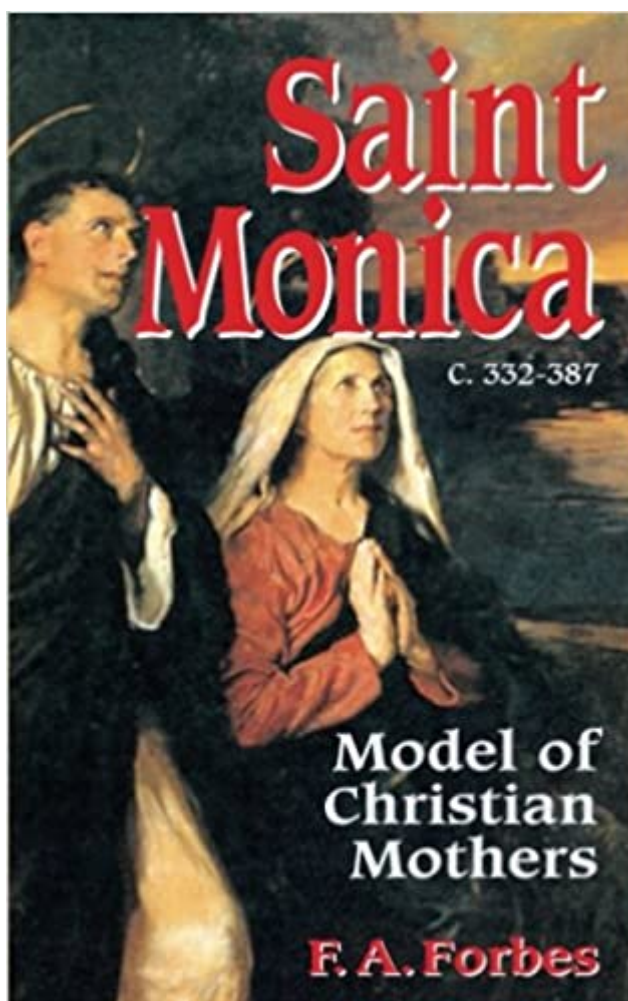


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Saint Monica: Model Of Christian Mothers



Synopsis

The famous persevering mother whose prayers, patience and good example at last obtained the conversion of her wayward son - the great St. Augustine - as well as her pagan husband and her mother-in-law. Includes her childhood, difficult marriage, anguish over Augustine, constancy and - in the end - her joy at his conversion. A magnificent story of prayer finally answered! Impr. 115 pgs 4 Illus, PB

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Mother Frances Alice Monica Forbes, also known as F.A. Forbes, was born in 1869 into a Presbyterian family. She converted to Catholicism in 1900, and entered the Society of the Sacred Heart as a postulant when she was thirty-one. She was a strong-willed and intelligent woman, and used both these gifts to generously make the sacrifices that the Lord wished of her daily. F.A. Forbes authored a considerable amount of books based on the saints, including St. John Bosco: Friend of Youth, St. Monica, St. Catherine of Sienna, St. Benedict, and The Gripfast Series of English Readers. She died in 1936.

Having just really appreciated the story of Saints Monica and Augustine, this was an excellent short read on the mother/son story of two of heavens greatest saints. This delicate little book will make you appreciate and ponder on her inspiration. This paperback tells of the infinite faith of Saint Monica and her unceasing cries and prayers to heaven for the redemption of the body and soul of her son,

Augustine, whose youth was being spent in paganistic ways, much like his father, Patricius. But just as her prayers were in earnest for her son, likewise were they for her husband, who eventually became a Christian, being affected by the love, patience and purity of his wife's life and example. Monica's being also became a profound influence on her mother-in-law, who made Monica's life miserable, along with Patricius. But in her elder years, she began to take notice of her spiritual daughter-in-law, who always showed her the utmost respect, despite the reproaches thrown against her. And of course, the most touching and profound story of conversion due to a mother's plea, is that of Saint Augustine. He is considered by many to be one of the most gifted saints, due to his natural insights and blessings, that he initially fought against during his early years, but which brought him such gifts of witness and teaching, in his later years. The conversion stories of her mother-in-law, her husband, and then most profoundly her son, Monica is a wonderful example for anyone struggling with a yearning and desire to bring their loved ones attention to Our Lord. At the same time, you realize that her journey of truth for her family, took years of patience and blind faith, and it is then that we once again understand, that everything is in God's time, and not ours. And for those who have the true understanding of His love for us, we become grateful servants as we wait for the Master's Word. This would be a most treasured pocket-size book for those who admire the faith and perseverance of St. Monica, as well as something to give to a struggling wife or mother, in need of encouragement. God bless and peace in Christ! Addendum: Located in the second to the last section of this book is the description of, and information for, "The Confraternity of Christian Mothers" which is a society in which Christian mothers and wives "offer mutual prayers for husbands and children who have gone astray" as well as "frequent and regular prayers with other women in the same vocation, talks, discussions, frequency of the Sacraments, as well as the edifying examples of other members". The last section offers the prayers to St. Monica (The Litany, Novena, Mother's Prayer for the Intercession of St. Augustine, and the Daily Prayer for the Children).

I enjoyed reading every single page!

Perhaps because of its brevity, I found the portrayal very one dimensional. I am finding Giovanni Falbo's portrayal *St. Monica: The Power of a Mother's Love* to be more informative.

So I bought this short but sweet biography of Saint Monica (otherwise known as St. Augustine's mother) because, even though I'm not a mother myself, I was drawn to her persistence in prayer

and her charity with every person she came into contact with. So I read it and was impressed with the little details that added some animation into how I pictured St. Monica as a person. It allowed me to recommend her intercession to an aunt, and my own mother in their times of distress in the parenting world. Hopefully that recommendation can continue to spread. All from the knowledge this little gem gave to me!

I loved this book! Such an inspiring woman. She is the patron saint of mothers, wives and for lost children. (Lost as in religiously lost) I wish I had found her years sooner! If you have wayward children, troubled marriage or just need a good role model then read this book.

This is a good easy read, very inspiring. I really appreciate this authors writings it helps to absorb you into the lives you are reading about. I recommend F.A. Forbes to everyone.

Enjoyed the information in the book which occurred many years ago!

Very good book!

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