Father Brown Characteristics and Backstory

Mark Brown, known usually as just “Father Brown”, is an aging 5’1” tortle cleric of Lathandar. He covers his shell with vestments virtually the same color as his brown-green skin. His shield and mace hang off his back, slightly rusted from lack of use and care, but the medallion of Lathandar’s sigil that hangs around his neck is well-cared for and gleams unnaturally in the sunlight.

Father Brown started his priesthood in a small hamlet in the countryside. During his time in his idyllic little village, he developed quite the nose for gossip and intrigue, becoming something of a (notably terrible) detective. One day, one of his “investigations” happened to catch an actual criminal. It was the proudest day of his life. His exploits elevated him to a district clerical “investigator” (inquisition-lite), allowing him to mostly go around collecting gossip. Finally, his superiors recognized his “abilities” and sent him towards Barovia to “investigate” the mysteries surrounding the land. (They 100% got tired of him falsely accusing people but by this point he was too old and nice to really kick out of the clergy.)

He’s never convinced anyone of anything in his entire life. He tends to mumble and has a habit of slowly withdrawing himself into his shell when he feels socially awkward. Which is always. He’ll also pull out some lettuce that he keeps in his vestments, loudly and absent-mindedly chew while other people are talking to him. Despite this, he’s actually acutely aware of when people are lying to him and has a good sense of his surroundings. But his early education was solely in theology, and all his knowledge his grounded in his religious studies. This leads him to frequently misunderstands the basics of subjects outside his studies.

He’s got a slow, pausing way of talking. All of his movements tend to be ponderous as well. In a tavern, he’ll take long pulls from his ale, deliberately savor his food, and shambles slowly across the floor to a corner table. He loves listening and eating, often at the same time, consuming nutrition and information at the same time, poorly metabolizing both.

Ultimately, Father Brown is a man who thoroughly enjoys his hamlet life, but believes that he must meet the demands of a higher calling: seeking out sinners and bringing them back to salvation, allowing them to have a spiritual rebirth. The fact that this can put him in danger doesn’t bother him, nor does the fact that he’s been wrong 97% of the time. And the fact that this makes him obnoxious and uncomfortable is no barrier either. After all, he lives for the 3% of the time that he has an opportunity to help guide a soul back to a life of peace and penitence. (Total souls saves: 0. He never manages to convince people to turn away, because he’s a super square.)