

pocket dictionary of saints john j delaney

Pocket Dictionary of Saints John J Delaney: A Guide to Holiness and Inspiration

pocket dictionary of saints john j delaney is more than just a book; it is a treasure trove for anyone interested in the lives of saints and the rich tapestry of Christian history. This compact reference offers readers a fascinating glimpse into the world of saints, their stories, virtues, and the legacies they left behind. Whether you are a theology student, a casual reader, or someone seeking spiritual inspiration, John J. Delaney's work provides an accessible and enlightening resource.

Exploring the Pocket Dictionary of Saints John J Delaney

John J. Delaney's pocket dictionary stands out as one of the most user-friendly and comprehensive guides to saints available in a small format. Its popularity stems from the way it balances depth and brevity, offering concise yet informative entries on hundreds of saints from various traditions and eras.

The book's design caters to readers who want quick access to essential facts without wading through lengthy biographies. This makes it ideal for educators, clergy, or anyone curious about the saints' feast days, patronages, and historical contexts.

What Makes This Dictionary Unique?

Unlike larger encyclopedic volumes that can overwhelm readers with detail, Delaney's pocket dictionary distills the essence of each saint's life into clear, digestible paragraphs. The entries typically include:

- The saint's full name and any known aliases
- Dates and places of birth and death
- Notable deeds or miracles attributed to them
- Feast days and liturgical significance
- Patronages and symbols associated with the saint

This structure helps readers quickly identify saints relevant to their interests or particular needs, such as finding a patron saint for a specific profession or cause.

The Importance of Saints in Christian Tradition

To fully appreciate the value of the pocket dictionary of saints John J Delaney compiled, it's helpful to understand the role saints play in Christian spirituality. Saints are often viewed as exemplars of faith, courage, and charity, providing models for believers to emulate.

Saints as Spiritual Role Models

Throughout history, saints have inspired countless individuals through their dedication to God, acts of compassion, and sometimes martyrdom. Learning about their lives can offer encouragement and guidance in one's own spiritual journey.

Patron Saints and Their Significance

One of the most fascinating aspects covered in Delaney's dictionary is the concept of patron saints. These saints are believed to intercede on behalf of people or groups associated with particular causes, occupations, or locations. For example:

- Saint Anthony of Padua is the patron saint of lost items.
- Saint Cecilia is the patroness of musicians.
- Saint Christopher is invoked for safe travel.

Having a handy reference like the pocket dictionary makes it easier to find the right saint for personal prayers or special intentions.

Using the Pocket Dictionary of Saints John J Delaney in Daily Life

This dictionary is not just for academic purposes; it's a practical tool for everyday spiritual enrichment. Here are some ways to incorporate it into your routine:

Daily Saint Readings

Many people enjoy reading about the saint of the day as part of their morning or evening devotions. The pocket dictionary allows for quick lookups of the day's saint, including a brief biography and the significance of their feast day.

Inspiration for Naming

Choosing a name for a child or a confirmation name often involves selecting a saint to emulate. Delaney's dictionary provides a wealth of options with background information that can help parents or confirmands make an informed and meaningful choice.

Enhancing Religious Education

Teachers and catechists find the pocket dictionary invaluable for preparing lessons about saints. The

concise entries allow for easy integration into classroom discussions, helping students connect historical facts with spiritual lessons.

About John J. Delaney: The Author Behind the Dictionary

Understanding the author's background enriches the appreciation of the pocket dictionary of saints John J. Delaney created. Father John J. Delaney was a respected Catholic priest and scholar with a deep interest in hagiography—the study of saints.

Delaney's approach to writing about saints reflects his commitment to making their stories accessible and relevant to modern readers. His work is characterized by clarity, accuracy, and a pastoral sensitivity that invites readers to see saints not as distant figures, but as approachable models of faith.

Delaney's Contribution to Catholic Literature

Beyond the pocket dictionary of saints, Delaney authored several other works focused on Catholic history and spirituality. His efforts have helped bridge the gap between scholarly research and lay understanding, making rich religious traditions more approachable.

How the Pocket Dictionary of Saints Compares to Other References

When considering resources on saints, readers might wonder how Delaney's pocket dictionary stacks up against other popular works like Butler's *Lives of the Saints* or the *Roman Martyrology*.

Conciseness vs. Detail

While Butler's *Lives* offers extensive biographies that can span several pages per saint, Delaney's dictionary prioritizes brevity without sacrificing essential information. This makes it better suited for quick reference or casual reading.

Accessibility

Delaney's work is often praised for its straightforward language and clear organization, making it accessible to readers of all ages and backgrounds. This contrasts with some scholarly texts that may use more complex theological language.

Portability

As the name suggests, the pocket dictionary is compact and easy to carry, perfect for those who want a reliable spiritual reference on the go.

Tips for Getting the Most Out of Your Pocket Dictionary of Saints John J Delaney

To fully benefit from this valuable resource, consider the following suggestions:

- **Keep it handy:** Whether at home, church, or on a retreat, having the dictionary nearby allows spontaneous exploration of saints' lives.
- **Combine with prayer:** Use entries as prompts for prayer or reflection, deepening your connection to the saints' virtues.
- **Use it for gift-giving:** The pocket dictionary makes a thoughtful and meaningful present for friends, family, or members of your parish.
- **Supplement with online resources:** For deeper study, cross-reference with online databases or official Church documents.

Exploring Saints Beyond the Dictionary

While Delaney's pocket dictionary offers a solid foundation, the world of saints is vast and continually growing. New saints are canonized regularly, and local devotion often highlights lesser-known figures with inspiring stories.

Engaging with the dictionary can serve as a springboard for further exploration—whether through pilgrimages to shrines, reading hagiographies, or participating in saint-related community events.

The pocket dictionary of saints John J Delaney brings the lives of these holy individuals closer to readers, encouraging a deeper appreciation of their faith, struggles, and triumphs. It's a tool that not only informs but also inspires, making the stories of saints accessible to all who seek guidance or simply wish to learn more about these remarkable figures.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the 'Pocket Dictionary of Saints' by John J. Delaney?

The 'Pocket Dictionary of Saints' by John J. Delaney is a compact reference book that provides brief biographies and information about the lives of various saints recognized by the Catholic Church.

Who is the author John J. Delaney?

John J. Delaney was a Catholic priest and scholar known for his extensive work in hagiography, particularly for compiling accessible references about saints.

What makes the 'Pocket Dictionary of Saints' unique compared to other saint dictionaries?

Its concise format allows readers to quickly find essential information about a wide range of saints, making it practical for everyday use and study.

How many saints are covered in the 'Pocket Dictionary of Saints' by John J. Delaney?

The dictionary includes brief entries on over 1,000 saints, offering a broad overview of their lives, feast days, and key contributions.

Is the 'Pocket Dictionary of Saints' suitable for both scholars and general readers?

Yes, the dictionary is designed to be user-friendly for both scholars seeking quick references and general readers interested in learning about saints.

What kind of information does each entry in the 'Pocket Dictionary of Saints' provide?

Each entry typically includes the saint's name, feast day, a short biography, major accomplishments, and sometimes patronages or symbols associated with them.

Can the 'Pocket Dictionary of Saints' by John J. Delaney be used for religious education?

Absolutely, it is a valuable resource for catechists, students, and anyone involved in religious education who needs reliable information about saints.

Is the 'Pocket Dictionary of Saints' available in digital formats?

While primarily available in print, some editions or similar works by John J. Delaney may be found in digital formats or online bookstores.

How often is the 'Pocket Dictionary of Saints' updated or revised?

Updates depend on new editions released by the publisher; however, the core content remains relevant as it covers historical saints and established feast days.

Additional Resources

Pocket Dictionary of Saints John J Delaney: An Analytical Review

pocket dictionary of saints john j delaney stands as a noteworthy reference work for anyone interested in hagiography, religious studies, or the lives of the saints. This compact volume by John J. Delaney aims to provide readers with concise yet informative entries on a wide array of saints recognized in Christian traditions. It has garnered significant attention among scholars, clergy, and lay readers seeking a reliable and accessible resource about the individuals who have shaped Christian spirituality over centuries.

Overview of the Pocket Dictionary of Saints John J Delaney

John J. Delaney's Pocket Dictionary of Saints is designed to be a quick-reference guide that fits comfortably in a pocket or handbag, making it convenient for students, researchers, and devout readers alike. Unlike voluminous encyclopedias or exhaustive tomes on saints, this dictionary offers succinct biographies and relevant details for approximately 1,000 saints from various periods and regions.

One of the most distinctive features of this dictionary is its balance between scholarly precision and reader-friendly language. While maintaining accuracy, Delaney avoids overly technical theological jargon, thus enhancing accessibility for a broader audience. The entries typically include the saint's birth and death dates, feast day, patronage, and a brief account of their life and significance.

In-depth Analysis of the Content and Structure

The Pocket Dictionary of Saints by John J. Delaney is organized alphabetically, which facilitates quick look-ups. Each entry is carefully curated to highlight essential aspects of a saint's life and legacy without overwhelming the reader with unnecessary detail. The dictionary covers saints from early Christianity to modern times, including well-known figures like St. Francis of Assisi and lesser-known saints such as St. Zita.

The inclusion of patronages is particularly useful for readers interested in the practical relevance of saints in everyday life, especially for those seeking intercessors for specific causes or professions. For example, St. Cecilia is noted as the patron saint of musicians, and St. Christopher is traditionally invoked for safe travel.

Comparative Value Against Other Saints' References

When compared to other popular references, such as "Butler's Lives of the Saints" or "The Oxford Dictionary of Saints," John J. Delaney's pocket dictionary is distinctively compact and portable. While Butler's work is renowned for its comprehensive and detailed volumes, it is less practical for casual or quick consultation. Similarly, the Oxford Dictionary offers authoritative scholarship but can be dense and less accessible for the average reader.

Delaney's dictionary strikes a middle ground, offering enough detail to satisfy curiosity and academic interest while maintaining brevity and clarity. This makes it highly suitable for classroom use, sermon preparation, or personal enrichment.

Usability and Design Considerations

The physical design of the Pocket Dictionary of Saints is intentionally minimalist. The paperback edition typically features a durable cover and a readable typeface, balancing portability with durability. The layout avoids clutter; entries are spaced well, and the use of bolded names and feast days helps users quickly scan pages.

Additionally, the dictionary includes a helpful introduction explaining the criteria for inclusion and the historical context for venerating saints. This contextual framing enriches the reader's understanding of the entries and the evolving role of sainthood in Christian tradition.

Pros and Cons of the Pocket Dictionary of Saints John J Delaney

- **Pros:**

- Concise and accessible entries suitable for a wide audience
- Comprehensive coverage of over 1,000 saints from different traditions
- Includes practical information such as feast days and patronages
- Portable size and user-friendly layout
- Balanced tone that is both respectful and informative

- **Cons:**

- Limited depth for readers seeking exhaustive theological analysis

- Some lesser-known saints receive only minimal entries, which might leave researchers wanting more
- Absence of extensive bibliographies or references for further study

Target Audience and Practical Applications

The Pocket Dictionary of Saints by John J. Delaney caters primarily to those who require a reliable and succinct reference. Its users range from theology students and clergy preparing sermons to devout Catholics and Orthodox Christians who incorporate the lives of saints into their devotional practices.

The dictionary's portability makes it an ideal companion during pilgrimages, religious studies courses, or casual reading. It also serves well as an introductory text for those newly exploring Christian hagiography or the historical development of saint veneration.

Integrating the Pocket Dictionary within Broader Religious Scholarship

While the Pocket Dictionary of Saints is not intended as a definitive scholarly resource, it complements larger academic works by providing quick access to essential facts and context. Its utility lies in bridging the gap between comprehensive hagiographical volumes and casual religious references.

For researchers and enthusiasts looking for an overview or starting point, Delaney's dictionary functions as an effective gateway to the vast and diverse world of saints. Its coverage of saints from multiple Christian denominations—including Roman Catholic, Eastern Orthodox, and Anglican traditions—reflects a commendable ecumenical awareness, making it inclusive for readers of various backgrounds.

In the digital age, where information overload can be daunting, such a compact and curated resource is valuable for maintaining clarity and focus. It also serves as a useful tool for educators designing coursework or for writers and journalists seeking accurate saintly profiles.

John J. Delaney's Pocket Dictionary of Saints offers a practical and respectful approach to the study of saints, balancing brevity with informative content. Its thoughtful organization, accessibility, and range make it a trusted companion for anyone wishing to explore the rich tapestry of Christian saintly heritage without the intimidation of exhaustive academic texts. While it may not satisfy the needs of specialist scholars seeking in-depth theological critique or historical minutiae, it excels as a pocket-sized reference that informs, inspires, and educates.

Pocket Dictionary Of Saints John J Delaney

pocket dictionary of saints john j delaney: Pocket Dictionary of Saints John J. Delaney, 2012-05-09 This specially abridged edition of the Dictionary of Saints is a readable, detailed compendium of the facts and fables, legends and lore of the saints venerated by the universal church--1,500 entries in all.

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pocket dictionary of saints john j delaney: Pocket Dictionary of Saints John J. Delaney, 1983

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When Thomas asked him 'How can we know the way?' Jesus replied, 'I am the way, the truth and the life.' This book will serve as a guide for all who seek to walk with Jesus on their Christian journey. This book gradually leads one through the many layers of Catholic Christianity as the way, the truth and the life.

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2015-07-07 A "contagiously exuberant" celebration of Italian food, culture, and history that "will be the companion of visitors for years to come" (The Washington Post Book World). In an absorbing journey down the Italian peninsula, essayist, journalist, and fiction writer Barbara Grizzuti Harrison, offers a fascinating mixture of history, politics, folklore, food, architecture, arts, and literature, studded with local anecdotes and personal reflections. From fashionable Milan to historic Rome and primitive, brooding Calabria, Harrison reveals her country of origin in all its beauty, peculiarity, and glory. Italian Days is the story of a return home; of friends, family, and faith; and of the search for the good life that propels all of us on our journeys wherever we are. "Harrison's wonderful journal will make you update your passport and dream of subletting your job, home, etc. . . . With Harrison, you never know with whom you'll be lunching, or climbing down a ruin. You just know you want to be there." —Glamour

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Assassinations often change the course of history. Here is an intriguing look at dozens of notable assassinations and attempts throughout history, including complete details about the assassin, the victim, the circumstances of the attack, and the outcome. In the Crosshairs also features photos of many of the victims or would-be victims, and rare archival material, including excerpts from original police reports. High-profile celebrities, political figures, religious leaders, and many others have fallen prey to assassins, and many have survived. In the Crosshairs is arranged in alphabetical order,

by last name, and includes such details as: On November 8, 1939, Adolf Hitler narrowly escaped an assassination attempt – 12 minutes after he left a room where he was making a speech, a bomb went off. Egyptian President Anwar el-Sadat would probably have survived the assassin's bullet on October 6, 1981, if he hadn't taken off his bulletproof vest – but he didn't like the way it made his suit bulge. Robert John Bardo, the murderer of young actress Rebecca Schaeffer, carried with him to the crime scene a copy of J. D. Sallinger's *The Catcher in the Rye*, just like Mark David Chapman did when he murdered John Lennon nearly nine years earlier. From notable murders (Abraham Lincoln, Gianni Versace, and Indira Gandhi) to little-known attempts (George W. Bush, Wild Bill Hickock, and Andy Warhol) here is a surprising, informative, and intriguing book that deserves to be on every history buff's bookshelf. Skyhorse Publishing, as well as our Arcade imprint, are proud to publish a broad range of books for readers interested in history--books about World War II, the Third Reich, Hitler and his henchmen, the JFK assassination, conspiracies, the American Civil War, the American Revolution, gladiators, Vikings, ancient Rome, medieval times, the old West, and much more. While not every title we publish becomes a New York Times bestseller or a national bestseller, we are committed to books on subjects that are sometimes overlooked and to authors whose work might not otherwise find a home.

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pocket dictionary of saints john j delaney: *Dr. Bizarro's Eclectic Collection of Strange and Obscure Facts* Stephen Spignesi, 2018-04-10 Weirdness abounds in this unprecedented compilation of peculiar facts, including forms of divination, bizarre tortures, invasive medical tests, celebrity UFO sightings, crucified saviors other than Jesus, banned books, elements of a near death experience, curious tourist attractions, ridiculous sex laws, and much more. Dr. Bizarro's Eclectic Collection of Strange and Obscure Facts is a fascinating and irresistible compendium of bizarre info and trivia that will engage and surprise every reader.

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pocket dictionary of saints john j delaney: *The Comprehensive Dictionary of Patron Saints* Pablo Ricardo Quintana, 2014-06-30 If you're unsure of which patron saint to call on when confronting obstacles, then you need this ready reference. Arranged alphabetically by subject and by saint, it includes thousands of listings and hundreds of holy advocates. You'll discover one hundred and fifty titles for the Blessed Virgin Mary resulting in more than seven thousand invocations. You'll learn about saints from the British Isles, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Mexico, New Mexico, Northern Europe, South America, Spain, and elsewhere. Almost every country has a patron saint, and some have several. The saint most commonly invoked for particular needs is marked by bold script, but you'll also become acquainted with lesser-known saints that you can invoke. You'll find patrons for sinners, such as thieves; patrons for children, including by gender and type; patrons for various types of animals; patrons for different ailments; and many more. The *Comprehensive Dictionary of Patron Saints* is invaluable for authors, churches, libraries, and the faithful seeking to conduct research, answer questions, and overcome life's most difficult challenges.

pocket dictionary of saints john j delaney: *A Legacy of Preaching: Two-Volume Set---Apostles to the Present Day* Zondervan,, 2018-12-11 *A Legacy of Preaching, Two-Volume Set---Apostles to the*

Present Day explores the history and development of preaching through a biographical and theological examination of its most important preachers. Instead of teaching the history of preaching from the perspective of movements and eras, each contributor tells the story of a particular preacher in history, allowing these preachers from the past to come alive and instruct us through their lives, theologies, and methods of preaching. Each chapter introduces readers to a key figure in the history of preaching, followed by an analysis of the theological views that shaped their preaching, their methodology of sermon preparation and delivery, and an appraisal of the significant contributions they have made to the history of preaching. This diverse collection of familiar and lesser-known individuals provides a detailed and fascinating look at what it has meant to communicate the gospel over the past two thousand years. By looking at how the gospel has been communicated over time and across different cultures, pastors, scholars, and homiletics students can enrich their own understanding and practice of preaching for application today. Volume One covers the period from the apostles to the Puritans and profiles thirty preachers including: Origen of Alexandria by Stephen O. Presley John Chrysostom by Paul A. Hartog Augustine of Hippo by Edward L. Smither Gregory the Great by W. Brian Shelton Bernard of Clairvaux by Elizabeth Hoare Francis of Assisi by Timothy D. Holder Saint Bonaventure by G. R. Evans Meister Eckhart by Daniel Farca? John Huss by Mark A. Howell Martin Luther by Robert Kolb John Calvin by Anthony N. S. Lane Jonathan Edwards by Gerald R. McDermott John Wesley by Michael Pasquarello III George Whitefield by Bill Curtis and Timothy McKnight and many more Volume Two covers the period from the Enlightenment to the present day and profiles thirty-one preachers including: Catherine Booth by Roger J. Green Charles Haddon Spurgeon by Thomas J. Nettles Henry Ward Beecher by Michael Duduit John Albert Broadus by Hershael W. York D. L. Moody by Gregg L. Quiggle Billy Sunday by Kristopher K. Barnett Karl Barth by William H. Willimon Dietrich Bonhoeffer by Keith W. Clements D. Martyn Lloyd-Jones by Carl Trueman John Stott by Greg R. Scharf Harry Emerson Fosdick by Dwayne Milioni Aimee Semple McPherson by Aaron Friesen Gardner C. Taylor by Alfonza W. Fulwood and Robert Smith Jr. Billy Graham by John N. Akers Martin Luther King Jr. by Alfonza W. Fulwood, Dennis R. McDonald, and Anil Sook Deo J. I. Packer by Leland Ryken and Benjamin Hernández and many more

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Duke University. Written with largely uneducated rural congregations in mind, John Mirk's Festial became the most popular vernacular sermon collection of late-medieval England, yet until relatively recently it has been neglected by scholars -- despite the fact that the question of popular access to the Bible, undoubtedly regarded as the preserve of learned culture, along with the related issue of the relative authority of written text and tradition, is at the heart of both late-medieval heresy and the resultant reformulation of orthodoxy. It offers, in fact, an unparalleled opportunity to analyze the religious ideology communicated by the orthodox church to the vast majority of people in fourteenth-century England: the ordinary country folk. This book represents the first major examination of the Festial, looking in particular at the issues of popular culture and piety; the oral tradition; biblical and secular authority; and clerical power. JUDY ANN FORD is Associate Professor in the History Department of Texas A&M University-Commerce.

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Medici, Garibaldi, Rudolph Giuliani, and Benito Mussolini, and geniuses of music, theater, and film such as Vivaldi, Puccini, Pavarotti, Fellini, Scorsese, and Sinatra. The Italian 100 also highlights less-familiar figures who have left legacies of equal magnitude, such as Guido of Arezzo, who invented the musical staff; Leonardo Fibonacci, who introduced Arabic numerals to the Western world; Saint Fabiola, the Roman matron credited with cofounding the first public hospital in Western Europe; and Bartolommeo Cristofori, inventor of the modern piano. Part cultural companion, part historical reference, and part celebration, The Italian 100 is a fresh and sometimes controversial look at a people who, throughout more than fifteen centuries, have had an enormous and profound effect on every aspect of the modern world.

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