Fiacre of Breuil

Born: 600 AD
Died: 670 AD
Feast Day: 30 August
Fiacre was born in Ireland at the end of the sixth century AD. He was raised in a monastery where he became a monk. He had great knowledge of herbal medicine.

Fiacre was ordained a Catholic priest. In time he had his own hermitage and perhaps a monastery, possibly near St. Fiachra’s Well Kilkenny, Ireland.

As crowds flocked to him because of his reputation for holiness and cures, he sailed to France in search of greater solitude. He was given a site near Breuil, and began to live a life of solitude in the forest.

He built a hermitage for his dwelling, a vegetable and herb garden, an oratory in honour of the Blessed Virgin Mary, and a hospice in which he cared for travellers. The town of Saint-Fiacre-en-Brie stands on the site of the hospice he built for travellers.

He lived a life devoted to prayer, fasting, keeping vigils, and manual cultivation of his garden. His fame for miracles was widespread. He cured all manner of diseases by laying on his hands.

He is the patron of growers of vegetables and medicinal plants, and gardeners. He is famous for his sanctity and skill in curing illness.