

# Faith Loops

Faith Loops are PowerPoint presentations with images and information that will help us grow in the understanding of our Catholic faith. They will be projected on the screens during the twenty minutes prior to each weekend mass.

During that time, the slides will loop, or repeat, themselves. Thus, the name: Faith Loops.



# Saint of the Week: **St. John Bosco**

John Bosco was born in Italy in 1815. His father died when John was two years old and, when he was old enough, John did odd jobs to make some extra money for his family. He practiced gymnastics and magic tricks to entertain townspeople for money.



At the end of each performance, while he still had an audience, John would repeat the homily that he had heard at church.

# Saint of the Week: **St. John Bosco**

John demonstrated a strong work ethic and great intelligence, and he was determined to become a priest. The clergy at that time were very preoccupied with their other duties, and few found the time to counsel, support, and teach John. John's formal education did not start until he was in his mid-teens, and he vowed to dedicate his life to teaching youth and giving them the attention they needed.



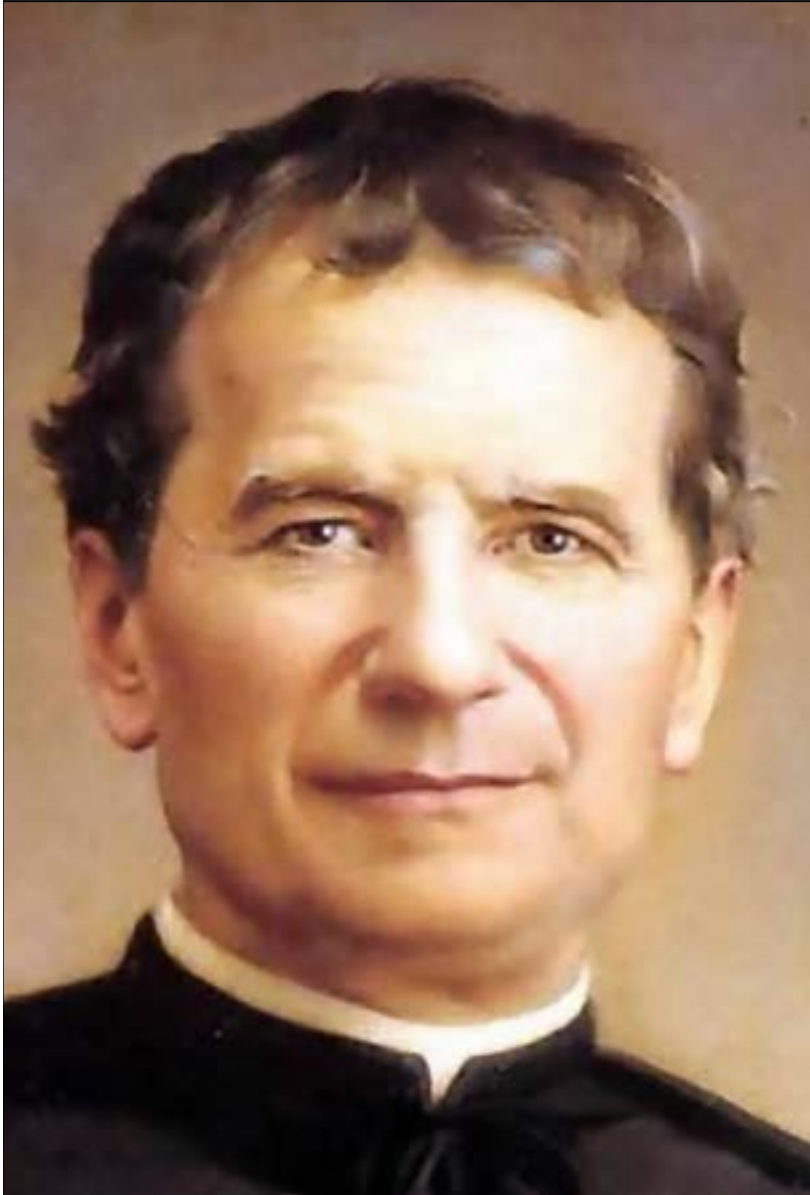
# Saint of the Week: **St. John Bosco**

God spoke to John in many dreams, and many of these dreams came true. Indeed, John excelled in his studies and became a priest and a teacher. He established some schools – which he called **oratories** – for young boys that were living on the streets. He

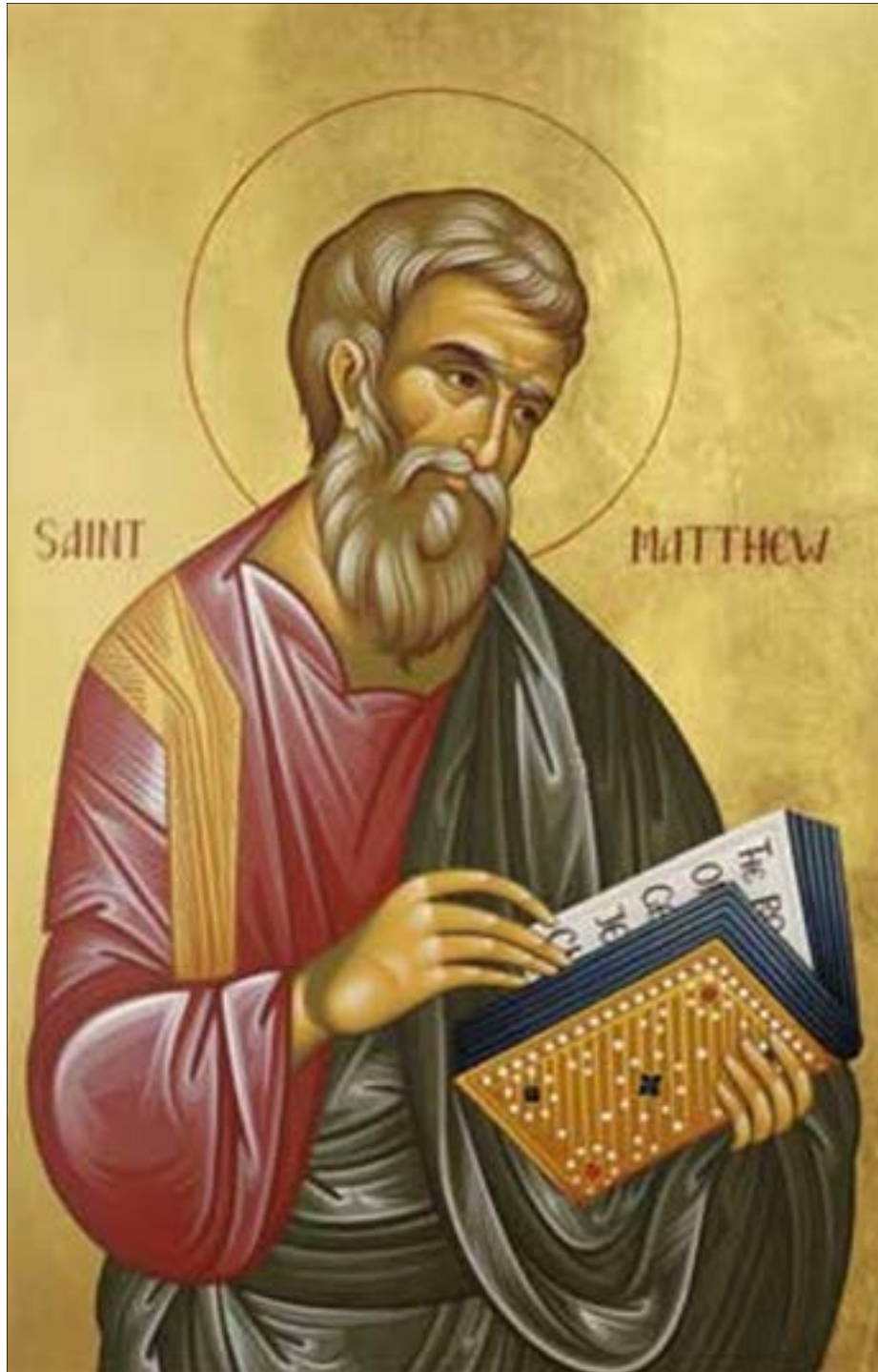


provided them with food and shelter, education and work. Most importantly, he catechized them, taught them to live faithful lives, and offered them love and acceptance.

## Saint of the Week: **St. John Bosco**



John Bosco founded his own order of teaching priests, the Salesians, named after St. Francis de Sales. Salesian schools are now found all around the world. John Bosco died on January 31, 1888. His feast day is January 31. He is the patron saint of boys, youth, apprentices, and editors.



## Test Your Knowledge: The New Testament

The Apostle who was a tax collector, also known as Levi, was:

- a. Matthew
- b. Bartholomew
- c. James
- d. Jude

# Test Your Knowledge: The New Testament

The Apostle who was a tax collector, also known as Levi, was:

**a. Matthew**

His name means 'gift of God' in Aramaic, one of the languages that Jesus spoke. As a tax collector, working for the Romans, Matthew was despised by his own people. Nevertheless, Jesus called Matthew to follow Him, illustrating his mission to reach out to sinners and those marginalized by society.

# Word of the Week: Tradition

The word Tradition (with a capital 'T') comes from a Latin word meaning 'to hand on' and refers to the process of passing on the Gospel message and transmitting Church teaching (doctrine, account, or custom) from one generation to another. The Catholic Church believes that, in addition to Sacred Scripture, some truths are passed on through unwritten traditions given by God through the Apostles.





# Word of the Week: Tradition

Tradition and Sacred Scripture are closely connected. Tradition, which began with the oral communication of the gospel by the Apostles, was written down in the Sacred Scriptures, but is handed down and lived out in the life of Church. It is interpreted by the Magisterium in Rome, under the guidance of the Holy Spirit.



# Word of the Week: Tradition

The Catechism of the Catholic Church states that the Gospel message was transmitted "by the apostles who handed on, by the spoken word of their



preaching, by the example they gave, by the institutions they established, what they themselves had received – whether from the lips of Christ, from his way of life

and his works, or whether they had learned it at the prompting of the Holy Spirit" (CCC #76).

# What Do You Know About Sacraments?

Christ instituted the Seven Sacraments.

True

or

False



BAPTISM



CONFIRMATION



EUCCHARIST



CONFESSION



ANOINTING OF THE SICK



HOLY ORDERS



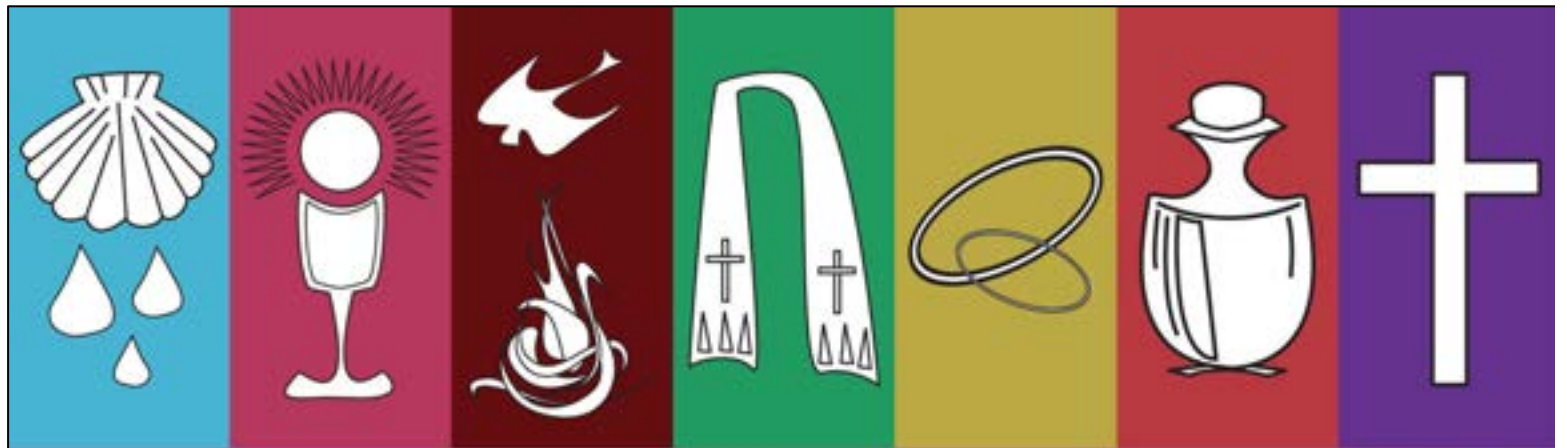
MATRIMONY

# What Do You Know About Sacraments?

**True**

“Christ instituted the Sacraments of the new law. There are seven ...” (CCC, n. 1210).

Baptism, Reconciliation, Eucharist, Confirmation, Marriage (Matrimony), Anointing of the Sick, and Holy Orders.



# Learning About Liturgy

## *Why does the priest wash his hands in preparation for the Liturgy of the Eucharist?*

At this time in the Mass, the priest is preparing for the Liturgy of the Eucharist, during which – through the power of the Holy Spirit working through the priest – the bread and wine become the Body and Blood of Christ. At the end of the Preparation of the Gifts, the Master of Ceremonies (MC) or altar server brings water, a bowl, and a towel for the priest to wash His hands.



# Learning About Liturgy

## *Why does the priest wash his hands in preparation for the Liturgy of the Eucharist?*

Years ago, it was necessary and practical for the priest to wash any dirt off his hands because the people brought gifts of eggs and chickens, and his hands may have been dirty. Today it is a symbolic gesture. During the washing of the hands, the priest prays quietly that God will wash away his sins, before continuing with the Liturgy of the Eucharist. He prays for inner purity using the words from Psalm 51: 2 ... *'Lord, wash away my iniquities and cleanse me from my sin.'*

# 2025 is a Jubilee Year!



Every twenty-five years the Catholic Church celebrates a Jubilee, or Holy Year. It is a great religious event in the life of the Church. It is a year dedicated to forgiveness, reconciliation, conversion, mercy, and re-commitment to our mission to serve God through the Church.

In the Book of Leviticus, a jubilee year is mentioned to occur every 50 years, during which slaves and prisoners would be freed, debts would be forgiven, and the mercies of God would be particularly apparent. A jubilee year was a year of God's favor.

# Jubilee Year 2025

This is the logo for Jubilee 2025.

The *figures* represent humanity from the four corners of the earth, embracing in the solidarity that unites people.

The *Cross* is the sign of faith that embraces and of hope that can never be abandoned.





# Jubilee Year 2025

The *waves* remind us that the pilgrimage of life does not always move in calm waters.

The lower part of the Cross extends into an *anchor*, a universal symbol of hope.

The pilgrim's journey is not individual, but rather a *communal* one.



# St. Thomas Aquinas

We have all heard about this saint. Our Catholic schools in Beaumont are part of St. Thomas Aquinas Roman Catholic School Division.



Thomas Aquinas was born into a wealthy, noble family in 1225. At the age of five, he began studying at Monte Cassino, a nearby Benedictine monastery. At 16 he attended the University of Naples to pursue liberal arts. There he was intrigued by the Dominican order of priests, known as the Order of Preachers. Thomas became a Dominican priest and preacher.



Thomas became a prolific writer on matters of philosophy and theology. When grappling with difficult theological issues, he would often rest his forehead on a tabernacle. Then, and ever since, St. Thomas Aquinas has been known for the wisdom he showed in his theological works. His most well-known work is the *Summa Theologica*.

He was a virtuous man, known for both purity and chastity. Thomas died in 1274 and was canonized in 1323. His feast day is January 28. He is the patron saint of students and universities.

Thomas Aquinas is known as one of the doctors of the Church and one of the greatest theologians of all time.

But did you know that this great theologian also wrote some of the texts still sung at Catholic Masses today, notably Pange Lingua Gloriosi (Sing My Tongue the Savior's Glory), which is traditionally sung on the Feast of Corpus Christi, Holy Thursday, and during Holy Week. He also wrote Adoro Te Devote, a hymn of thanksgiving found in the Roman Missal. The English translation is entitled 'Humbly Lord, We Worship You'.





## Let Us Pray ... The Eight Second Prayer

"Lord, I love you and I need you.  
Come into my heart,  
and bless me,  
my family, my home,  
and my friends,  
in Jesus' name. Amen."

# Prayer Before Mass

Dear God, help me to be open to all that you want to  
give me at Mass today.

My heart is open.

I come empty and unsure and troubled.

I come in hope.

I come in need to be loved by you,  
united with this faith community,

strengthened by your word,  
and nourished by the Bread of Life.



Cleanse me. Refresh me.

Strengthen me for the journey ahead.

Lead me to heaven.

Thank you, God, for this time together.

Thank you, God, for everything. Amen.

# Questions???

Do you have a question about the Catholic faith or about the celebration of the Mass? If so, write it on a piece of paper and drop it into the marked shoebox on the table at the back of the church. We will try to answer it in a Faith Loop at a later date.

Thank you.

