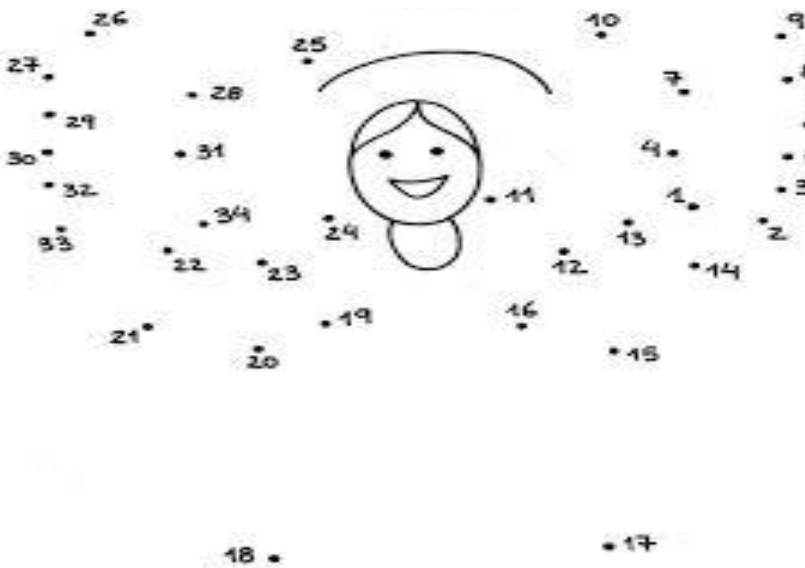




### St. Mathew, Apostle and Evangelist



Connect the dots starting from 1 through 34 to see the image that often appears with St. Matthew.



#### **Did you know...**

St. Matthew is often drawn with this figure because his gospel begins with Jesus' genealogy and the story of the angel and St. Joseph.

The name of Matthew means "gift from God", but they also called him Levi, son of Alphaeus.

Mathew was Jewish, from Galilee, and he worked in the city of Capharnaum. His profession was hated by the Jews because he collected taxes and tributes for the Romans.

His peers considered him a traitor to his people for working for the pagans and foreign dictators. He was known as Matthew the tax collector.

One day, Jesus looked at him and said: "Leave everything and follow me."

Matthew abandoned his house, his work, his parties and declared himself a disciple of Jesus. He accompanied Jesus to all the cities, towns, and places where He preached.

Matthew was the first to write the book called "The Gospel", which means the "good news". It is the Gospel of the Kingdom of God which Jesus initiated. Supposedly, it was written in Aramaic, the popular language that Jesus spoke. It was later translated to Greek, for the faithful that did not speak any other language.

It is thought that Matthew visited Ethiopia where he did many miracles and converted its royal family, the court, and its people. He probably also preached in Persia. According to ancient tradition, he was martyred the 21 of September in the first century.

According to St. Clement, St. Matthew was the first to introduce the use of holy water to the faithful.

Feast Day: September 21<sup>st</sup>.