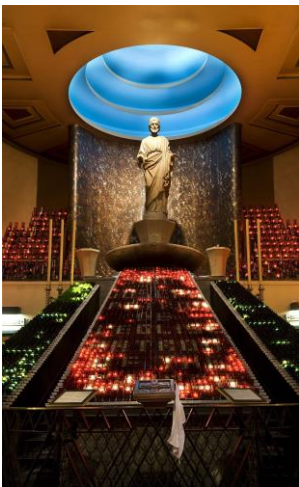
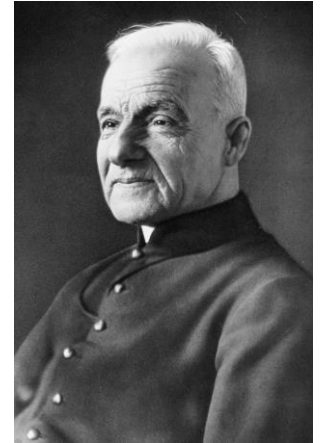


# Sainthood Saturday: Saint André Bessette

## Who is he?

Alfred Besette was born with very poor health in Quebec, Canada. By the age of twelve, his parents passed away. His priest, Fr. André, taught Alfred about his faith in catechism class. There, Alfred became devoted to St. Joseph. Eventually, Alfred joined the Congregation of the Holy Cross and took the name Brother André. He was assigned to be a doorkeeper. There, he met many members of the congregation and prayed with them. Many who were sick were miraculously healed. Brother André never took credit, all the time telling them that it was through the intercession of St. Joseph. Eventually, he was able to build a shrine to St. Joseph. He was canonized by Pope Benedict XVI in 2010.



## Why do we call this the Year of St. Joseph?

Even though our seasons every year do not change, our liturgy is forever living and changing based on what is going on in the world. Every year, the pope dedicates our year to a person or topic so we can reflect on our liturgy ever more deeply. This year, Pope Francis dedicated this year to St. Joseph to remind us to remain with God, even during COVID times, and to remind us of the importance of fathers.

## Want to learn more?

St. André Bessette (including pictures of the Oratory of St. Joseph): <https://holycrosscongregation.org/holy-ones/st-andre-bessette/>

Year of St. Joseph General Information: <https://www.catholicnewsagency.com/news/the-year-of-st-joseph-what-catholics-need-to-know-44623>

Daily Prayer to St. Joseph: <https://www.vaticannews.va/en/pope/news/2020-12/pope-francis-proclaims-year-of-st-joseph.html>

*“When you say to God, ‘Our father,’ He has His ear right next to your lips.”*