

Chapter 1 : Dear James by Philip Zaleski | Articles | First Things

â€¢ *Agatha McGee and the St. Isidore Seven*, in which Hassler's most famous character gets caught up in the thr This is a collection of seven stories by the great Minnesota writer. Highlights include.

Identity[edit] Saint Simon the Zealot with his attribute of a saw The name Simon occurs in all of the Synoptic Gospels and the Book of Acts each time there is a list of apostles, without further details: Meier points out that the term "Zealot" is a mistranslation and in the context of the Gospels means "zealous" or "jealous" in this case, for keeping the Law of Moses , as the Zealot movement did not exist until 30 to 40 years after the events of the Gospels. Both of these researchers suggest that "Simon Zelotes" was indeed a Zealot belonging to this movement, and perhaps that other disciples were also. However, Hengel in particular concluded that Jesus himself was not a zealot, as much of his teaching was actually contrary to Fourth Philosophy views. He could perhaps be the cousin of Jesus or a son of Joseph from a previous marriage. Isidore of Seville drew together the accumulated anecdotes of St. Simon in *De Vita et Morte*. According to the Golden Legend , which is a collection of hagiographies , compiled by Jacobus de Varagine in the thirteenth century "Simon the Cananaean and Judas Thaddeus were brethren of James the Less and sons of Mary Cleophas , which was married to Alpheus. A boy named Simon is bitten by a snake in his hand, he is healed by Jesus and told the child "you shall be my disciple". The mention ends with the phrase "this is Simon the Cananite, of whom mention is made in the Gospel. Jude as an evangelizing team; in Western Christianity, they share their feast day on 28 October. This version is the one found in the Golden Legend. He may have suffered crucifixion as the Bishop of Jerusalem. One tradition states that he traveled in the Middle East and Africa. Christian Ethiopians claim that he was crucified in Samaria , while Justus Lipsius writes that he was sawn in half at Suanir , Persia. Another, doubtless inspired by his title "the Zealot ", states that he was a member of the group involved in the Jewish revolt against the Romans , which was brutally suppressed. To some readers, this suggests that he may be identical with the " Judas not Iscariot " mentioned in John Barbara Thiering identified Simon Zelotes with Simon Magus , however this view has received no serious acceptance. The New Testament records nothing more of Simon, aside from this multitude of possible but unlikely pseudonyms. He is buried in the same tomb as St. Jude Thaddeus , in the left transept of the St. In art, Simon has the identifying attribute of a saw because he was traditionally martyred by being sawn in half. Sainthood[edit] St. In this list the only apostle that does not match with one of the traditional apostles of Christianity is Simon the Zealot, naming in his place a person who identifies himself as Barnabas, who appears as author of the book. In the miniseries *Jesus of Nazareth* , before joining the Apostles he is portrayed first as a member of the Zealots , hence his name. Simon the Zealot is a blacksmith in *The Bronze Bow*.

Chapter 2 : BHS College Composition: Rufus Readings

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This observation was brought delightfully home to me a few months ago, when I dropped a small pile of books on the checkout desk at my neighborhood public library. The librarian working the computer screen, a small, quiet woman of monastic disposition, usually goes about her chores without uttering a word. This time, however, she accepted my stack, glanced at the top book, and burst into a smile broad enough to launch a moon rocket. The smile widened as she saw that, in fact, my entire selection that day consisted of Hassler novels. A writer that makes you glad to be alive. The author of seven novels, beginning in with Staggerford the imaginary Minnesota town where most of his stories unfold, Hassler is a writer-in-residence and English teacher at St. In a recent interview, he confesses that the writing takes precedence: The students get me when my mind is shot! In this constellation of superbly drawn comic characters, the brightest star is the one farthest away: After she discovered the truth during their only face-to-face encounter a debacle recounted in *A Green Journey* the correspondence entered a new phase. As *Dear James* opens, Agatha continues to write long, revelatory letters to James, and then instantly tears them up. Despite their estrangement, Agatha thinks constantly of James, and he of her. Their relationship is platonic in more than the conventional sense; these two traditionalists share a respect for ideas and a belief in Ideas, even in the Logos. Similarly, their correspondence is more than epistolary; their lives run along parallel tracks, in religion, intellect, and morals. The joy of the book lies in watching these lines converge into a happy ending despite the obstacles of age, location, and vocation. Before this dignified conclusion, however, Agatha and James must not only reconcile with one another, but atone for the past by surrendering a grudge: In local communities, Hassler suggests, ancient truths abide: Remarkably this is where Hassler parts company with almost all other American novelists religion is the means whereby these small-town transformations take place. In *Dear James*, the catalyst is not only the teachings of the Church but its sacred places as well. They deepen their accord in Assisi, another small town whose essence Hassler captures as well as any writer before him. Most strikingly of all, James renews his priestly mission during a papal audience at the Vatican. James lowered himself carefully to the floor, and the crowd made room for him at the barrier. Then he moved on. To find out what the Pope whispered, read the book. These Staggerfordian trials and redemptions add up to more than a series of Sunday School lessons. One feels a great moral force surging through this novel, a sense that lives do indeed matter, that God oversees the comedy and that fiction is the right means to get this message across. I learned that in the pulpit. You can preach till the cows come home and not awaken a single soul, but the right story, well told, goes straight to the heart. It seeks to hold off, at least for a while, the twilight of the gods and us. Here is an author who embraces every character his imagination conjures up, whether heroine, fool, heretic, or shrew.

Chapter 3 : Staggerford by Jon Hassler

When St. Isidore's Elementary in Staggerford, Minnesota is closed, Miss Agatha McGee, who has taught there her whole life, is thrown back on her friends to sustain her. She finds her friends wanting. Fleeing unhappiness at home, Agatha sets off on a.

In the 6th century AD, the church was adapted to Arianism , hence its name "Saint Agatha of Goths ", and later reconsecrated by Gregory the Great , who confirmed her traditional sainthood. Her image forms an initial I in the Sacramentary of Gellone, which dates from the end of the 8th century. Life[edit] One of the most highly venerated virgin martyrs of Christian antiquity, Agatha was put to death during the persecution of Decius in Catania, Sicily, for her determined profession of faith. His persistent proposals were consistently spurned by Agatha, so Quintianus, knowing she was a Christian during the persecution of Decius, had her arrested and brought before the judge. He was the judge. He expected her to give in to his demands when she was faced with torture and possible death, but she simply reaffirmed her belief in God by praying: Possess all that I am. I am your sheep: To force her to change her mind, Quintianus sent Agatha to Aphrodisia, the keeper of a brothel, and had her imprisoned there. Agatha never lost her confidence in God, even though she suffered a month of rape, assault, and efforts to get her to abandon her vow to God and go against her virtue. She was stretched on a rack to be torn with iron hooks, burned with torches, and whipped. Amongst the tortures she underwent was the cutting off of her breasts with pincers. After further dramatic confrontations with Quintianus, represented in a sequence of dialogues in her passio that document her fortitude and steadfast devotion, Saint Agatha was then sentenced to be burnt at the stake , but an earthquake saved her from that fate; instead, she was sent to prison where St. Peter the Apostle appeared to her and healed her wounds. Although the martyrdom of Saint Agatha is authenticated, and her veneration as a saint had spread beyond her native place even in antiquity, there is no reliable information concerning the details of her death. According to Maltese tradition, during the persecution of Roman Emperor Decius AD , Agatha, together with some of her friends, fled from Sicily, and took refuge in Malta. Some historians believe that her stay on the island was rather short, and she spent her days in a rock hewn crypt at Rabat , praying and teaching the Christian Faith to children. After some time, Agatha returned to Sicily, where she faced martyrdom. Agatha was arrested and brought before Quintanus, praetor of Catania, who condemned her to torture and imprisonment. The crypt of St. Agatha is an underground basilica, which from early ages was venerated by the Maltese. At the time of St. Several Church of England parish churches are dedicated to her. She is also considered to be a powerful intercessor when people suffer from fires. Her feast day is celebrated on February 5. She is also a patron saint of Malta, where in her intercession through a reported apparition to a Benedictine nun is said to have saved Malta from Turkish invasion. She is claimed as the patroness of Palermo. The year after her death, the stilling of an eruption of Mt. Etna was attributed to her intercession. As a result, apparently, people continued to ask her prayers for protection against fire. The small round fruit buns are iced and topped with a cherry, intended to represent breasts. Santa Ageda bezpera and going round the village. After that, the homeowner donates food to the chorus. An exceptional case was that of , during the Spanish Civil War , when a version appeared that in the Spanish language praised the Soviet ship Komsomol , which had sunk while carrying Soviet weapons to the Second Spanish Republic. An annual festival to commemorate the life of Saint Agatha takes place in Catania , Sicily , from February 3 to 5. The seventeenth-century tower served as a military base during both World Wars and was used as a radar station by the Maltese army.

Chapter 4 : Olivia Dickinson

Tied to the literature we'll be reading for the course is a series of assigned presentations. The parameters for these presentations, as they relate to Rufus as the Door, are below.

Chapter 5 : Saints Fun Facts: St. Agatha - Saints & Angels - Catholic Online

DOWNLOAD PDF AGATHA MCGEE AND THE ST. ISIDORE SEVEN

The closing of St. Isidore's has left her at loose ends, without challenge or purpose. And although three years have passed, she's still suffering from the shock and disappointment she felt when she discovered that James O'Hannon was not only her cherished correspondent and soul mate but a priest, and a faithful one at that.

Chapter 6 : Jon Hassler Book List - FictionDB

However you do your journal, each story MUST have, in your notes, an attempt to grapple with the text from at least one literary theory's perspective.

Chapter 7 : Rufus at the Door & Other Stories by Jon Hassler

The author of seven novels, beginning in with Staggerford (the imaginary Minnesota town where most of his stories unfold), Hassler is a writer-in-residence and English teacher at St. John's University, Minnesota. In a recent interview, he confesses that the writing takes precedence: "My teaching is always in the late afternoon or evening.

Chapter 8 : Olivia Dickinson - Google+

There's nothing like a good emergency to inspire Agatha McGee, the year-old spinster who taught most of Staggerford at St. Isidore's School. Ignoring ill health, she takes charge among her neighbors and friends, inviting seven unlikely people to ride out the storm in her house on the highest land along the river.

Chapter 9 : Dear James - Jon Hassler - Google Books

Thierry Sagnier This is a wonderful book and Hassler is one of the best, largely unknown, writers around. He died a few years ago. I have everything he's written and more This is a wonderful book and Hassler is one of the best, largely unknown, writers around.