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Belongs to*



Book of Saints

“SUPERHEROES OF GOD”

By REV. LAWRENCE G. LOVASIK, S.V.D.

Divine Word Missionary

PART 1

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Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton

January 4

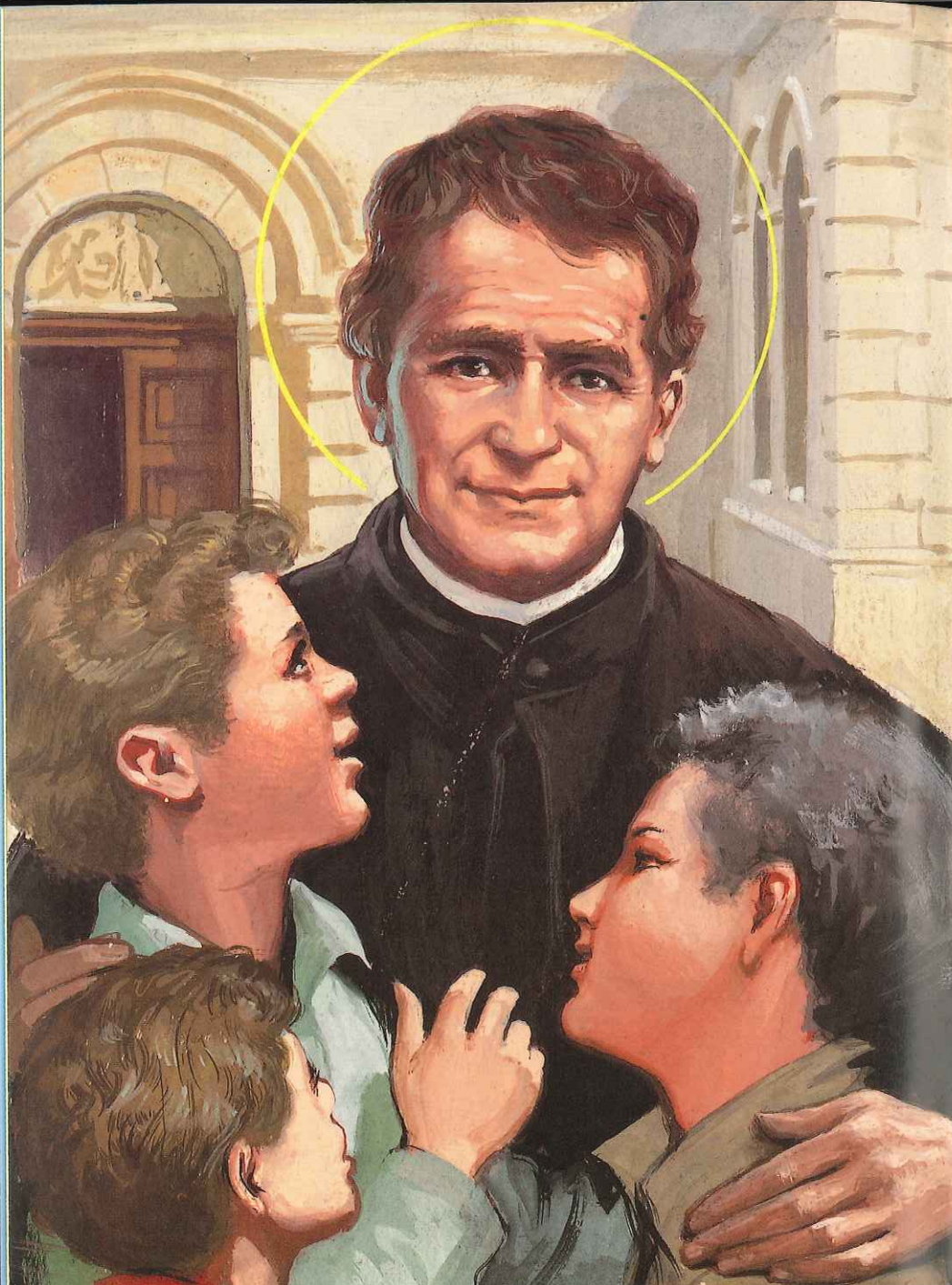
BORN in New York City, August 28, 1774, Elizabeth lost her mother early, and her education became the concern of her father.

At nineteen, Elizabeth married William Magee Seton of New York. Five children were born of their happy union. After her husband's death, the Filicchi—life-long friends—welcomed the grieving widow to their home in Italy.

Elizabeth returned to New York in 1804 and entered the Catholic Church on March 14, 1805. She accepted an invitation from Archbishop Carroll to establish a girls' school in Baltimore. Several women joined her in the religious life, and she became known as "Mother Seton." They were known as Sisters of Charity and lived in Emmitsburg.

A school opened for the children of the parish was the first parochial school in the United States. Elizabeth died on January 4, 1821. In 1963 she became the first American-born citizen to be beatified and on September 14, 1975 she was canonized by Paul VI.





Saint John Bosco

January 31

JOHN was born on a little farm near Turin, Italy, in 1850. His parents were very poor. He walked four miles every day to school for half the year, and then worked in the fields for a farmer, then a tailor, a baker, a shoemaker, and a carpenter. In this way he worked himself through high school, college, and seminary, and became a priest.

Boys loved Father John. He found places for them to meet, to play, and to pray. He rented an old barn in a field which he called "The Oratory." It was a home for boys, especially the poor boys who needed a home. He started many of these oratories. He believed that prayer and Holy Mass and Communion and confession are the best ways of making boys good.

He was called Don Bosco. He founded the religious order of Salesians, a group of priests who would help him in his work for boys in many countries. They taught boys many trades. Many of the boys became priests. He is known as the Apostle of Youth.