

just as Don Bosco took care of the boys. The new community increased with great speed and spread from Italy to South America.

The Salesians were fully approved in 1874. In 1875, Don Bosco sent missionaries to Argentina to convert some very brutal savages. It had been one of his greatest wishes to have Salesian Missionaries.

Don Bosco's method of teaching was Reason, Religion and Kindness. He realized that he had to like the boys and that they also had to see the love he had for them. In short, he had to be a loving priestly father and foster father to all the boys. He gave the boys a sense of responsibility, he removed the occasions of sin and disobedience by giving them positive things to do, he showed the boys that he appreciated their efforts to do good and he was always friendly towards them. In 1877 he wrote: ***"I don't remember ever to have used formal punishment on my boys. By God's grace I have always been able to get my boys to follow the rules and even my slightest wishes."***

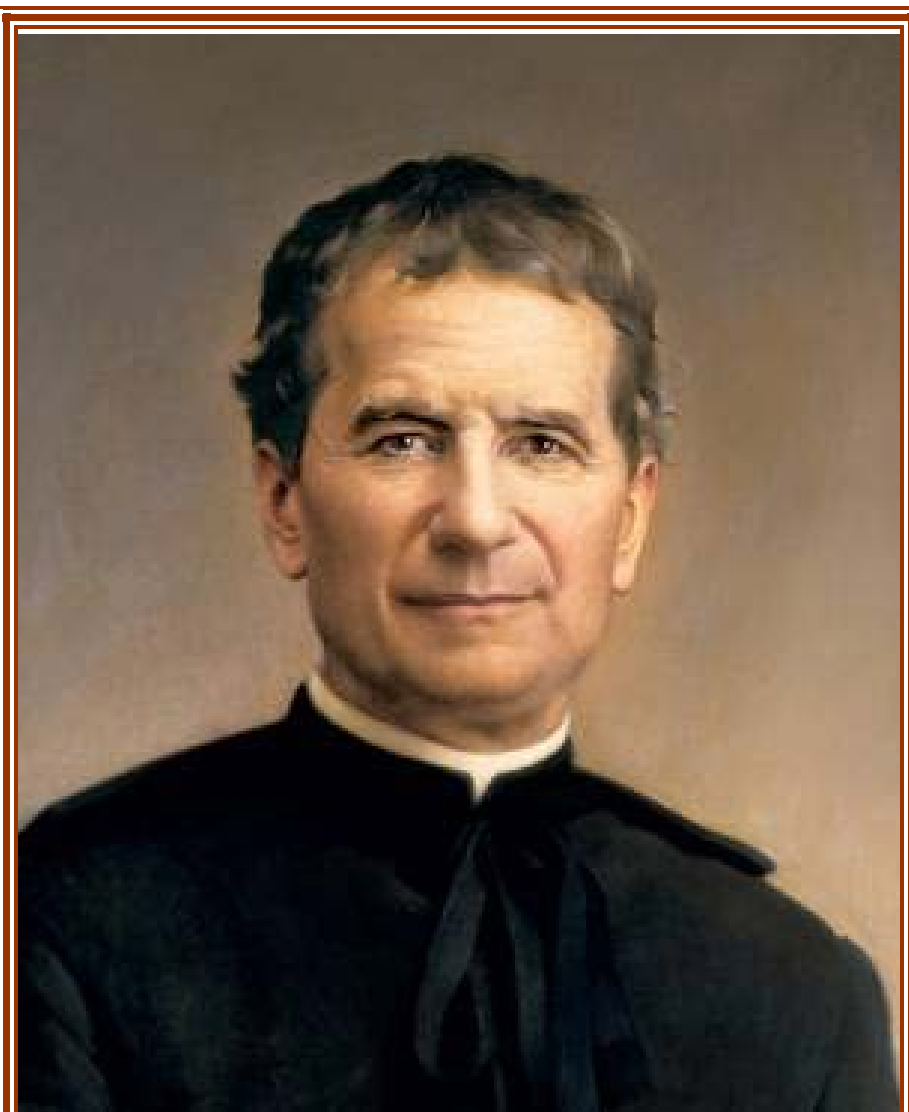
Don Bosco also worked many miracles through his prayers: Multiplying Communion Hosts, multiplying bread, and multiplying chestnuts for his boys. When the boys saw these miracles it helped them to realize how holy their priest really was. Don Bosco had many dreams as well and he was able to tell his boys the state of their souls if they were in the state of mortal sin.

Our saint's last big effort was building the Sacred Heart Church in Rome. It was Pope Pius IX's idea and he had given money to buy the site. The next Pope, Leo XIII, took over the project but was unable to get the church started so the job was given to Don Bosco. When he could not collect any more money from Italy he went to France. There the people poured money into his hands and the church was completed in May 1887.

By now, Don Bosco was worn out. He had spent all his energy especially in the last two years. He had refused to take the rest that the doctor had told him to take. His lungs were worn out and he had other ailments as well. The last months of his life were spent at the Oratory with his boys. He died happily on January 31, 1888.

St. John Bosco, Friend of Poor Boys...Pray for Us!

***The End***



**St. John Bosco**

## **THE GUARDIAN OF CRUSADERS**

**Bulletin of the Eucharistic Crusade for Canada**

**September 2012 # 228**

## The conversion of those who left the church

Dear Crusaders,

On page six of this bulletin, you will find the intention of the month, for the return of those who left the Church. To illustrate this intention, there is a drawing of a group of men begging at the door of a castle to be admitted. Notice that it happened on a stormy day in winter.

You may wonder who are these people, and what they are doing, waiting outside in the cold for a charitable soul to open the door?

It is Henry IV, emperor of Germany, with his companions. He is begging at the door of the castle of Canossa, home of Pope Gregory VII, to be forgiven for his sin of rebellion, and readmitted in full communion with the Church. Through the humility of Henry IV and the mercy of Pope Gregory VII, the situation of the Church was secured in Europe for a long period of time.

From that beautiful story, we learn how important it is to pray for the return of leaders, who left the Church, because many people will follow their example, good or bad. Let all our Crusaders offer their prayers, communions and sacrifices of this month for such a worthy intention!

Fr. Dominique Boulet

\* On August 15<sup>th</sup> & September 2<sup>nd</sup>, a Mass is being said for the intentions of the Eucharistic Crusade in Canada



Eucharistic Crusade  
Canada

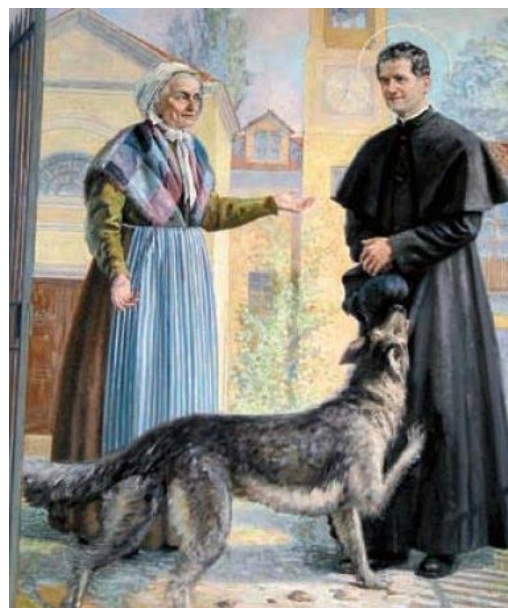
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four resolutions he took at the age of 7 when he received his First Holy Communion was **"Death before sin"**. He had a temper but with God's help he overcame this fault. Dominic Savio was very pure all his life and he died when he was almost 15. He was canonized a saint in 1954.

In December 1859, with twenty-two companions, Don Bosco finally decided to go ahead with his Salesian Congregation, whose rules had received the general approval of Blessed Pope Pius IX.

In 1863, Don Bosco set about building the magnificent Basilica of Our Lady Help of Christians. When the builder was about to start the priest gave him only six cents; that was all that he had. Then he added: **"Don't worry Our Lady will surely find the money for her church. I am only her cashier."** For six years Don Bosco gave himself no rest, raising money for the shrine of his beloved Madonna. When the church was dedicated in 1868 it was completely paid for. At the opening ceremony Don Bosco said: **"Every brick, every stone, was a miracle of Our Lady."**



Don Bosco had a lot of enemies and some of them even wanted to kill him. But God in His mercy sent a grey dog about three feet high to protect him from time to time. Don Bosco named the dog **"Grigio"** and for many years the dog kept him company at night. The dog was around at least from 1854 until 1883 and saved Don Bosco's life at least twice. When the priest's life was no longer threatened he disappeared, except for one time in 1883 when he led Don Bosco and his friend to the house

because they were lost.

Don Bosco's second great work was the founding of the Daughters of Our Lady Help of Christians. In 1872, twenty-seven young women took the habit of this Order. Their Superior was St. Mary Mazzarello. These nuns took care of poor girls,

## ST. JOHN BOSCO: FRIEND OF BOYS

Orders. The Jesuits and the Sacred Heart Sisters had been thrown out of Italy, many convents had been closed and many laws were passed cutting back the laws of Religious Orders. However, the statesman Rattazzi, one day met Don Bosco and encouraged him to found a society to carry on his great work with his boys.

In January 1854, Don Bosco had a meeting. He told four of his youngest men: ***"We will make a promise to do works of charity to help our neighbours. And we will call ourselves Salesians, after St. Francis de Sales. Perhaps later we will be able to take vows."***

Don Bosco built a church and when that was finished he built a house for his increasing family of boys. The money came in miraculously. The boys who came to the Oratory were of two sorts—some would be apprentices and some would become future helpers and possible priests or brothers. At first the boys attended classes outside the Oratory, but as more help became available, courses and grammar were taught at the Oratory.

By 1856, there were 150 boys living at the Oratory, with four workshops, and a printing press. It was good to see the Oratory progressing so well. But it was even better to see the souls of the boys becoming holy. Don Bosco had told his boys: ***"Everyone of you boys can become a saint. In fact you are all called to become saints."*** This was proven many times to the holy priest. Two different times he walked into the church and found one of his boys in ecstasy. He was kneeling and floating in the air as he was praying.

In November of 1856, Mama Margarita lay dying of pneumonia. The Oratory boys stormed Heaven with their prayers, hoping that she would recover. But the good woman passed away on November 25<sup>th</sup>. It is possible that she went straight to Heaven for while she lived her lips were always praying and she practised charity to a great degree. She is now Venerable.

One of the most outstanding boys who came to live at the Oratory was Dominic Savio. He made many sacrifices and worked hard to become a saint. The best of the



John Bosco was born in Becchi, Italy on August 16, 1815. He was good-natured and witty, with a temper. He lost his father at the age of 2 and Mama Margarita raised her boys: Anthony, John and Joseph, as good Catholics.

Mama Margarita helped to form John's character. When his temper flared up she talked to him and calmed him down. She liked his ways of winning people to God. As a boy he would put on shows as a juggler, a magician and an acrobat. And he would say prayers before and after the performance.

In 1825, when John was only 9, he had a dream about a bunch of boys. When they used bad language he would beat them up and use harsh words. But Jesus appeared and said: ***"You will never make them your friends by treating them that way. Be kind and gentle with them. Show them how they can mend their ways and become decent boys."*** Then the Virgin Mary told John: ***"Look!"*** and the boys turned into goats, dogs, wild cats and bears. Mary said: ***"This will be your field of action but first you must grow up to be humble, strong and sturdy. The change you will now see in these animals you will then bring about in my children."*** And suddenly the wild animals all became little lambs. John always remembered this dream.

John wanted to become a priest but for lack of money he was not able to go to school. And Anthony, John's older brother, got angry with him when he would study and read books. Anthony



thought that John should just be a farmer and work in the fields.

Anthony became so harsh that in 1828, Margarita sent John to the Moglia farm where he could work for a living and have time to study. At first John was refused work but when the owner's wife and daughter pleaded for him, he was kept on as a worker for two years, and treated like a family member.

One day Fr. Calosso, the pastor of Becchi, gave a church mission. After the mission John spoke to the pastor. The priest asked John to repeat the sermon of the evening and the morning and John did so, word for word. John had a special grace from God; he could remember everything once he heard it! John told the priest about his home situation and that he would like to study. Anthony would not let John go to study, so he moved to the priest's house and there he learned Italian and Latin grammar and composition. John was doing excellent in his studies but one day the old priest died.

When John was 16 he entered the seminary at Chieri. After he became a Deacon he went to the Turin Theological College. During his stay there, on Sundays, he gathered together a bunch of poor boys from Turin to teach them Catechism and play games with them.

At one point John decided to become a Franciscan, but his priest friend, St. Joseph Cafasso, told him: ***"Carry on your work with the boys. That, and nothing else, is God's will for you."***

Finally on June 5, 1841, John was ordained a priest; he was 25 years old. Mama Margarita attended the ceremony and after John's ordination she told him: ***"Remember that to begin to say Mass is to begin to suffer. From now on you must think only of saving souls. Never worry about me."***

Don Bosco was first appointed as assistant chaplain to a girl's boarding school founded in Turin by the Marchesa di Barola. On Sundays and feast days the priest had his growing group of boys come to the boarding school grounds to learn their Catechism and play games. But because the boys were so noisy, after a while the Marchesa said they had to go. Don Bosco tried to find other places for them but none were permanent. The Marchesa gave Don Bosco a choice—either her girls or his boys; he chose to look after his boys.

*(Continued on page 9)*

*(...Continued from Page 4)*

In 1846, Don Bosco rented the Pinardi shed for his boys. This was the beginning of the Oratory. He started evening classes and as time went on he had as many as 700 boys at the Oratory on Sundays.



For years Don Bosco always had need of more help. Many priests came to help him but sooner or later they would give up because they could not master his teaching methods or did not have the patience with the young boys. By 1850, Don Bosco had only one helper left,

so he decided to train young men himself to do the work. But one thing was missing; the boys needed a mother. Don Bosco rented a few more rooms and went to Becchi to talk to his mother. ***"Mother, I need a housekeeper. I need a mother for my boys. And I can't think of anyone better than you to fill the position. Will you come to live with me?"***

Margarita replied: ***"You know how happy I am living with your brother Joseph and everyone else in my own home. But if you think that it is God's will then I am ready to give up everything to go and live with you."***

In a short time Don Bosco and his mother spent all the money they had and Mama Margarita even sold her property to get more money. Before long forty orphan boys, most of them apprentices, came to live at the Oratory. Don Bosco soon realized that it was better to train his boys at the Oratory. So in 1853, he opened his first workshops for tailors and shoemakers.

It was a bad time for starting a new congregation, because there were many anti-clerical people who were against Religious

Q	O	M	A	S	S	C	I	L	O	H	T	A	C
P	R	A	Y	I	N	G	C	H	U	R	C	H	A
B	A	S	I	L	I	C	A	Q	Z	O	Q	U	T
Z	T	G	Q	Z	G	R	A	C	E	S	Q	M	E
X	O	R	H	O	L	Y	Z	Q	Z	A	Q	B	C
P	R	I	E	S	T	S	X	X	Q	R	X	L	H
M	Y	G	Z	U	X	S	I	N	S	Y	Z	E	I
I	M	I	G	F	F	A	I	T	H	H	V	C	S
R	A	O	O	F	X	Q	X	Z	X	A	V	H	M
A	R	Z	D	E	J	E	S	U	S	B	Q	A	N
C	Y	Q	Z	R	X	P	O	P	E	I	X	R	U
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E	G	E	L	L	O	C	Z	J	O	H	N	T	S
S	A	L	E	S	I	A	N	S	Q	B	O	Y	S

CATECHISM  
 SALESIANS  
 CATHOLIC  
 MIRACLES  
 ORATORY  
 COLLEGE  
 BASILICA  
 CHARITY  
 PRAYING  
 HUMBLE

CHURCH  
 ROSARY  
 PRIESTS  
 GRACES  
 SUFFER  
 GRIGIO  
 LAMBS  
 FAITH  
 HABIT  
 JOHN

MARY  
 ITALY  
 JESUS  
 HOLY  
 MASS  
 BOYS  
 NUNS  
 POPE  
 SINS  
 GOD

This true story is about a lady (let’s call her Kathy) who was converted by saying three Hail Marys. She learned about them when she was 8 years old from a Nun who was her teacher. The Sister told Kathy: *“Whenever you want something special, pray three Hail Marys in honour of Our Lady’s Wisdom, Power and Goodness.”*

Kathy practiced her Catholic Faith up until about the time she was 19, when she entered college. After entering college she began to slip away. Kathy says: *“Because I turned my back on God, I began to lead the life of one who no longer sees the difference between right and wrong.”*

After many mistakes in her life, Kathy came to a point where she didn’t really care about herself. God then used a certain event in her life to bring her back to Him.

Kathy began praying the Rosary, and going to Mass and Confession again. She says: *“At some point, Our Lady let me know that it was through her prayers that I was allowed the grace to come back to the Catholic Faith. One day I understood why Our Lady had brought me back to the Faith. For many, many years I was away from the Catholic Faith, but the only thing I ever did that was Catholic, was pray the three Hail Marys. I usually prayed the three Hail Marys when I wanted a favour, but pray them I did and quite often. That was all I prayed.”*

*“In fact, when I started coming back to the Faith I had to relearn many prayers, for it had been so long since I had prayed them that I had forgotten the words. It was the three Hail Marys that Our Lady used to give these graces to me. I am forever grateful to Mary for her prayers and help in bringing me back to the Faith. And I am thankful for the gift of the three Hail Marys.”*

# INTENTION FOR THE MONTH OF September 2012

## Daily offering

(To be recited every morning when you wake up)



O Jesus, through the Immaculate Heart of Mary, I offer Thee all my prayers, works, joys and sufferings of this day, for all the intentions of Thy Sacred Heart, in union with the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass throughout the world, and in reparation for my sins. I offer them **for the return of those who left the Church.**

May 2012 Treasure Sheets

	Daily Off.	Mass	Sacr. Com.	Spir. Com.	Sacrif.	Dec. Ros.	Visit Bl. S.	15 Min.	Good Example	Quantity
NB & NS										
QC										
ON	1096	493	387	904	2212	4590	332	521	1664	39
MB										
SK	184	22	22	183	832	975	22	36	691	6
AB	215	80	76	187	322	1220	92	210	297	7
BC	398	80	46	118	278	1178	33	0	110	16
<b>Total</b>	<b>1893</b>	<b>675</b>	<b>531</b>	<b>1392</b>	<b>3644</b>	<b>7963</b>	<b>479</b>	<b>767</b>	<b>2762</b>	<b>68</b>

# TREASURE CHART FOR THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER 2012

Day	Daily Off.	Mass	Sacr. Com.	Spir. Com.	Sacr if.	Decades of Rosary	Visits Bl. Sacr.	15 Minutes Silence	Good Example
1									
2									
3									
4									
5									
6									
7									
8									
9									
10									
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25									
26									
27									
28									
29									
30									
<b>Total</b>									

✂-----Cut here-----

September 2012

Total of the Month										
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To be sent to the secretariat of the Eucharistic Crusade, 45 Guthrie Avenue, Toronto, ON, M8Y 3L2 or e-mail [EucharisticCrusadeCDN@gmail.com](mailto:EucharisticCrusadeCDN@gmail.com)