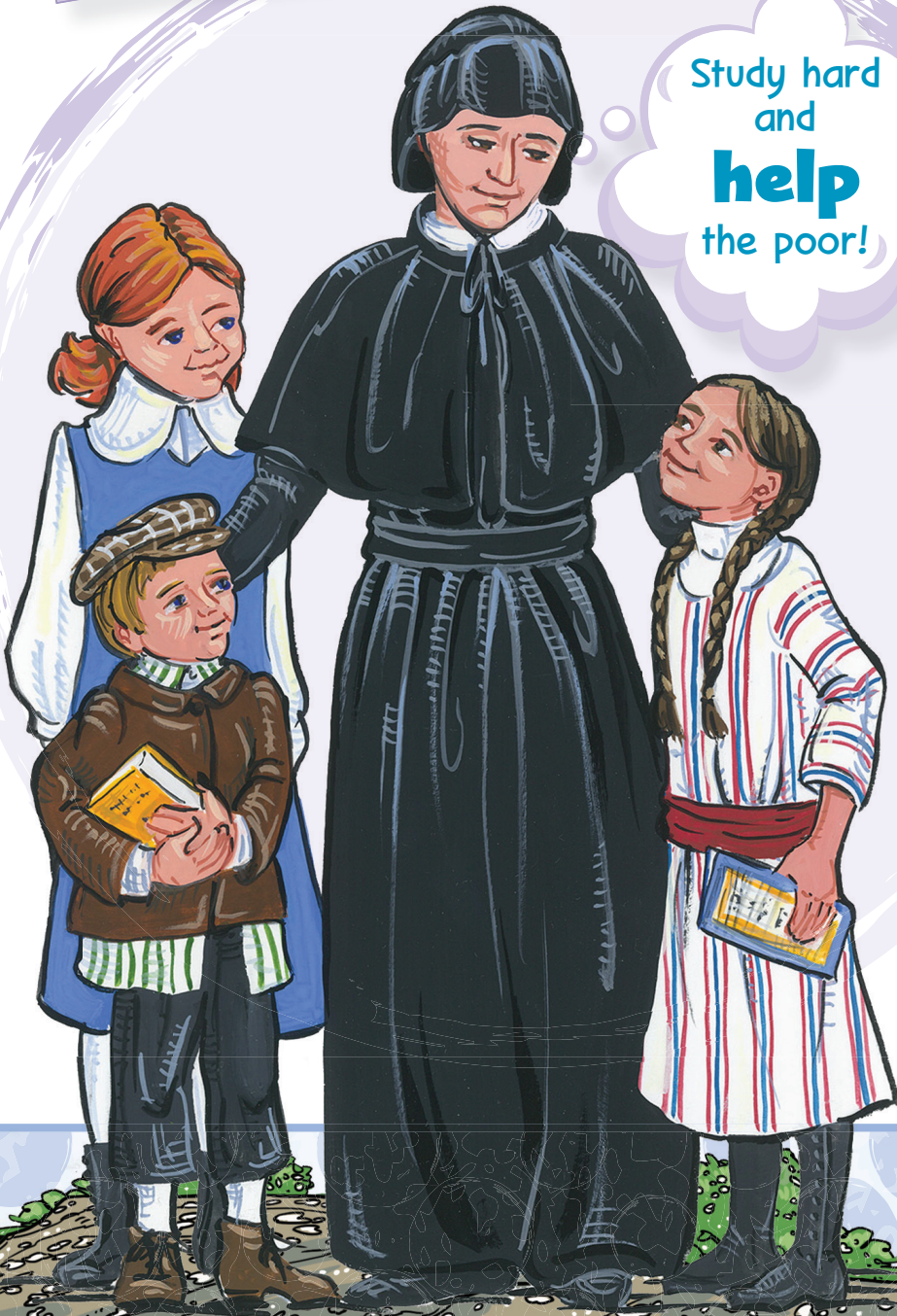


Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton

(1774-1821)

Study hard
and
help
the poor!




 Feast Day
January

4

Elizabeth Ann Seton known to her family and friends as Betty, was born in New York City in 1774. Her mother died when she was three years old. When Betty was a young girl, her stepmother took her to bring food and clothing to poor families. When Betty was older, she started a society to help poor mothers and children.

Betty married William M. Seton in 1794, and they lived happily with their five children until William became ill. The family thought that a trip to Italy would help him heal. Yet he died shortly after their arrival.

While in Italy, Betty went to Mass with her Catholic friends and learned that Jesus was really and truly present in the Eucharist. Returning to New York, she studied the Catholic faith and was received into the Church. When she started a school for girls in Baltimore, several young women joined her. They began the Sisters of Charity—a community dedicated to educating poor children. From then on, Betty became known as Mother Seton.

Mother Seton died in 1821. She is the first native-born American saint and is recognized for beginning the Catholic school system in the United States.



Prayer

Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton, you met the challenges of your life with courage and faith. Pray to God for me, that I may be strong and courageous too.



Write a prayer asking God, through the prayers of Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton, to bless your favorite teacher.

