

St. Anne

Canonized: devotion is Pre-Congregation, cultus extended to the whole Church in 1584 Name Meaning gracious one; grace

Patronage: against poverty, against sterility or infertility, broommakers, cabinetmakers, carpenters, childless people, equestrians, expectant mothers; pregnant women, grandmothers, grandparents, homemakers, horse men and women, housewives; homemakers, lace makers or workers, lost articles, miners, mothers, old-clothes dealers, poor people, pregnancy, riders, seamstresses, stablemen, turners, women in labour, Canada, France, Micmaqs, dioceses, 18 cities.

Mother of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Grandmother of Jesus Christ. Wife of Saint Joachim. Probably well off. Tradition says that Anne was quite elderly when Mary was born, and that she was their only child. The belief that Anne remained a virgin in the conception and birth of Mary was condemned by the Vatican in 1677. Believed to have given Mary to the service of the Temple when the girl was three years old. Devotion to her has been popular in the East from the very early days of the Church; widespread devotion in the West began in the 16th century, but many shrines have developed since.