

Sister's Spin

April 7, 2022

In this season of Lent, not many saints' feast days are celebrated. If you are a teacher, however, you should celebrate a little bit today for it is the feast of St. John Baptist de LaSalle. While Thomas Aquinas is the patron saint of students, **John de LaSalle is the patron saint of all educators**, His knowledge and clerical standing led many to believe he would become someone great in the Church, but John chose a different path. He heard of the need to teach the poor children of France, so he opened schools for the poor and taught them in new ways. Seeing the poor quality of teachers, he opened a school to teach teachers and laid very strict standards of behavior of those who would teach youth. Others joined him in these efforts and he began what is known today as the Congregation of Christian Brothers, known for their work in education throughout the world. John died on Good Friday at the age of 68. One of his most important pieces of advice is the following:

Hold prayer in high esteem. It is the foundation of all the virtues, and the source of all grace needed to sanctify ourselves and to discharge the duties of our employment.

May God bless all teachers through the intercession of St. John Baptist de LaSalle!

-Sister Marcianne

