



ST. RAINERIUS, JUNE 17

He was born to a good family in Pisa, Italy, in the 1100s. He became wealthy working in his father's business trading and traveling between ports. He was a musician and spent his time as a young adult eating, drinking, and playing music through the night at parties.

One day, while performing for a crowd in a castle, he met a monk from a nearby monastery. Rainerius was drawn into conversation with the man, captivated by the witness of his life of prayer and dedication to God. The encounter inspired a profound conversion in Rainerius, and he left his instruments to pursue a life of faithfulness.

His travels took him to the Holy Land. There he received a sign or vision that convinced him that his wealth was holding him back from giving his life entirely to God. So, one day he gave away all of his belongings, even his shoes. He begged for what he needed. His friends mocked him, and his parents worried that he had lost his mind, but he had discovered single-minded faithfulness. He stayed in the Holy Land for seven years, visiting shrines and doing penance, and then he returned to Pisa.

Rainerius became famous for working wonders. Once, he was threatened by wild beasts, but tamed them with the sign of the cross. He met a woman who fed the poor with her bread, and he multiplied her loaves. He cured many people who were sick by using holy water.

He died in 1160 and is patron saint of Pisa and musicians. His relics rest in the reliquary chapel in the Basilica.

St. Rainerius,
you were the
musician who was
inspired to leave the
party scene and give
your life to God,
pray for us!



FLORIDA