

St. Ignatius of Antioch: 'I am God's wheat'

[St. Ignatius of Antioch](#) was also called Ignatius Theophoros (in Greek, that means "God bearer"). His principal claim to historical fame comes from his martyrdom. Arrested by Roman authorities, he was sent to Rome for execution and, in the company of several soldiers, set out on the road to the Eternal City. Along the way Ignatius composed epistles (or letters) to the Christian communities of Ephesus, Magnesia, Tralles, Rome, Philadelphia, Smyrna, and a farewell letter to Bishop Polycarp. The Letters of Ignatius have long been greatly honored by the Church for their eloquent, detailed glimpses of the Church in Ignatius' era, and Ignatius' own spirituality. He died by being thrown to the wild beasts in the Roman Circus. His feast day is October 17. Watch the video to discover his story: