



Saint Anthony of Padua: Donated “in memory of deceased members of our family” by the Virgalitte family, this window features one of the most beloved saints. Born in Lisbon in 1195, he was originally named Ferdinand de Bulhoes. The son of a knight at the court of King Alfonso II, he rejected wealth and power, joined the Canons Regular of Saint Augustine, and was ordained in 1219 or 1220. When he became a Franciscan, he changed his name to Anthony. He preached to the Muslims in Morocco but left for Italy due to illness. A great preacher, he spoke to crowds throughout Italy, earning a reputation for winning over converts and for hearing confessions. In Padua he labored to abolish debtors’ prisons and aided the poor. He died at the age of thirty-six and was declared a saint within a year. Stories of his miracles and his remarkable preaching circulated during his life and after his death. To this day many people invoke Saint Anthony in order to find lost things. He is the patron saint of the poor and oppressed. Our Saint Anthony is dressed in the traditional brown Franciscan habit. A rosary hangs down his left side, and on his right side we see the traditional Franciscan rope belt. Anthony holds the Christ Child, because a visitor once told of seeing the saint with the baby Jesus in his arms. The lilies Anthony holds in the crook of his right arm symbolize his purity. Saint Anthony of Padua’s feast day is June 13.