

Monday, March 8, 2021
Monday of Third Week of Lent
Saint John of God, Religious

The little girl from Israel, captured for servitude for the army commander's wife, speaks with loving concern for Naaman when he contracted leprosy. It takes only a simple solution for his cure but he does not believe. Finally, his servants plead with him and he heeds their encouragement. He is cured and gives praise and glory to the God of Israel!

Wow! Talk about anger from his own people of Nazareth! Jesus reminds them of two stories in Scripture and they take offense. Jesus did tell them: "Amen, I say to you, no prophet is accepted in his own native place." The people's reaction: "they were all filled with fury. They rose up, drove him out of the town, and led him to the brow of the hill on which their town had been built, to hurl him down headlong." What prevented them from accomplishing this incredible feat? Jesus simply "passed through the midst of them and went away."

John of God converted at the age of forty-two and cared for the sick, founding the Hospitaller Order of Brothers (of St. John of God). He is patron of hospitals and of the dying. Naaman would have appreciated this saint.

St. John of God, pray for us!

God Love You!

Fr. Jim Starasovich

