

Saint of the Week for January 7, 2018

Feast Day: January 12

[Interesting Fact:](#) This is our first saint with a connection to Canada.

[Profile:](#)

- She was the 6th of 12 children, born in Troyes, France.
- She felt called to religious life by the time she turned 20 years old!
- Even though she applied to become a Carmelite and Poor Clares Sister, both orders turned her down.
- She was invited by the governor of the French settlement Ville-Marie (which became the city of Montreal, Canada) to come start a school in 1654. This happened when the governor returned to France to visit his sister who was at the Augustine convent in Troyes.
- There were about 200 people in the Canadian colony, plus a hospital and Jesuit mission chapel. This saint realized right away that she would need help so she returned to Troyes to recruit a friend and 2 other young women. After a second trip back to France to recruit more helpers, she got a letter from King Louis XIV authorizing the school in Montreal.
- She founded the School Sisters of Notre Dame in 1676 although the members didn't make formal religious professions until 1698 when the rules and constitutions were officially approved



Interesting Facts:

- She established a school for Iroquois Indian girls.
- At the age of 69, she walked from Montreal to Quebec to establish a new community of sisters in Quebec.

Who am I?