

**Let us
remember
that we are
in the holy
presence
of God.**

Saint John Baptist de La Salle



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Patron Saint of Teachers

Saint John Baptist de La Salle was born to a wealthy family in northern France at a time when education was reserved for the rich. He was ordained a priest in 1678 and got involved in teaching almost by chance. He formed the Brothers of the Christian Schools, gave up his wealth, and devoted his life to teaching.

Saint John Baptist de La Salle integrated prayer into all aspects of school life and encouraged his students to live in God's presence. Every half-hour a bell would ring, and someone would announce, "Let us remember that we are in the holy presence of God."

He taught his followers to look for God's purpose in their lives and to see every event through the eyes of faith. He saw teaching and every act of service as a way to pray.

Saint John Baptist de La Salle introduced methods like classroom teaching and individual reports about students' progress that are considered common practice today. He was canonized in 1900.



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