

# SAINTLY SNAPSHOTS

ENGAGING THE SAINTS IN OUR CARE OF YOUNG PEOPLE

Jan 21<sup>st</sup> - **St Agnes**

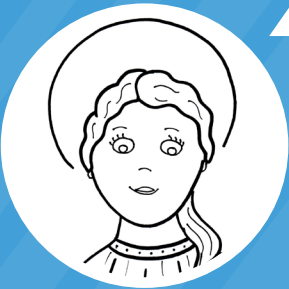
(291-304)

*Patron saint of engaged couples*

**Prayer:** + Lord, we pray for all newly engaged couples in our families and our parish community. Grow in them a love that truly satisfies and help them cling closely to the love of God.

St Agnes, pray for us.

**Action:** Invite an engaged couple you know over for dinner this week.



### Did you know?

The Roman prefect who sentenced her to a cruel death, was a suitor whom she flat-out refused to marry - twice.

## Beauty – Purity – Strength



Jan 31<sup>st</sup> - **St John Bosco**

(1815-1888)

*Patron saint of school children,  
young people, juvenile delinquents*

**Prayer:** + Lord, we pray for teenagers who struggle to believe in their own inherent goodness. Help us inspire hope and positivity in the lives of all young people.

St John Bosco, pray for us.

**Action:** Read some research into what young people want or see as the most important issues in their lives. Visit [missionaustralia.com.au](http://missionaustralia.com.au) or [www.mccrindle.com.au](http://www.mccrindle.com.au).



### Did you know?

John learned to juggle and to do magic tricks. He would do anything and everything he could think of to catch a child's attention and earn the right to be heard.

## Challenge – Perseverance – Visionary

Feb 10<sup>th</sup> - **St José Sánchez del Río** (1913-1928)



*Patron saint of children and adolescents*

**Prayer:** + Lord, we pray for all young people who suffer persecution for standing up for their faith.

St José Luis Sánchez del Río, pray for us.

**Did you know?**

José was too young to join the Cristero cause (to defend the Church in Mexico), so he joined the rebellion as a flag bearer.

**Action:** Have a conversation with a young person you've had conflict with and work towards reconciliation.

## Passionate – Brave – Forgiving



Apr 7<sup>th</sup> - **St John Baptist de la Salle** (1651-1719)



*Patron saint of teachers of youth, educators, school principals, teachers*

**Prayer:** + Lord, we pray for all teachers in schools across Australia. We pray that they might welcome every student who is entrusted to their care and impart in them a spirit of hope for the future.

St John Baptist de la Salle, pray for us.

**Did you know?**

Jealous instructors tried to bring lawsuits to ruin John's work in providing education for the poor.

**Action:** Drop off a cake or baked goods to your local school's staff lunchroom to say thank you to the teachers.

## Educator – Reformer – Leader

Jul 4<sup>th</sup> - **Bl Pier Giorgio Frassati** (1901-1925)



*Patron saints of students, young Catholics, youth groups*

**Prayer:** + Lord, we pray that young people everywhere will aspire to greatness and open their heart to your call to holiness. Bl Pier Giorgio Frassati, pray for us.

**Action:** Attend a fundraiser or an open night at the parish youth group. Alternatively, attend a holy hour to pray for the youth group.

**Did you know?**

Pier would make bets with his friends over a game of billiards that if he won, they would have to go with him to holy hour.

**Passionate – Social – Selfless**



Jul 6<sup>th</sup> - **St Maria Goretti** (1890-1902)



*Patron saint of girls, youth, teenage girls*

**Prayer:** + Lord, we pray that young people may know their value and dignity as a child of God. Give them the grace to know true love in you.

St Maria Goretti, pray for us.

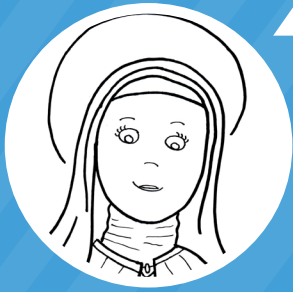
**Did you know?**

Maria's mother, Assunta, was at her daughter's canonisation Mass. This was the first time in history that a mother was present to witness the canonisation of her own child.

**Action:** Read an article about what young people are facing in regards to sexuality and relationships in our society today. Visit Real Talk Australia at [realtalkaustralia.com](http://realtalkaustralia.com) or check out Jason Evert's work at [chastityproject.com](http://chastityproject.com).

**Compassionate – Forgiving - Merciful**

Oct 1<sup>st</sup> - **St Thérèse of Lisieux** (1873-1897)



*Patron saint of Missionaries*

**Prayer:** + Lord, we pray that young people might whole-heartedly surrender their lives to your will. May they take every opportunity to show your love in 'little' ways. St Thérèse of Lisieux, pray for us.

**Did you know?**

Thérèse frequently fell asleep at prayer.

**Action:** Find a little way to show a young person that they are cared for.

## Relentless – Little – Ordinary



Oct 22<sup>nd</sup> - **St John Paul II** (1920-2005)



*Patron saint of World Youth Day*

**Prayer:** + Lord, we pray for your Spirit to lead us into new ways to encounter and dialogue with young people. Help us to see where we might create space for them in our church communities.

St John Paul II, pray for us.

**Did you know?**

Saint John Paul II received his call to the priesthood when he once accidentally "caught" his father praying alone during the night on his knees.

**Action:** Send an encouraging note / email / Facebook post / Instagram message to a handful of young people you know.

## Artistic – Devotional - Advocate

For more information, visit  
[www.catholic.org/saints](http://www.catholic.org/saints)