



St. Francis de Sales



“Be who you are and be that well.”



Did you know that St. Francis de Sales is the patron saint of the Archdiocese of Cincinnati?

Francis loved God from a young age and knew he had a vocation to the priesthood. At first he ignored his priestly vocation because his father wanted him to study politics. Francis got his law degree, but continued to study theology. One day, when Francis was horse-riding, he fell off his horse three times. Each time, his sword and sheath landed in the shape of a cross. He took this as a sign from God to stop ignoring his true vocation and became a priest.

During this time, the Protestant reformation was also happening. Francis felt a strong call to evangelization and to bring people back to the Catholic Church.

He had a photographic memory and used it to play card games with Protestants. He would start out with an easy hand, and eventually work his way up to a difficult hand. People would bet their money and lose the game. However, Francis was compassionate and didn't really want their money. He gave the losing players the option to go to Mass that Sunday to listen to his homily instead of giving up their money. Francis won a lot of souls back to the Catholic Church with this technique.

Pray through the intercession of St. Francis de Sales for confidence to be who God created you to be, as well as for the future of the Church in the Archdiocese of Cincinnati.

CUT THIS PAGE IN HALF TO HANG YOUR MASTERPIECE ON THE FRIDGE OR WALL!

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card games cross evangelize francis de sales
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