



HILARY OF POITIERS

Hilary of Poitiers

January 13

d. 368

Bishop and Theologian

- ✠ “The Athanasius of the West” – anti-Arian
- ✠ Exiled in 356 as a result of conflict with Saturninus, the Arian bishop of Arles
- ✠ While in exile in East, he wrote and disputed against Arian councils
- ✠ Implacable in theology, conciliatory in deliberation
- ✠ Arian emperor Constantius sent him home in 361
- ✠ Resumed anti-Arian work: he saw Saturninus deposed, and debated Bp. Auxentius of Milan
- ✠ Wrote *Homilies on Psalms* and *Commentary on Matthew*, *On the Councils*, and *On the Trinity*

The manner of our indwelling in him through the sacrament of his body and blood is evident from the Lord's own words: *This world will see me no longer but you shall see me. Because I live you shall live also, for I am in my Father, you are in me, and I am in you.* If it had been a question of a mere unity of will, why should he have given us this explanation of the steps by which it is achieved? He is in the Father by reason of his divine nature, we are in him by reason of his human birth, and he is in us through the mystery of the sacraments. This, surely, is what he wished us to believe; this is how he wanted us to understand the perfect unity....

On the Trinity, 8