

Today is the memorial of St. Denis, bishop and martyr.

Very little details exist on the life of St. Denis other than he was the first bishop of Paris in the early 3rd century.

He was martyred during the persecutions of the emperor Decius in the year 250 AD.

He was taken to the highest hill in parish - what is now known as “the Mount of Martyrs” - and beheaded.

Pious legend says after the beheading, he got up, picked up his head, and walked six miles ... all the way preaching to the assembled crowds.

He is the patron saint of Paris and France, and is also the patron of those with headaches.

In today’s Gospel, Our Lord admonishes us to persevere in prayer. God answers our prayers in His time and in His way ... not always the way we might expect or want.

As we approach this altar to receive the Sacred Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of Jesus Christ, let us pray for a spirit of zeal and perseverance ... so that we may, like St. Denis, show forth the glory of God throughout our lives.