

## *People of the Bible*

### Andrew

Andrew, the brother of Simon Peter, was born in the Galilean village of Bethsaida. Originally a disciple of John the Baptist, Andrew then became the first of Jesus' disciples (John 1:35-40).

His name regularly appears in the Gospels near the top of the lists of the Twelve. It was he who first introduced his brother Simon to Jesus (John 1:41-42). He was, in a real sense, the first home missionary, as well as the first foreign missionary (John 12:20-22).

Tradition says Andrew was martyred by crucifixion on a cross in the form of an X. In AD 357, his body is said to have been taken to the Church of the Holy Apostles in Constantinople and later removed to the cathedral of Amalfi in Italy.

Centuries later, Andrew became the patron saint of Scotland. St Andrew's Day determines the beginning for the Western Church Year, since the first Sunday in Advent is always the nearest to St. Andrew's Day.