Agnes-Child Martyr

Born: 291 AD

Died: 304 AD

Feat Day:

21 January

https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:2872-saint-agnes-domenichino.jpg

DERRY DIOCESAN CATECHETICAL CENTRE

According to tradition, Agnes was a member of the Roman nobility and raised in an early Christian family. She was according to tradition, a beautiful young girl. She had many suitors of high rank, and the young men annoyed by her rejection of them submitted her name to the authorities as a follower of Christianity.

She suffered martyrdom at the age of 12 or13 during the reign of the Roman emperor Diocletian.

She was buried beside the Via Nomentana in Rome. Her bones are currently conserved beneath the high altar in the church of Sant'Angese fuori le mura in Rome.

On her feast day it is customary for two lambs to be brought in to be blessed by the Pope. On Holy Thursday the lambs' wool is removed and woven into the pallium the pope gives to a newly consecrated archbishop as a sign of his power and union with the pope.

Agnes is one of seven women, in addition to the Blessed Virgin Mary, who are mentioned in the Roman Canon of the Mass.
(Eucharistic Prayer I).

The name Agnes means 'lamb.' Often used as a sign of gentleness and innocence. She is patroness of young girls of chastity,