

Prayer

Beloved De La Salle,

you who started this Lasallian family of schools and related ministries,
we remember students in the schools around Hong Kong
who have been inspired by your heritage.

Pray with us today, Holy Founder, for the students at La Salle Primary School.

We lift our voices in unified prayer for we all
value prayer that calls us to remember that we are in the holy presence of God;
we value service that shows others in need that we care about them;
we value education that develops our God-given talents.

Give us the gift of faith that helps us believe in you, O God.

Give us zeal, that is, the enthusiasm, the energy to do good with our lives.

In whatever school we find ourselves, we are proud to call ourselves young Lasallians, walking
in the footsteps of St. John Baptist de La Salle and
declaring "Live Jesus in our hearts. Forever!" Amen.

Saints Sharing

St. John Baptist de La Salle (1)

John Baptist de La Salle was born on the 30th April, 1651, in the town of Rheims in France. He was the eldest child. As a magistrate, his father was rich enough to send him to school. John Baptist was intelligent and hardworking, and he obtained his Master's degree at a young age.

The father of John Baptist expected his son to become a lawyer like himself. However, at the early age of eleven, John Baptist had decided to become a priest. Since his parents were very good Catholics, they were happy with his choice. After many years of study in the seminary, a place for training young men to become priests, the Bishop ordained him when he was twenty-seven on 9th April, 1678.

When he was performing his duties as a priest, John Baptist met many poor children who never went to school. They wandered in the streets and became mischievous, unruly or even bad. He pitied them and made up his mind to help them by setting up schools for these miserable children.

In his schools, the children were not only taught how to read and write, but also to cultivate good manners and above all to pray and live their Catholic faith. Those children soon behaved like 'gentlemen'. His good work attracted not only more children who needed help, but also men who wished to help him. These so called teachers had no training and so John Baptist invited them to join him, to live and pray together so as to strengthen their faith and confidence as well as to improve the quality of their work. This was in 1680.