

# Saint John Bosco

(1815-1888)

Play hard and  
**pray**  
hard.



**John Bosco** was born to a farming family in Italy. He was a fun-loving boy, and he used his fun-loving ways to teach other children about God. He put on shows for the neighborhood children. He did magic tricks, juggled, and walked the tightrope. The "ticket" to the show was one Rosary, recited by the spectators on the spot! At the very end, John would repeat the parish priest's Sunday sermon for all to hear!

When John grew up, he became a priest. He founded religious communities of both men and women to work with him in teaching and helping children, and he had special concern for the young boys he found living on the streets. He gave these boys a home and prepared them to live good and honest lives through education and work training. Saint John is now honored as the patron saint of young people.



## Prayer

**Saint John Bosco**, pray for me, so that I may use my gifts and talents to bring the love of God to others. Amen.

How can you use your gifts and talents to bring joy and love to others? Share your thoughts with Saint John Bosco below.

