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(ST BARBARA)

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*Zum 20jährigen Bestehen unseres
Instituts*

1959

1979

Fraunhofer – Institut
für Treib- und Explosivstoffe

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'P. ...', is written over the printed title of the Institute Director.

Institutsleiter

Heilige Barbara

(lat. Die Fremde)

Legende

Barbara, die Tochter des reichen Dioskoros (Dioskuros) aus Nikomedia in Kleinasien, wurde 306 (317, 337) unter Kaiser Maximinus Daja für ihr Bekenntnis zum Christentum zum Tode verurteilt und vom eigenen Vater enthauptet. Darauf wurde Dioskoros vom Blitzstrahl getötet.

Brauchtum

Barbara wird bei uns als Schutzheilige und Patronin der Bergleute, Artilleristen, Türmer und aller Zünfte bzw. Berufsgruppen, die mit Feuer, Blitz, Donner und damit mit Sprengstoff und Schießpulver gefährvollen Umgang pflegen, verehrt und gefeiert. Bildnisse der Hl. Barbara finden wir in Zeughäusern, Pulvermagazinen und Munitionskammern. (Sainte Barbe)

Kunst

Die Barbara-Darstellung wird heute nicht nur im religiös-kirchlichen Raum, sondern in ihrer ganz allgemeinen Verbreitung bewertet. Bewußt greift der Künstler unseres Barbara-Bildes und der Barbara-Kachel mit dem Verzicht auf rein religiöse Attribute (Hostie, Kelch, Dreifenster-Turm) und dem Einsatz der Symbole Pulverturm, Kanone, Granaten, Barbarazweig usw. über den Kirchenbereich hinaus. Er schuf ein berufliches Sinn- und Schutzbild.

Saint Barbara

Memorial

- 4 December
- removed from revised Roman calendar and cultus suppressed in 1969

Profile

A beautiful maiden imprisoned in a high tower by her father Dioscorus for disobedience. While there, she was tutored by philosophers, orators and poets. From them she learned to think, and decided that polytheism was nonsense. With the help of Origen and Valentinian, she converted to Christianity.



Her father denounced her to the local authorities for her faith, and they ordered him to kill her. She escaped, but he caught her, dragged her home by her hair, tortured her, and killed her. He was immediately struck by lightning, or according to some sources, fire from heaven.

Her imprisonment led to her association with towers, then the construction and maintenance of them, then to their military uses. The lightning that avenged her murder led to asking her protection against fire and lightning, and her patronage of firefighters, etc. Her association with things military and with death that falls from the sky led to her patronage of all things related to artillery, and her image graced powder magazines and arsenals for years. One of the Fourteen Holy Helpers.

While there were undoubtedly beautiful converts named Barbara, this saint is legend, and her cultus developed when pious fiction was mistaken for history.

Died

- beheaded by her father c.235 at Nicomedia during the persecution of Maximinus of Thrace
- relics at Burano, Italy, and Kiev, Russia

Patronage

- against death by artillery
- against explosions
- against fire
- against impenitence
- against lightning
- against mine collapse
- against storms

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Representation

- [cannon](#)

- [chalice](#)
- [host](#)
- [princess](#) in a tower with either the palm of [martyrdom](#) or [chalice](#) of happy death
- [woman](#) holding a feather
- [woman](#) holding a tower
- [palm](#) of [martyrdom](#)
- tower
- [woman](#) trampling a Saracen

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- [Catholic Encyclopedia](#)
- [Catholics in the Military](#)
- [Google Directory](#)
- [New Catholic Dictionary](#)
- [Our Sunday Visitor's Encyclopedia of Saints](#), by Matthew Bunson, Margaret Bunson, and Stephen Bunson

Category: Canonized Pre-Congregation, Cultus Suppressed, Emblem: Cannon, Emblem: Chalice, Emblem: Feather, Emblem: Host, Emblem: Palm, Emblem: Tower, Fourteen Holy Helpers, Saints Beati and Venerables, Saints who were Converts, Saints who were Lifelong Lay People, Saints who were Martyrs, Saints who were Princesses

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Print References

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