

# Getting Ready for Founders Week Prior Week Announcements

## Monday

In one week we will celebrate Founder's Day! What does that mean and why do we celebrate? Founder's Day is a day when certain Catholic orders celebrate the founder of their charism, or institution. Our founder is St. John Baptist de La Salle, hence why we ask him to pray for us after every prayer. De La Salle had deep concern for the young, especially the poor, to receive a human and Christian education. Without De La Salle's inspiration, St. John's would not be the same community it is today.

## Tuesday

In order to prepare for our Founder's Day celebration on Monday, June 20<sup>th</sup>, we want to help you understand what the celebration is all about. Do you ever wonder why we ask St. John Baptist de La Salle to pray for us?

Catholics ask saints to pray for them because they believe that saints can intercede on their behalf with God because of their closeness to Him. Saints are considered to be spiritual guides and mentors who would add their prayers in heaven to those offered by Christians still living in the material world. Catholics believe that saints are our companions and our examples, and that the more we join our prayers to the saints, the closer we draw in prayer to God.

St. John Baptist de La Salle, pray for us!

## Wednesday

Although the St. John's community will celebrate Founder's Day on Monday, May 20<sup>th</sup>, today is actually Founder's Day! On May 15<sup>th</sup>, 1950, John Baptist de La Salle was proclaimed patron of all teachers of youth. While De La Salle was not often in the classroom himself, it was he who helped form his order of the Christian Brothers into excellent educators for the poor students of Reims, France. Who is a teacher at St. John's who you believe is an excellent educator, one who embodies what it means to be Lasallian? Think of them and thank them in honor of Founder's Day today.

## Thursday

Monday, May 20<sup>th</sup> is when St. John's will celebrate Founder's Day with a Mass and school-wide festivities. As we continue to prepare our hearts and minds for the big day, we ask you to reflect on





what it means to ask De La Salle to pray for us. What can De La Salle pray for us for? Teachers, maybe you want De La Salle to pray for a lesson you are nervous to give and you want it to well. Students, maybe you have a big test coming up that you want to do well on. Instead of just saying the words, think of what our founder can truly pray for you. We know we all need prayers!

### Friday

When we return from the weekend on Monday, St. John's will celebrate Founder's Day. St. John Baptist de La Salle was declared a saint for sacrificing his life for the good of instilling a human and Christian education throughout the world. Because of De La Salle, over a million students' lives are positively impacted in 79 countries because they have the chance to receive a Lasallian education. While De La Salle's example is extraordinary, we are all called to be saints each and every day. We may not be canonized one day, but how can we be remembered as someone who blessed the lives of others through our service and love? Be a saint today!

-Abby Michels St Johns College High School

