

# St. John Bosco



"Serve the Lord joyfully!"

The vibrant St. John Bosco was born in Italy and followed in his faithful mother's footsteps. His father died when he was just 2. From a young age, John was attracted to the priesthood, but he couldn't afford to go to school. Fortunately, he found a priest willing to help him, and he was able to enter the seminary.

After his ordination, Father Bosco was assigned to work in the large city of Turin, Italy. There, he saw children living in terrible poverty and wanted to help them. He stood in the streets juggling or performing magic tricks to put a smile on the kids' faces. His friendly demeanor invited them to learn about Christ. His love for young people and faith led Father Bosco to create a boys' school, that would not only give boys an education, but also a home. In 1859, he established a new religious order, the Salesians, to help further his mission.

Thousands attended Father Bosco's funeral in 1888. Shortly after his death, there was a popular movement to canonize him as a saint. Pope Pius XI canonized St. John Bosco in 1934. The Salesians are now one of the largest religious orders in the Catholic Church, and they still live out their mission to educate and care for youth. St. John Bosco is the patron saint of young people, school children, youth ministers and magicians.

CUT THIS PAGE IN HALF TO HANG YOUR MASTERPIECE ON THE FRIDGE OR WALL!

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BOYS  
EVANGELIZE  
FUN  
ITALY  
JUGGLE

JOHN BOSCO  
MAGICIAN  
PRIEST  
YOUTH MINISTER  
YOUNG PEOPLE