



# Bernadette Soubirous

Blessed Are the Pure of Heart

1844–1879

Born in Lourdes, France

Feast Day: April 16

Patron of the Sick and the Poor

“Blessed are the pure of heart  
for they shall see God.”

Matthew 5:8

Text by Barbara Yoffie

Illustrated by Chris Sharp

 **Liguori**  
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## Dedication

To my family:  
my parents Jim and Peg,  
my husband Bill,  
our son Sam and daughter-in-law Erin,  
and our precious grandchildren  
Ben, Lucas, and Andrew

To all the children I have had the privilege  
of teaching throughout the years.

*Imprimi Potest:*

Kevin Zubel, CSsR, Provincial  
Denver Province, the Redemptorists

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First Edition

## Dear Parents and Teachers:

*Saints and Me!* is a six-set series of children's books about saints, including: *Saints of North America* who served our homeland; *Saints of Christmas*, who teach us to love Jesus; *Saints for Families*, who modeled God's love within and for the domestic Church; *Saints for Communities*, who served Jesus through various roles and professions; and *Saints for Sacraments*, who showed great love for the sacraments.

The eight books in *Saints of the Beatitudes* (a word meaning “a list of blessings from God”) introduce nine holy people who exemplify attributes Jesus articulated in his Sermon on the Mount. Faustina Kowalska's diary *Divine Mercy in My Soul*, read by millions, helped spread God's message of mercy. Patrick, a missionary, brought Christianity to Ireland. Monica prayed her wayward son, Augustine, would return to the faith. He did and was canonized. Katharine Drexel abandoned her comfortable life to become a nun. Carlo Acutis shared his faith and love of the Eucharist through technology. Bernadette Soubirous experienced visions of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Pope John XXIII convoked the Second Vatican Council, hoping to revive the Church. Jude was an apostle of our Lord.

Which saint was captured by pirates and sold into slavery? Name the saints with back-to-back feast days (August 27–28). Who gave \$20 million to build churches and schools? Who created a website about eucharistic miracles? Who did Jesus appear and speak to? Who said, “My job is to inform, not to convince”? Who wrote *Peace on Earth* in 1963? Who is the patron of impossible causes? Find out in the *Saints of the Beatitudes* set—part of the *Saints and Me!* series—and help children connect to the lives of the saints.

Introduce your children or students to *Saints and Me!* as they:

- READ** about the lives of the saints and are inspired by their stories.
- PRAY** to the saints for their intercession.
- CELEBRATE** the saints and relate them to their lives.

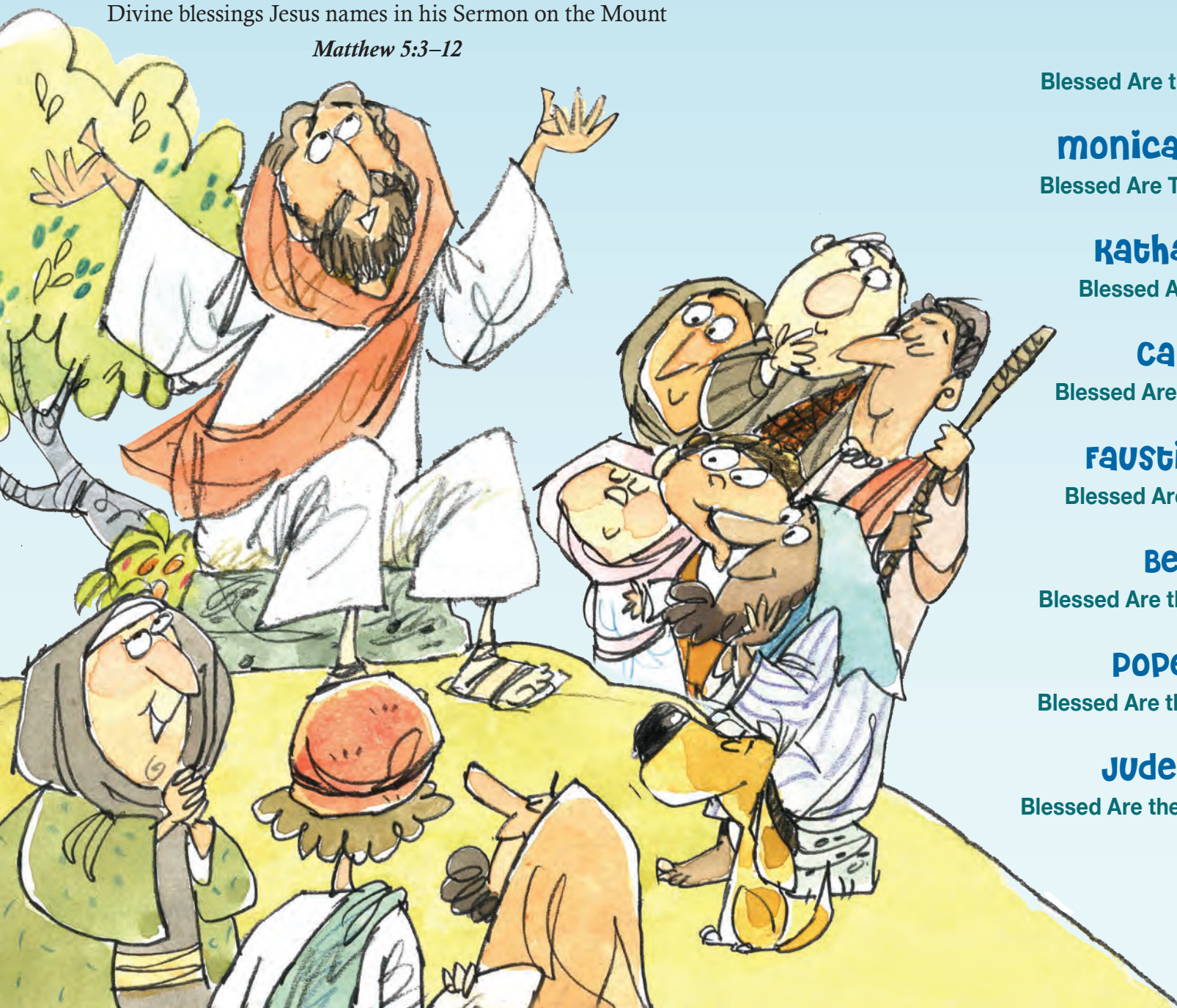
Free activities for children to use with this book  
may be downloaded at [Liguori.org](http://Liguori.org).



# The Beatitudes

Divine blessings Jesus names in his Sermon on the Mount

*Matthew 5:3–12*



## saints of the Beatitudes

**patrick**

Blessed Are the Poor in Spirit (Verse 3)

**monica and Augustine**

Blessed Are They Who Mourn (Verse 4)

**Katharine Drexel**

Blessed Are the Meek (Verse 5)

**Carlo Acutis**

Blessed Are the Righteous (Verse 6)

**Faustina Kowalska**

Blessed Are the Merciful (Verse 7)

**Bernadette**

Blessed Are the Pure of Heart (Verse 8)

**Pope John XXIII**

Blessed Are the Peacemakers (Verse 9)

**Jude the Apostle**

Blessed Are the Persecuted (Verses 10–12)



Bernadette was a quiet little girl who loved God. When she was fourteen years old, God chose her to bring his message of love to the world. The Virgin Mary appeared to Bernadette eighteen times with messages of prayer and penance. Bernadette followed God's plan for her life with a loving and pure heart.

Her family lived in Lourdes, a village in southern France near the mountains. They were very poor and lived in a dark basement with hardly any furniture. Bernadette was sick a lot and often missed school. But she was happy and loved to help with chores, like watching her younger brothers and sisters, cooking with her mother, and gathering firewood.





One day, she was playing with her sister and a friend in a grassy meadow. It was Bernadette's turn to find firewood. "Will you help me?" she asked her sister. "Sure, follow us!" The girls ran toward the river. "Wait for me!" Bernadette shouted.

Suddenly, she heard a strange noise. Then she saw a bright light. A beautiful lady appeared in the opening of the small cave (or grotto) where Bernadette was standing. The lady wore a long white dress and a veil on her head. A blue sash was tied at her waist, and yellow roses lay at her feet. She held a rosary in her hand. Bernadette stared at the lady and slowly walked toward the grotto.

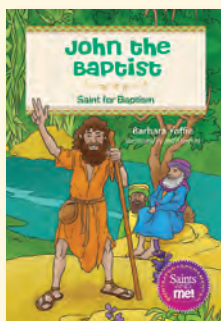




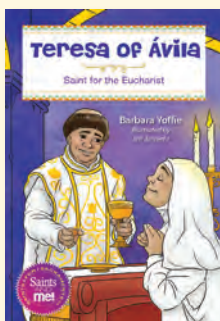
# saints and me!

## SAINTS FOR SACRAMENTS

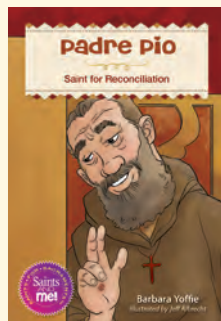
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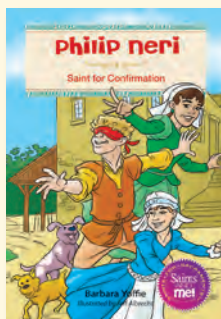
**John the Baptist:**  
Saint for Baptism  
827969



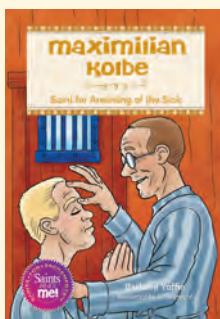
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Saint for the Eucharist  
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**Padre Pio:**  
Saint for Reconciliation  
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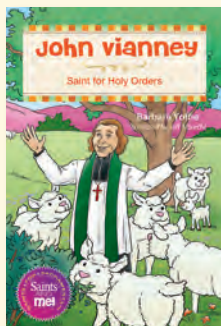
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