

Saint Agata



Introduction

Saint Agata is a martyr of the Catholic Church and she is the mostly venerated, in fact, she is the patron saint of Catania

It is believed that she was born around 231 b.C. in Catania, so, in Sicily, to a rich and noble family

From her very early years, she dedicated her life to God, she had an active role in the local Church and she prepared children to receive sacraments.

Although she became a church woman, she was desired by plenty of men, but she remained faithful



The helpful of the faith in God

One of the men who desired Agata, was Quintianus.

He was a diplomatic ranking man, so, he thought he could force her to marry him, however she never lost her confidence in God.

He decided to imprison her to change her mind and he tortured her.

He left her on burning coals, he cut the breast and he left her starving for many days, despite all her pain, Agata never stopped praying and trusting in God





The celebration of Saint Agata

In Catania, Saint Agata is celebrated during the first week of February, from the third to the fifth

The first day it begins with procession from Duomo of Catania to Stesigoro's place during which there is the parade of carriages and at the end of the day fire works display

The second day starts with the mass and then Agata is carried around the city to be adored by churchgoers

The last day she is returned to the Church after the last race

The celebration of Saint Agata



The typical desserts of Saint Agata

The typical desserts are “minnuzze ri sant’aita” and “olivette”, which are sold by bakeries along the main streets of Catania

The “minnuzze ri sant’aita” are pastries made of “ricotta” and candied fruit

The “olivette” are pastries made of almond paste and sugar and they are green coloured



Thanks for the attention!

We hope to have you in Catania as soon as possible!