

Vox Populi

7 May 2026

The first Apostle to be called following the Ascension of Jesus Christ was Matthias the Apostle, whose Feast we celebrate on Thursday, 14 May.

His calling was unique. While he had been with Jesus since his baptism by John, the only mention of him occurs in the Acts of the Apostles, when he was chosen by the Apostles to replace Judas through the casting of lots.

Various traditions exist as to where he ministered and where he may have faced martyrdom.

Pope Benedict XVI saw the most important aspect of Saint Matthias as being the counterbalance to Judas and called on all the faithful to mirror his faithfulness in counterbalancing today's Judas's.

“To the greatness of [Matthias'] fidelity was later added the divine call to take the place of Judas, almost compensating for his betrayal,” he said.

“We draw from this a final lesson: while there is no lack of unworthy and traitorous Christians in the Church, it is up to each of us to counterbalance the evil done by them with our clear witness to Jesus Christ, our Lord and Saviour.”

The message of Saint Matthias is clear. We are called to counterbalance evil through our virtue, proclaiming the Good News and bringing good to places where there is evil.

This Sunday, 10 May, we also celebrate Mother's Day. On this day, we not only give thanks to our mothers, grandmothers and other mother figures in our life, it's also an opportunity to give thanks for Our Blessed Mother Mary.

May she intercede for us and all other Mothers on this day.