



The Story Of Saint Swithun

visit us online
www.dizkiss.co.uk
For More Fun

Many years ago a very kind gentleman named Mr Swithun worked for the church. He spent all of his time and energy on making the people around him happy. So that he could make the church a nicer place for people he fixed the broken roof, for people who didn't have a church he built them one, and for the poor who had no food he invited them to his home for dinner.

The King heard about Mr Swithun and was very impressed, he asked him to teach his son the way of the church. Mr Swithun taught him so well that the royal family gave a lot of land to the church to show their appreciation, and he was very happy to have helped.

Mr Swithun was made a Bishop at the church for all of his kind and wonderful work, and some say that he performed miracles. The people loved him so much and always came to the church because of him. As the years passed Mr Swithun grew old and continued his hard work. When he died the people were very sad and missed him deeply. But he had one more kind act for the people, instead of being buried inside a cathedral Mr Swithun had requested he would like to be buried in the ground where the rain could fall on him and people could walk. The church did as he asked and buried him in the humble ground.

The years passed and in time Mr Swithun was made a Saint as he was highly respected by the church and the people. They wanted Saint Swithun to have a beautiful shrine inside the cathedral fitting to his title, and somewhere that people could come to worship him so they decided to move his body from outside.

On the day they moved him there was a terrible storm and the rain was so heavy it soaked the ground. The people saw it as a sign that Saint Swithun was unhappy that he had been moved. Every year on the anniversary of Saint Swithun's burial if it rained the rain would stay for forty days more, and if it was sunny on the day it would stay sunny for forty days more. They believed that whatever it was like on Saint Swithun's Day was a sign of weather to come.

Apple growers gave praise to Saint Swithun if it rained, because they knew it would help their apples to grow big and strong and ripe; So every year on the anniversary of Saint Swithun's Day on July the 15th the people, the church and the apple growers all give thanks to Saint Swithun; For he was such a kind and helpful Saint who is still celebrated fondly until this very day.