

his people Israel." Luke ii. 32.

24.—St. Matthias, chosen by the College of Apostles, to supply the place of Judas the traitor; suffered Martyrdom, anno 74.

### MARCH.

17.—St. Patrick, apostle of Ireland. He was a Briton by birth, and nephew to St. Martin, Bishop of Tours. Being sent, in 443, by Pope Celestinus, to convert the Irish to Christianity, he entered upon his ministry with such piety and courage, that he subdued the inhabitants to the laws of the gospel of Christ; and after having governed the church of Ireland sixty years, during which he is said to have consecrated 305 Bishops, and ordained 3,000 Priests, he died in the odour of sanctity, at the age of 123 years.

19.—St. Joseph, the reputed father of our blessed Saviour, and spouse of our blessed Lady.

35.—*Annunciation of our Lady*, a feast in memory of the Angel Gabriel's most happy embassy, when, by her consent and the co-operation of the Holy-Ghost, the Son of God was incarnate in her sacred womb.

### APRIL.

25.—St. Mark evangelist, the disciple and interpreter of St. Peter, writing his gospel at the request of the Christians at Rome, he took it with him into Egypt; first preaching at Alexandria, he founded that Church; and afterwards, being apprehended for the faith of Christ, was bound with cords, dragged upon stones, and shut up in a close prison, where he was comforted by an angelic vision, and apparition of our Lord. Finally, he was called to heaven in the eighth year of Nero. On this day the long litanies are said or sung, and abstinence from flesh is observed, to obtain the blessing of God, on the fruits of the earth.

### MAY.

1st.—SS. Philip and James, Apostles. After the first had converted almost all Scythia to the faith of Christ, being fastened to a cross, he was stoned to death, making a glorious end at Hieropolis, in Asia, in the year fifty-four. The second, called also our Lord's brother, was the first bishop of Jerusalem, where, being thrown from a pinnacle of the temple, his thighs broken and struck on the heart with a fuller's club, he gave up the ghost, and was buried near the temple, in the year sixty-three.

3d.—*Finding the Holy Cross*, otherwise called *Holy Blood Day*. A feast in memory of the miraculous discovery of the holy cross whereon our Saviour suffered, by St. Helen, mother of Constantine the Great, in the year three hundred and twenty-six, after it had been concealed by the Infidels one hundred