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# Seasoning the Seasons™

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Feast of Saint John Bosco

## Saint John Bosco: January 31

January 31 is the Feast Day of Saint John Bosco. Saint John Bosco was born in the country of Italy almost 200 years ago. He was the youngest of three children, and his father died when he was two years old. His family was very poor.



Carlo Felice Dessati, Don Bosco, Torino, 1887

When he grew up, John studied to be a priest. He especially liked working with young people. In the city where John was living at the time, there were many young boys who had left home to work in the city. They were all alone and had no where to live and no one to look after them. Sometimes they got into trouble.

Saint John Bosco helped these young boys. He started a home where they could live, and he taught them about God and Jesus, and he helped them learn how to do jobs like make shoes and clothes. Saint John Bosco was very kind to these boys and they liked him very much.

Saint John Bosco started a religious order called the Salesians named after Saint Francis de Sales. Today there are many priests and religious sisters in this order. They live and help people all over the world.

Saint John Bosco is the patron saint of students and school children. Choose one of the activities below to celebrate the Feast Day of Saint John Bosco. Use the back of this handout, or a separate piece of paper.

1. List three things about Jesus you think Saint John Bosco taught to children.
2. Draw a picture of Saint John Bosco teaching young people.