
Adoption of Florida Martyr & Servant of God – Cacique Luis

St. Ambrose Catholic Church

The parish of St. Ambrose has adopted a Florida martyr, Cacique Luis (pronounced: kah-'see-keh lu-eese), in the cause for beatification now underway at the diocesan phase with the intentions of fostering a particular devotion to this indigenous martyr, documenting occasions of miraculous intercession, and praying for the Church to honor his sacrifice in defense of the faith.

The word “cacique” means chieftain or leader. Luis is the name he was given upon his initiation into the Church. He was a chieftain of the Apalachee people in one of the villages in the Apalachee province between Tallahassee and Gainesville. Notarized documents indicate that Cacique Luis along with about 20 other Apalachee caciques, in addition to other Florida martyrs, suffered particularly horrific and brutal martyrdom while defending the faith and the Holy Eucharist between January and July 22, 1704.

The Church has declared the Florida Martyrs - Apalachee men, women, and children who numbered in the thousands, together with their Spanish lay teachers, and 13 Spanish priests to be Servants of God. Under the direction of the Postulator Dr. Waldery Hilgeman of Misio Pastoralis in Rome, the Tribunal is interrogating witnesses and the seven scholars of the Historic Commission are completing the research phase of the process. All of the bishops of Florida pray that with the help of God and the prayers of the faithful in Florida, the cause of the Florida Martyrs will proceed to beatification.

St. Ambrose parishioners are asked to graciously adopt this martyr and Servant of God, Cacique Luis, in their daily prayers and devotions, asking for his intercession as appropriate, and making particular note of any occasions of miraculous intercession by contacting the office at choffice1@saintambrose-church.org or 904-692-1366. For more information, please go to: <https://martyrsoflaflofidamissions.org/>

(Please note that information contained in some of the following links may be difficult to view for some minor children or those who have sensitive natures. Please preview before sharing with minor children and use appropriate discretion.)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1FGCBXk_Skc – EWTN Live with Fr. Mitch Pacwa

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eNhz2pj7hAs> – Dr. Mary Soha, Vice-Postulator Florida Martyrs at the Knights of Columbus Museum

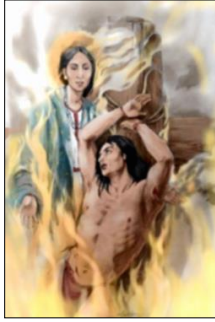
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oX1CrX5QUsl> – Dr. Mary Soha, Vice-Postulator Florida Martyrs at the Santa Fe Shrine of Our Lady of La Leche, High Springs, FL.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=L8WuxU8wtc> – Dr. Mary Soha, Vice-Postulator Florida Martyrs on The Catholic Saints Guy show

<https://www.catholicnewsagency.com/amp/news/florida-martyrs-remembered-at-mass-of-thanksgiving-for-their-sainthood-cause-10455> - Catholic News Agency article

https://www.miamiarch.org/CatholicDiocese.php?op=Blog_floridas-martyrs – Miami Archdiocese website, blog by Rogelio Zelada, Office of Lay Ministry

Prayer to Cacique Luis, Florida Martyr & Servant of God



Cacique Luis, you who came to know, love, and serve God and freely gave your life in defense of the faith together with your family and friends, pray for us. Your whole life was a testament to the grace and mercy of God. You lived out your devotion to God and his people by serving, teaching, and leading others to the faith. We do not know much more than these things about you, but in them we know all we need to look toward your selfless love for God as an example to be inspired by and aspire to, in the hope that we would have the courage and dignity that you did as we face our own sacrifices and surrender in service to God and his kingdom. By the grace of God, pray for us who now live and thrive where you once did, joining your prayers to ours in thanks, praise, and petition for God's mercy. We ask this through Jesus

Christ, our Lord and Savior. Amen.

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