

saints of north America



Kateri Tekakwitha



Juan Diego



Rose Philippine
Duchesne



Damien of Molokai



Elizabeth Ann Seton



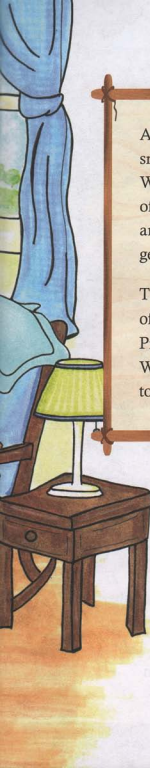
André Bessette





France





Alfred Bessette was born in a small town near Montreal, Canada. When Alfred was a baby he was often sick. His mother would hold him and whisper, "Little Alfred, you will get better soon."

The Bessette family did not have a lot of money, but they had faith in God. Prayer was very important to them. When Alfred prayed, he felt very close to God. He felt peaceful and happy.



Alfred was nine years old when his father died in an accident. A few years later his mother died of tuberculosis. Now orphans, the Bessette children went to live with relatives.

Alfred went to live on a farm with his aunt and uncle. He tried to do his chores. "Can you feed the chickens for me?" asked his uncle. The bucket of feed was heavy. Alfred had trouble lifting it.





“There must be a job I can do,”
thought Alfred. Over the next few years
he worked as a baker, a shoemaker, and
a factory worker. The work was too hard.
Alfred got sick.

During these difficult times Alfred would pray. He prayed to God and his favorite saint—Saint Joseph: “Please help me, Saint Joseph.”

