St. Agnes

Died c. 304
Feast Day: January 21

Agnes may have been only 12 or 13 when she died a martyr’s death in Rome. According to tradition, she refused to consider marrying and consecrated her maidenhood to God. When a persecution broke out, she left home and offered herself for martyrdom, probably dying by being stabbed in the throat, a common form of Roman execution. She was buried in a cemetery in the Via Nomentana, where a church honoring her was built about 350. Her name and feast date were listed in a calendar of martyrs in 354. She is the patron of girls.