



You shall love the LORD your GOD with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength.
Mk 12:30

St. Michael the Archangel defend us in the day of battle!

BLESS MY FAMILY BLESS MY CHURCH

St. Michael Center for the Blessed Virgin Mary



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SAINT JOHN BOSCO

January 31st

<https://saintmichaelusa.org/0131johnbosco/>



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Saint John Bosco



Born in Castlenovo d'Asti on August 16, 1815, John was educated in the faith and in living according to the Gospel message by his mother. He was just nine years old when he had a dream, which called him to dedicate himself to the education of young people. While still a boy, he began to entertain his peers with games alternated with work, prayer and religious education. On becoming a priest (1841), he chose as his life's programme: "Da mihi animas cetera tolle" ("Give me souls, take all the rest" Gen. 14: 21). He began his apostolate among poor young people with the founding

of the Oratory, which he placed under the patronage of St. Francis de Sales. He led young people to meet Christ by means of his educational style and pastoral practice, based on reason, religion and loving kindness. He led young people to reflect, to meet Christ and their brothers and sisters, to the study of the faith and to apostolic, civil and professional commitment

Prayer to Saint John Bosco

O glorious Saint John Bosco, who in order to lead young people to the feet of the divine Master and to mould them in the light of faith and Christian morality didst heroically sacrifice thyself to the very end of thy life and didst set up a proper religious Institute destined to endure and to bring to the farthest boundaries of the earth thy glorious work, obtain also for us from Our Lord a holy love for young people who are exposed to so many seductions in order that we may generously spend ourselves in supporting them against the snares of the devil, in keeping them safe from the dangers of the world, and in guiding them, pure and holy, in the path that leads to God. Amen.

Saint John Bosco Friend of the young, Teacher in the ways of God, Your dedication to empowering the needy inspires us still. Help me to work for a better world, where the young are given the chance to flourish, where the poor's dream for justice can come true, and where God's compassion is shown to be real. Intercede for me as I bring my needs to you and to our heavenly Mother, the Help of Christians. Saint John Bosco, Pray for us!

Don Bosco's Prayer to Mary

Most Holy Virgin Mary, Help of Christians, how sweet it is to come to your feet imploring your perpetual help. If earthly mothers cease not to remember their children, how can you, the most loving of all mothers forget me? Grant then to me, I implore you, your perpetual help in all my necessities, in every sorrow, and especially in all my temptations. I ask for your unceasing help for all who are now suffering. Help the weak, cure the sick, convert sinners. Grant through your intercessions many vocations to the religious life. Obtain for us, O Mary, Help of Christians, that having invoked you on earth we may love and eternally thank you in heaven. Amen.

Other Prayers to St. John Bosco

O Saint John Bosco, Father, Teacher, and Friend of Youth, you have labored so much for the salvation of souls: teach me to be patient and gentle as I seek the good of my own soul and the souls of my neighbor. Three great loves gave purpose and meaning to your earthly life: help me deepen my own reverence to Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament, devotion to Mary Help of Christians, and loyalty to our Holy Father the Pope.

Together with the grace for which I now pray...

[pause]...

pray for me to obtain final perseverance and grace of a happy death. Through Christ, our Lord. Amen.



<https://www.instagram.com/stmichaeljmj>

THE VISION OF THE TWO COLUMNS:



On May 30, 1862, Don Bosco recounted that, in a dream, he had seen an immense sea, on which a great many ships were arranged for battle, against a larger and taller ship. He also saw others which were defending the tall ship. Here are his words: "In the midst of this endless sea, two solid columns, a short distance apart, soar high into the sky. One is surmounted by a statue of the Immaculate Virgin, at whose feet a large inscription reads: 'Auxilium Christianorum,' ('Help of Christians'). The other, far loftier and sturdier, supports a Host of Proportionate

size, and bears beneath it the inscription: 'Salus credentium,' ('Salvation of believers'). "The flagship commander-- the Roman Pontiff--standing at the helm, strains every muscle to steer his ship between the two columns, from whose summit hang many anchors, and strong hooks linked to chains. The entire enemy fleet closes in, to intercept and sink the flagship at all costs. They bombard it with everything they have: books and pamphlets, incendiary bombs, firearms, cannons. The battle rages ever more furious. Beaked prows ram the flagship again and again, but to no avail, as, unscathed and undaunted, it keeps on its course. At times a formidable ram splinters a gaping hole into its hull, but, immediately, a breeze from the two columns instantly seals the gash.

"Meanwhile, enemy cannons blow up; firearms and beaks fall to pieces; ships crack up and sink to the bottom. In a blind fury, the enemy takes to hand-to-hand combat, cursing and blaspheming. Suddenly the Pope falls, seriously wounded. He is instantly helped up, but, struck a second time, dies. A shout of victory rises from the enemy, and wild rejoicing sweeps their ships. But no sooner is the Pope dead, than another takes his place. The captains of the auxiliary ships elected him so quickly, that the news of the Pope's death coincides with that of his successor's election. The enemy's self-assurance wanes.

"Breaking through all resistance, the new Pope steers his ships safely between the two columns; first, to the one surmounted by the Host, and then to the other, topped by the statue of the Virgin. At this point, something unexpected happens. The enemy ships panic and disperse, colliding with and scuttling each other. "Some auxiliary ships, which had gallantly fought alongside their flagship, are the first to tie up at the two columns. Many others, which had fearfully kept far away from the fight, stand still, cautiously waiting until the wrecked enemy ships vanish under the waves. Then they, too, head for the two columns, tie up at the swinging hooks, and ride safe and tranquil beside their flagship. A great calm now covers the sea."

SBB. (Memoirs, Vol. VII, 107-108.)

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The Dreams and Visions of Saint John Bosco

<https://youtu.be/oBo3SfHguCM>

St. John Bosco HD

<https://youtu.be/5rXZxoLCkes>

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Novena to Don Bosco | Novena to Saint John Bosco

1ST DAY - Love for Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament

O Saint John Bosco, you loved Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament and zealously promoted this devotion by encouraging participation in the Holy Eucharist, reception of Holy Communion and daily Visits. Pray for us that, inspired by your example, we may grow in this love, so that we may end our days strengthened and comforted by the Heavenly Food of the Most Holy Eucharist.

Through your intercession may God grant me the following grace... [pause]... so that together with others I may assist in bringing young people to the love of Christ in the Eucharist.

Our Father... Hail Mary... Glory be to the Father...

2ND DAY - Devotion to Our Blessed Mother

O Saint John Bosco, you loved the Blessed Virgin, Mary Immaculate Help of Christians, taking her as your Mother and Guide, and becoming her apostle. Pray for us that, inspired by your example, we may grow in true and enduring love for this sweetest of mothers, and may thus win her powerful protection in life and especially at the hour of our death.

Through your intercession may God grant me the following grace...

[pause]...

so that together with others I may assist in bringing young people to the love of Mary Our Help.

Our Father... Hail Mary... Glory be to the Father...

3RD DAY - Loyalty to the Church and to the Pope

O Saint John Bosco, you nurtured a filial love for the Church and the Pope, and you courageously spoke and wrote in their defense. Pray for us that, inspired by your example, we may be faithful sons and daughters of Holy Mother Church, and may likewise love and honor the Holy Father as the Vicar of Jesus Christ on earth.

Through your intercession may God grant me the following grace...

[pause]...

so that together with others I may assist in bringing young people to the love of the Church.

Our Father... Hail Mary... Glory be to the Father...

4TH DAY - For Young People

O Saint John Bosco, you became father, teacher, and friend to young people by the great love and personal sacrifice with which you worked for their salvation. Pray for us that, inspired by your example, we also may love this chosen portion of God's flock with Christ's own pastoral charity, and receive every child as we would the Lord Jesus himself.

Through your intercession may God grant me the following grace... [pause]... so that together with others I may assist and help young people in today's society.

Our Father... Hail Mary... Glory be to the Father...

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Don Bosco:

Mission to Love (Part 1)

<https://youtu.be/KsnICd9E8dw>

Don Bosco - John's dream at the age of nine (1825)

<https://youtu.be/mud2EiRzDBo>

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5TH DAY - For Salesian Brothers, Sisters, and Priests

O Saint John Bosco, you founded the Salesian Society and the Institute of the daughters of Mary Help of Christians for the continuation and extension of the work on behalf of young people. Pray for all your sons and daughters, the members of these two religious families that, inspired by your example and imbued with your spirit they may be faithful to their religious consecration and steadfast in the Salesian mission.

Through your intercession may God grant me the following grace... [pause]... so that together with the sons and daughters of your religious families I may assist and help young people.

Our Father... Hail Mary... Glory to the Father...

6TH DAY - For Salesian Co-operators and the Salesian Family

O Saint John Bosco, you founded the Association of Salesian Co-operators, the seed of the worldwide Salesian Family, in order to ensure the widest possible participation in the charitable work on behalf of young people. Pray for all the members of the Salesian Family that, inspired by your example and bonded in one spirit, they may share in the Salesian mission and model in their life and work pastoral educative charity. Through your intercession may God grant me the following grace... [pause]...

so that together with the Salesian Family I may assist and help young people in today's society.

Our Father... Hail Mary... Glory to the Father...

7TH DAY - For Missionaries

O Saint John Bosco, in your love and concern for all the scattered children of God, you sent your sons and daughters to the farthest part of the world to bring the knowledge of the loving God and the Light of the Gospel. Pray for all missionaries, and pray for us, that, inspired by your example and in your spirit, we may be united in work and prayer to win souls for Christ.

Through your intercession may God grant me the following grace...

[pause]...

so that together with Salesian missionaries all over the world I may assist in bringing young people to the love of Christ.

Our Father... Hail Mary... Glory be to the Father...

8TH DAY - For Purity

O Saint John Bosco, you prized the virtue of purity highly and strove with all your might to foster it in the hearts of young and old. Pray for us that, inspired by your example, we may nurture it in our hearts and minds and may act effectively to defend our young people against a culture pervaded by sex and violence.

Through your intercession may God grant me the following grace...

[pause]...

so that together with others I may assist in bringing young people to the love of Christ.

Our Father... Hail Mary... Glory be to the Father...

9TH DAY - For Family, Friends, and those in Need

O Saint John Bosco, you were full of compassion toward all people, especially the young, who suffered from illness, poverty, hunger, injustice, and alienation. Pray for all in need, and for us too, that the blessings of God and protection of Mary Help of Christians may be on us all, to heal us, strengthen us, and comfort us. Pray for our families, especially for our young people, that they may be kept safely in God's grace. Intercede for us in life and in death so that we may eternally sing the Divine mercies in heaven.

Through your intercession may God grant me the following grace...

[pause]...

so that together with others I may bring young people to the love of Christ.

Our Father... Hail Mary... Glory be to the Father...



PRAYER REQUEST

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