

St. Januarius of Naples

Born: Benevento, Italy or Naples, Italy (records vary)

Died: martyred c.304 at Naples, Italy or Pozzuoli, Italy (sources vary), first thrown to wild bests, when the animals would not attack him, he was beheaded

Patronage: against volcanic eruptions, blood banks, Benevento, Italy, diocese of Naples, Italy, archdiocese of, Naples, Italy

Feast day: September 19

Fourth century bishop of Benevento, Italy during the persecutions of Diocletian. Arrested while visiting imprisoned deacons, and then martyred with them.

His blood was preserved, and dried. Since at least 1389, on his feast day, and on the Satuday before the first Sunday in May, the blood liquefies.