

# Saints of the Church



## **St. George and the Dragon**

Patron Saint of England. As the legend goes, a King's daughter was to be sacrificed to a dragon, when suddenly a knight in shining armor, mounted upon a beautiful horse appeared at her side, telling her he had been sent from heaven to save her. After the rescue was accomplished, the brave knight vanished.

## **Lydia**

A wealthy woman, converted to Christianity by Paul in Philippi, where she was "a seller of purple, of the city of Thyatira."



## **St. Patrick**

Patron Saint of Ireland. Legends tell of how he rid Ireland of snakes by charming them into the sea. St. Patrick is also said to have used the leaf of the shamrock to explain the mystery of the Trinity - the Three in One and One in Three.

## **St. Augustine**, first Archbishop of Canterbury

Missionary to England, member of the Benedictine Order, and the first Archbishop of Canterbury, is assigned the cross and pall to indicate his archepiscopal rank.



## **St. Paul**

The Apostle to the Gentiles. The open Bible with the words *Spiritus Gladius* inscribed, and behind the Bible a sword. St. Paul spoke of the Word of God as "the Sword of the Spirit."

## **St. Francis of Assisi**

Patron Saint of Animals. St. Francis always loved birds and other living creatures and many beautiful stories have been told illustrating his tenderness towards them.



**St. Dunstan**, Archbishop of Canterbury

As a gifted artist he became the patron saint of goldsmiths.

**St. Hilda**

The coiled serpents refer to the legend of her prayers changing dangerous snakes into stones.

**St. Bernard**

Three white mitres with gold bands, and a gold book, refer both to his writing, and to the fact that he was offered a bishopric three times.

**St. Clement**

Banished under the persecution of Trajan, he continued to minister to his fellow Christians, for which he was condemned, bound to an anchor and cast into the sea.



**The Episcopal Shield**

The Episcopal Shield was adopted by the General Convention in 1940. The red cross that divides the white field into four rectangles is the cross of St. George, the patron saint of England. The colors red, white, and blue are the colors of the flags of both the United States and England. The blue field to the upper left contains a cross made of nine crosslets. The composite cross is the cross of St. Andrew. Each of the nine crosslets represent one of the nine dioceses which met in Philadelphia in 1789 to form the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States.



**Oklahoma Diocesan Seal**

**St. Andrew's Cross**

Symbolizes humility and suffering. St. Andrew is said to have died on this form of a cross, as he felt himself unworthy to be crucified on the same type as his Lord died upon, so begged that his might be different.