



Saint Richard Gwyn

Feast Day: October 16th

Life Story: St Richard Gwyn was born around 1537 in the county of Montgomeryshire in Wales. He studied at Oxford, Cambridge and Douai Universities before returning to Wales to be a teacher.

St Richard Gwyn was married and had 6 children. He lived during the time of the Reformation, where as a Catholic it was dangerous for him to live out his faith. He had to move house and school various times in order to hide from the authorities.

He was arrested, captured and fined a number of times, but eventually, in 1583 he was charged with committing high treason along with two other Catholics. After questioning, Gwyn was found guilty and sentenced to death by hanging, drawing and quartering. This sentence was carried out at the Beast Market in Wrexham on 15th October 1584. His wife stayed by his side the whole time. His final words are thought to have been: 'Jesus have mercy on me', or 'Iesu, trugarha wrthyf'.

St Richard Gwyn was the first Catholic martyr in Wales. He left a legacy of determination behind and the courage to stand up for his beliefs. He also composed 5 carols in Welsh. He is also the patron Saint of teachers because of his dedication to teaching children despite the dangerous circumstances that he lived in. St Richard Gwyn's relics can be venerated at St Mary's Cathedral, Wrexham, where many travel to pray on his feast day each year.

"Jesus, have
mercy on me.
Iesu, trugarha
wrthyf."