letter in it.

A
M
P
S
T
W



St. Monica,
pray for us!

mother	wife	prayer
Africa	traveled	saint

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Saint Monica

Word Search

M	O	Q	A	U	P	R	A	Y	E	R
I	M	O	T	H	E	R	Z	K	Y	D
T	P	M	R	A	L	S	A	I	N	T
A	D	L	A	W	R	T	U	G	U	H
F	B	N	V	J	N	F	G	O	A	W
R	C	I	E	L	Y	W	U	J	V	I
I	G	V	L	O	V	E	S	L	I	F
C	O	R	E	U	S	N	T	E	C	E
A	D	P	D	M	O	N	I	C	A	Y
E	C	A	H	J	N	B	N	V	Q	B
I	T	A	L	Y	O	J	E	S	U	S

Monica
mother
wife

Africa
traveled
saint

prayer
Italy
Augustine

Saint Monica

ST. MONICA'S STORY

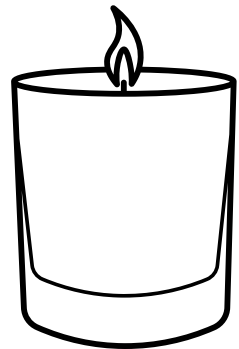
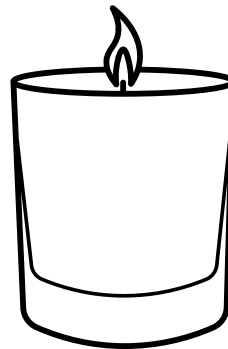
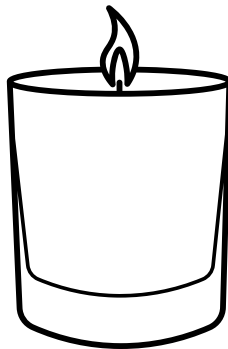
St. Monica born in northern Africa in 331, in the town of Thagaste. She was born in a wealthy family with strong Christian traditions. She became a wife and mother and constantly prayed for her family. She prayed for many years for her son, Augustine. She wanted him to be a follower and believer of Jesus. She trusted God even when things were difficult.

Because of her prayers and faithfulness, Augustine eventually became a Christian and later, a saint! St. Augustine is one of the greatest saints in the Church. He wrote many books about our faith that the Church still holds dearly today. He traveled to Italy to teach others about God and St. Monica joined him. She reminds us that God hears every one of our prayers.

St. Monica, pray for us!



*St. Monica prayed for her family.
Inside the candles, draw or write
something or someone that you
wish to pray for.*



QUIZ *Circle the correct answer for each question.*

1. St. Monica is known for her _____.
 - a) jewelry
 - b) castle
 - c) prayers
2. Who was her famous son?
 - a) Augustine
 - b) Peter
 - c) Luke
3. What did she pray for?
 - a) a kingdom
 - b) her family
 - c) gold
4. How can we be more like St. Monica?
 - a) praying daily
 - b) being selfish
 - c) ignoring others

Saint Monica



Saint Monica was born within the Roman Empire in Northern Africa around 331. She is venerated as the devout mother of one of the greatest saints -- Saint Augustine of Hippo.

As a young woman, Monica was given in marriage to Patricius, a mean-tempered pagan Roman official who disliked Monica's piety.

He and their oldest son, Augustine, were not religious, but Monica prayed fervently for each of their conversions. At the end of his life, Patricius finally converted to Christianity and died shortly after his baptism.

Saint Augustine was away studying rhetoric at the time of his father's death and disappointed Monica with the news that he had joined a Christian heretical group.

A year later, he and the woman he was dating had a child. At first, Monica banned him from their home, but then she saw him in a vision as a bishop. From then on, she stayed close to Augustine following him from Africa to Milan, Italy. There, she continued to pray for her son's conversion.

Augustine met and studied with Saint Ambrose and others until an encounter with God convinced him to leave his life of sin and become a baptized Christian along with his son and close friends. Saint Monica was overjoyed! Her prayers were finally answered.

She died on August 27, 387, as a joyful mother on their return journey to Africa months later. She is known as the patron saint of mothers, wives, difficult marriages, and conversion, especially of children who have left the faith.

St. Monica, pray for us!

• LESSON REVIEW

1. How did Saint Monica help convert her husband and son to Christianity?

2. How did Saint Monica help convert her husband and son to Christianity?

3. How can you be merciful to members of your family as Saint Monica was merciful?

4. Why do you think her life and faith make her a fitting patron saint for the causes listed?
