

0. NICHOLAS OF MYRA - Story Preface

**1. NICHOLAS OF MYRA**

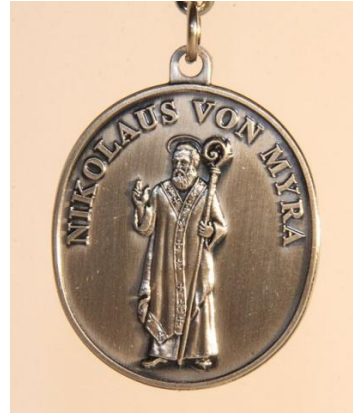
2. THE LEGENDS OF SAINT NICHOLAS

3. SAINT NICHOLAS OF BARI

4. SAINT NICHOLAS, GIVER OF GIFTS

5. SINTERKLAAS VISITS AMERICA

6. A VISIT FROM SAINT NICHOLAS



Among other things, Saint Nicholas of Myra became a patron saint of sailors. This image depicts a key ring with his supposed image.

Saint Nicholas was born in the seaport town of Patara, on the Turkish coast, in about 271 A.D. Although his parents were very wealthy, they died (most likely of plague) when Nicholas was still a boy.

At the time, Turkey was called Asia Minor. Today the ruins of Patara are mostly under the beautiful sandy beaches of the area. Not much has been excavated, although some ruins are visible.

Little is known about the early years of his life. During the centuries, legend has replaced fact.

According to *Butler's Lives of the Saints*, Nicholas wanted to share the wealth his parents had left him. And it is that sharing of wealth, and how he did it, that led to his increasing fame and his association with protecting children.

See [Alignments to State and Common Core standards for this story online at:](http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/AcademicAlignment/NICHOLAS-OF-MYRA-Santa-Claus)

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See [Learning Tasks for this story online at:](http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/AcademicActivities/NICHOLAS-OF-MYRA-Santa-Claus)

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Media Stream



View of Turkey's Coastline

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Ruins of Patara

Image online, courtesy the stnicholascenter.org website.

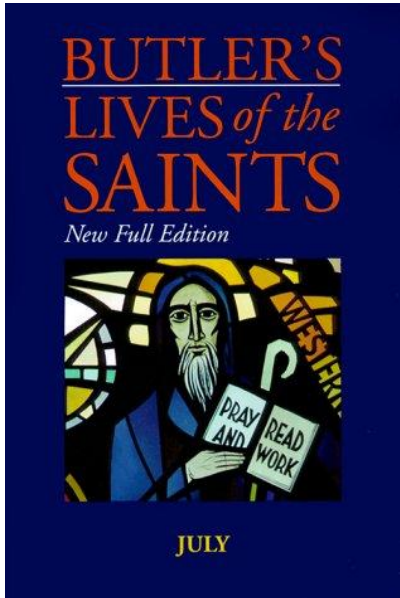
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### Beaches at Patara

Image online, courtesy Wikimedia Commons.

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### Butler's Lives of the Saints

Image online, courtesy [amazon.com](http://amazon.com) website.

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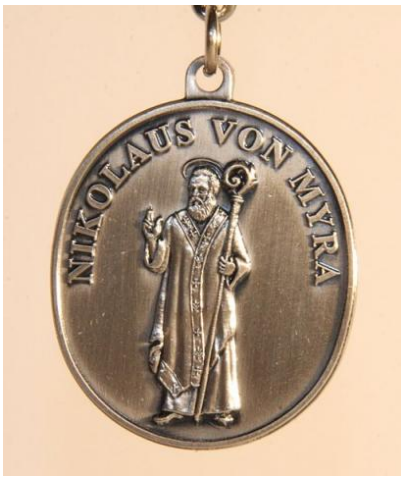
<http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/Butler-s-Lives-of-the-Saints>



### Nicholas of Myra

This photograph is provided here from the [kolaks.net](http://kolaks.net) website.

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## NICHOLAS OF MYRA

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