

## **Patron Saints of our church**

The patron saints of our church are Cosmas and Damian (Kosmas and Damianos in Greek). They were physicians and canonized early Christian martyrs. They started their work in about 287 AD. According to the legends, he and his brother, Damian, came from Arabia and they worked as doctors in Aegeae, a Cilician port city in Asia Minor. Devout Christians, they did not accept any money in exchange for their services.

They both suffered a martyr's death in 303 AD in Cyr during the religious purification and the Christian persecution ordered by Emperor Diocletian. Proconsul Lisias was the first to have the twins summoned and cast into the sea. The brothers were tied together and thrown into the sea. However, the rope loosened and the two brothers escaped. Another attempt was to burn them at the stake but this also proved unsuccessful. They also endured being shot by arrows and finally suffered execution by beheading.

A church was erected on their burial place. Devotion to the two saints spread rapidly, partly thanks to emperor Justinian. The emperor was very sick and he prayed to the saints for a cure and after his prayers were answered he built a new church dedicated to the martyrs. In 1260 the first college of physicians in Paris chose Cosmas and Damian as their patron saints. Their feast day is 26<sup>th</sup> September and they are the last two saints in the Roman Canon.

The Holy Crown of Hungary contains images of the two saints on its lower diadem, called corona graeca – Saint Cosmas on the left side and Saint Damian on the right side.

*Lestyán Ferenc archdeacon and parish-priest started the building of a church in 1988 in Nagyhegyszőlő street, in the Minorites' vineyard, which was finally built on a new ground in the Bodoni Sándor street no. 2. **The church was consecrated on 27<sup>th</sup> September 2001 by Archbishop Dr. Jakubinyi György.***

***God, we worship you on the feast day of the two martyrs, Saint Cosmas and Damian because your wise providence gave them eternal glory and for us a patron, the help of a protector!***

**Source: [www.katolikus.hu](http://www.katolikus.hu)**