A Synaxis of Latin Saints **(Plain Reading)**

February 3rd

On February 3rd we commemorate Saint Ia of the Leaf. According to the late medieval faithful, Saint Ia was the sister of Saints Ercus and Herygh. Saint Ia was a holy maiden who came from Ireland to Cornwall. She was eager to set out on spreading the Gospel but missed the boat to sail to Cornwall. As she witnessed her fellow missionaries sailing away, Ia prayed to God for guidance on how to follow his will. According to the many saints sailing on the ship, Saint Ia turned back to shore and was granted a leaf that grew to accommodate her. She landed in Cornwall and settled at the mouth of the Hayle River where Saint Ives, formerly called Porth Ia, now stands. She is said to have crossed with Saints Fingar, Phiala, and other missionaries

In Cornwall she erected a cell where she lived the life of prayer and austerities. Saint Ia eventually suffered martyrdom in Cornwall at the mouth of the Hayle River.

Verses

On this day we commemorate Saint Laurence the Illuminator. Saint Laurence was a native of Syria who was driven by the Monophysite persecution. He found refuge in Italy, and there he was ordained and founded a monastery near Spoleto. He was bishop for twenty years, but then founded the monastery of Farfa in the Sabine hills near Rome. St Laurence was renowned as a peacemaker. His title derives from his gift of healing blindness, both spiritual and physical.

On this day we commemorate Saint Werburgh, the Princess and Nun. She was the daughter of King Wulfhere of Mercia and chose the ascetic life over the life of royalty. She became a nun at the Convent of Ely and went on to found three convents before her repose.

By the intercessions of Thy Saints, O Christ God, have mercy upon us. Amen.