

Sunday, January 1, 2023

Saint Andre Bessette was a Canadian brother of the Holy Cross. He was very sick in body but his soul was strong. Because of his health, he did small and lowly jobs like serving as door keeper at Notre Dame College in Montreal for 40 years. He loved visiting with people, listening to them, and healing them. He had a special devotion to Saint Joseph and helped build a large oratory or chapel to honor him! We celebrate the feast of Saint Andre Bessette on January 6. Saint Andre Bessette, pray for us!



"The door to Heaven is the heart of Jesus.
The key to this door is prayer and love."

- Saint Andre Bessette



**Gospel: Luke 2:16-21** 

## **FAMILY TIME**

At the dinner table, in the car, we talk about our faith, wherever we are!



Saint Andre Bessette said that "It is with the smallest brushes that the Artist paints the most exquisitely beautiful pictures." This week's Gospel shows this perfectly. Think about how God, the Artist, paints an exquisite picture with what is small and humble and lowly.

**LITTLE ONES:** We know that Jesus loves little children and wants them to come to him. Pray this very small prayer throughout your day today. Jesus, I love you! Jesus, I love you!

**BIGGER ONES:** Many saints teach us how to do small acts with great love. Today, challenge yourself to do three selfless small acts with great love!

**FAMILY CHALLENGE:** Reread this week's Gospel together; it is full of imagery that paints a beautiful picture of God working through the lowly, the meek, the humble. Children, listen to the Gospel with your eyes closed. In your mind, what does this scene look like? What does it sound like? Rest a moment pondering this scene in your heart.

Psalm 67: "May God bless us in his mercy."

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A I S E L A N T T O E

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## EQUITY GUIDE BLESS GOD PITY NATIONS EXULT SALVATION

PRAISE SHINE



## Let us celebrate!

January 1 is the **Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God.** A solemnity is the highest rank of liturgical celebration, higher than feast days or memorials. This solemnity celebrates Mary's role in the life of Christ. Take time to thank her for saying "yes" to bringing our Savior into the world to redeem us.

Throughout history, many artists have portrayed Our Lady in many different ways. Can you draw a picture of Mary? Parents and big kids, you might enjoy this documentary from EWTN, "The True Face of the Virgin Mary."



**Pray & Color:** The Memorial of the **Most Holy Name of Jesus** is celebrated on January 3. The name of our Lord is powerful, given to Mary and Joseph by the angel. The apostles and their successors healed and cast out demons in his name. His name is powerful for us, too, a name of hope and gladness! We can say his name when we are frightened or need comfort or guidance. Many people bow their heads when they hear his holy name. His name alone is a prayer! Pray Jesus' name over and over while you color his name below.

