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Saint Melangell

Feast Day: 31 January / 27 May

Saint Melangell, also known as Monacella or Monacleda, is celebrated within the Greek Orthodox tradition for her devoutness and sanctity. Born in the 7th century, she is revered for her dedication to a life of piety and service to God. Legend has it that Melangell fled her home in Powys, Wales, seeking refuge from an arranged marriage. She sought solace in the remote valley of Pennant Melangell, where she lived as a hermit in prayerful seclusion. Her life was characterized by profound humility and compassion, and she became known for her care of animals, particularly the hare, which she famously sheltered from a hunting party in the nearby woods.

Melangell's association with the protection of animals and her embodiment of selfless devotion to God resonates deeply within the Greek Orthodox tradition. Her story illustrates the importance of compassion and reverence for all living creatures, reflecting the Orthodox belief in the interconnectedness of all creation and the inherent value of every living being. Through her example of humility and kindness, Saint Melangell continues to inspire devotion and reverence among the faithful, who celebrate her as a model of piety and stewardship of God's creation.

For further reading, click the links below:

Saint Melangell, the Hermitess of Wales