



ATHANASIUS

## Athanasius of Alexandria

d. 373

2 May

Bishop and Theologian

- ✠ Anti-Arian Champion
- ✠ Assisted Bp. Alexander as deacon at Council of Nicaea
- ✠ Exiled and restored four separate times
- ✠ Nicknamed "Athanasius Contra Mundum"
- ✠ Wrote *On the Incarnation* and *Life of Anthony*
- ✠ Festal Letter 39 was the first church document to name the exact 27 books of the NT as canon
- ✠ One of the Four Doctors of the Eastern Church

"A man's personality actuates and quickens his whole body. If anyone said it was unsuitable for the man's power to be in the toe, he would be thought silly, because while granting that a man penetrates and actuates the whole of his body, he denied his presence in the part. Similarly, no one who admits the presence of the Word of God in the universe should think it unsuitable for him a single human body to be by him actuated and enlightened."

*On the Incarnation of the Word*, xiii

"He became man that we might become divine."

*On the Incarnation of the Word*, xlv