

Saint Dominic Savio

Joyful holiness in everyday friendship

Ages about 7-11 | Video 6:29 | Group lesson about 25-35 minutes

Central truth Holiness grows through God's grace in prayer, joyful friendship, and everyday loving choices.

Learning goals Recall Dominic's Communion promises and life with Don Bosco; describe a kind friendship habit; plan safe peacemaking.

Gather Video access, one handout per child, pencils or crayons, and a Bible.

Watch online [Open this video on Servus Dei](#)

Before watching | 2 minutes

Ask whether a saint can enjoy games and laughter. Invite children to notice prayer, play, and friendship together in Dominic's life.

Watch and notice

Notice Dominic's First Communion, Don Bosco's oratory, helping another boy with dropped books, and the group encouraging kindness. The fight scene is dramatized.

Talk together | 6-8 minutes

1. What promise shows Dominic's love for Jesus?

He wanted Jesus and Mary as his friends and valued Communion, Confession, and Sunday worship.

2. How did he help a boy who dropped books?

He helped pick them up and used friendly humor. Kindness and joy can belong together.

3. How can children respond to a fight safely?

Move away from danger and call an adult. Do not copy standing between people who are fighting.

4. What friendship habit can you practice?

Invite someone to play, help with a task, tell the truth kindly, or encourage a classmate. Choose one specific action.

Then respond and pray Allow 6-8 minutes for a handout or the activity on page 2; finish with the closing prayer.

Lead the response

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Short family lesson Watch the video, choose one recall question and one application question, then pray. About 12-18 minutes; the handout is optional.

Choose a handout

Draw & Tell Draw the book-helping scene and a safe friendship action today.

Read & Write Recall joyful kindness and make a safe, specific friendship promise.

Adapt by readiness

Ages 7-8: draw helping hands and dictate a simple welcome or encouragement.

Ages 9-11: distinguish peacemaking from unsafe intervention and discuss truthful responses to unfair blame.

A joyful friendship promise | Optional 4 minutes

Write or draw one small friendship promise: welcome, help, or encourage. Add a time to practice it. Choose a trusted adult for help if conflict or unfair blame arises.

Look for understanding Look for a kind habit children can actually practice. Holiness includes truthful communication and asking for help, not hiding mistreatment.

Closing prayer Jesus, help us grow in friendship with you. Fill our games, work, and words with kindness and joy. Saint Dominic Savio, pray for us. Amen.

At home Tell an adult your friendship promise and check back after practicing it. Thank God for friends and helpers.

Handout answer notes Helping: books and friendly encouragement. Conflict: step away and get adult help. Promises should be small, truthful, kind, and realistic.

Teach with care

Preview the fight, false accusation, illness, and death. Explain that children may always tell the truth and seek adult help when blamed or hurt. The video combines a peacemaking scene with unjust blame and adds dialogue; do not teach the combination as an exact historical episode. Children should tell trusted adults about harm and false accusations.

Dominic's strong words about sin express devotion, not a call to seek death or fear every mistake.

Words to explain Oratory: Don Bosco's community where boys learned, played, and grew in faith. Holiness: growing in God's love with his help. Peacemaker: someone who helps people resolve conflict safely.

Sources for the leader

Story source: [Servus Dei video and English transcript](#)

Salesian source: [Salesian Society: the life of Dominic Savio](#)

Kindness can be joyful

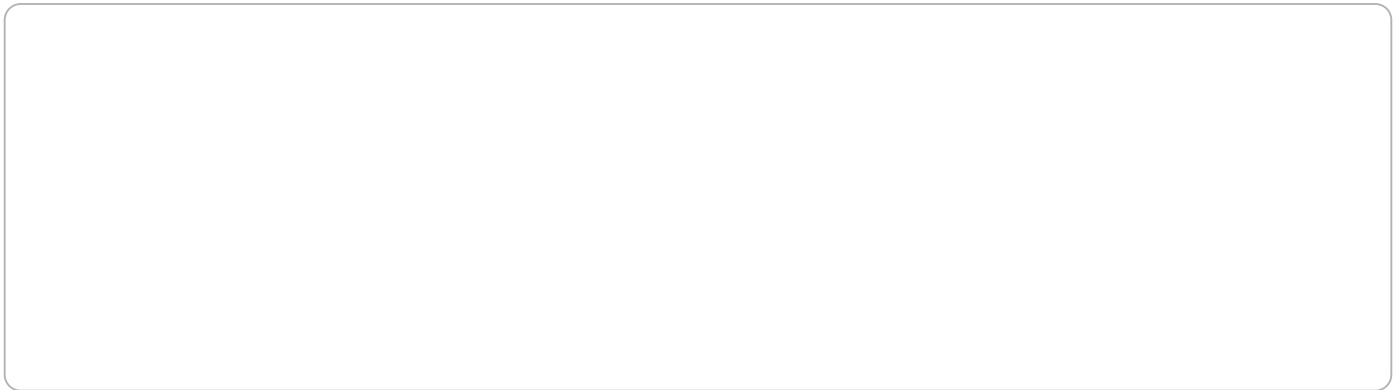
Saint Dominic Savio

Dominic loved Jesus and brought kindness to everyday friendship.

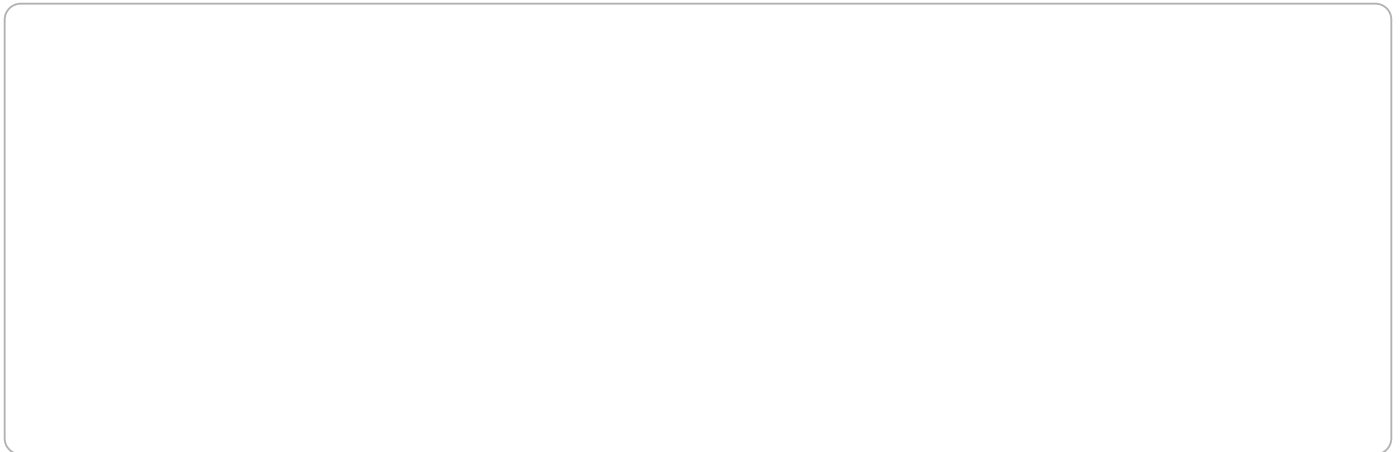
Name _____

Adult helper Read aloud. Invite drawing, pointing, or spoken answers. Writing is optional.

1 Draw Dominic helping the boy pick up his books.



2 Draw a joyful way you can welcome or encourage a friend.



Tell What makes each action helpful? How can kindness include laughter?

Pray Jesus, help me be a kind and joyful friend. Amen.

At home Share your picture and one thing you learned about God or following Jesus.

A small promise of friendship

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Think about Dominic's prayer, play, and kindness.

Name _____

1 Recall his friendship

How did Dominic help the boy with dropped books?

He helped by ...

2 Respond to conflict

What should a child do if people are fighting?

A safe response is ...

3 Make a promise

Choose a friendship habit and a time to practice it.

My friendship promise is ...

Pray Jesus, help me be a kind and joyful friend. Amen.

Go deeper How can prayer change the way you treat someone during a game?