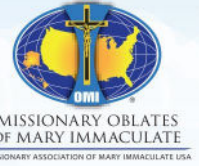




OBLATE ACADEMY

HELPING CHILDREN KEEP GOD IN THEIR LIVES



Saint of the Month for April 2024: Saint John Baptist de la Salle

Teaching Tips for Grades K-2

Saint John Baptist de la Salle born more than 370 years ago in France. He was the son of very wealthy parents and was the first of 11 children.

He was studying to be a priest, but when his mother and father died, he went home to take care of his brothers and sisters. After they had all grown up, he went back to school and became a priest.

Saint John believed all young people—not just the rich—should be able to go to good schools and learn. He brought together a group of principles who wanted to teach poor children and spent his own money to open schools.

Saint John formed a group called the Brothers of the Christian Schools. Their job was to educate children, especially children whose families didn't have a lot of money. The Christian Brothers grew and started a lot of schools. They even helped introduce the blackboard to make it easier for kids to learn.

Saint John believed schools were a place to learn about faith and that a teacher's job was to share Christ's love and grace.

Saint John Baptist de la Salle's feast day is April 7. He is the patron saint of school principals and teachers.

Prayer of St. John Baptist de la Salle

Saint John Baptist de la Salle, as you withdrew from school to help care for your siblings until they grew and were able to take care for themselves, help me to be like you and care for those in need.

As you taught both rich and poor children, help me to use my talents to help teach others. As you used your money to make schools for children to learn, help me to use what I have to teach children who don't have a lot of money.

You are the patron of principals and teachers. Guide and direct our principals and teachers.

Help me to seek Christ's face always. Through Christ Our Lord, Amen.

Saint John Baptist de la Salle, pray for us!