

# Veronica

No one knows much about this saint, but the one fact we DO know is that her name was NOT Veronica!

Here's the story. Suppose you saw a criminal coming down the street with a crowd following him and the criminal looked real sad and his face was all smeared with perspiration and blood, and THEN a woman dashed out of the crowd and gave the poor man a cloth to wipe his face. Well, that's what happened the day Jesus was crucified.

Jesus had been condemned as a CRIMINAL and was carrying his cross to the place where he would be crucified. Naturally, he looked real sad and the day was hot so he was perspiring and his head was bleeding from the crown of thorns. But instead of trying to help him, the crowd was yelling and making fun of him. And THEN this ONE woman felt so sorry for him that she took the veil (scarf) from her

head and ran out and gave it to Jesus so he could wipe his face. And when Jesus gave the veil back to her, she looked and saw it had the IMAGE of Jesus' face on it!

No one really knows WHO the woman was or what happened to her after that, but legend says that she became a Christian, and before she died, she gave the veil to Pope Clement. So why do we call her Veronica? Well, that's the Latin for "true image"—and since Jesus left the true image of his face on her veil, she became known as Veronica!



What do YOU think Jesus really looked like? Close your eyes and try to imagine how he looked that day when he saw Veronica. THEN try to imagine how he looks today when HE looks at YOU!