Key Saints and Blesseds

For the World of Education

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton (1774-1821, feast day January 4), a widowed mother of five children. Her vision of a system of Catholic in which religious sisters would teach and form the young became a reality in the American church.

St. Katherine Drexel (1858-1955, feast day March 3), born into a wealthy family in Philadelphia. Drawn to the vocation of teaching, St. Katherine used her family's wealth to found schools, with a special interest in schools that would serve the Black and Native American communities.

St. Angela Merici (1474-1540, feast day January 27), founder of the Ursuline religious community and a dedicated and passionate teacher. She also recognized the need for teacher formation and established one of the first programs to provide it.

St. John Bosco (1815-1888, feast day January 31), whose joyful philosophy of education formed the basis for his approach to discipline and his desire to offer a Catholic education to those in need. His approach remains integral in many Catholic schools today.



St. John Baptist de la Salle (1651-1719, feast day April 7), a French priest and educational reformer, he founded the Christian Brothers schools. He was inspired to teach the poor and to develop teacher formation programs.

