

WEEK 1

September 28th - October 4th

AFRICA

Saint Daniel Comboni:
Missionary to Africa

Feast Day: October 10



St. Daniel Comboni (1831–1881) was born in Italy and became a priest who felt called to bring the love of Jesus to the people of Africa, especially in Sudan. He saw the challenges of mission work, including poverty, illness, and slavery, but he never gave up. He believed the people of Africa could lead and grow the Church themselves. He said, “Save Africa with Africa!” meaning the mission should be shared with local communities.

St. Daniel founded the Comboni Missionaries and helped educate local leaders, especially young people. Like the Missionary Childhood Association, he believed children had a role in building the Church through prayer, learning, and sharing.

Mission Prayer Inspired by St. Daniel Comboni

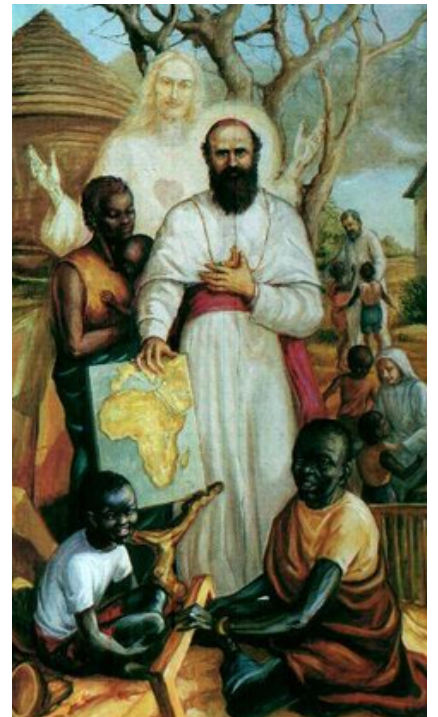
Dear God,

Thank You for the life of St. Daniel Comboni, who gave his heart to the people of Africa. Help us to love others like he did — with courage, joy, and hope.

May we remember the children in mission lands who need our prayers and sacrifices. Through the Missionary Childhood Association, help us be missionaries from home.

St. Daniel Comboni, pray for us!

Amen.



Mission Inspiration

ST. THERESE OF THE CHILD JESUS ORPHANAGE BURKINA-FASO



The Saint Thérèse of the Child Jesus Orphanage is a special place in Loubila, Burkina Faso (a country in Africa) that's been helping children since 1995. It's like a big, caring home that welcomes kids of all ages - from tiny babies to teenagers - who need extra help and love.

FUN FACT: Saint Terese of the Child Jesus is the Patroness of the Missions, even though she never even left her convent! She prayed fervently for the Missions, showing that we can all be missionaries from our own homes!



At the orphanage the children are welcome to learn about faith and take part in church activities. The orphanage opens its doors to kids who might be going through tough times or need medical help in the Loubila area. They also make sure children have a safe place to sleep, yummy food to eat, and comfortable clothes to wear. The orphanage doesn't just help children who live there - they also give supplies to families who might be having a hard time.

The most important thing about this orphanage is that they teach children all the skills they need to grow up to be strong, independent, and caring people who can follow their dreams and help others too! In Loubila, they grow something really cool called spirulina, which is like a super healthy food that helps keep the children strong and healthy! The orphanage is working on building new pools to grow more spirulina, along with a special room where they can collect and package it. This will help the orphanage take care of even more children.



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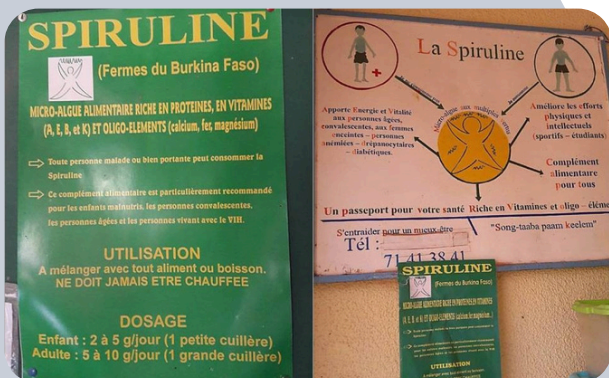
Mission Inspiration

ST. THERESE OF THE CHILD JESUS ORPHANAGE BURKINA-FASO



When school children in the United States give gifts to help, it means the orphanage can continue looking after kids who need their help the most. This orphanage is one of many supported by the Missionary Childhood Association. MCA members are asked to not only help support places like the Saint Therese of the Child Jesus Orphanage through financial sacrifices, but also offer up their prayers. The children not only need material things now, but our love and prayers throughout the rest of their lives.

Reflection and Activity:



You just learned about Spirulina, a food supplement for the nutrition of children. What is your favorite meal?

What about this meal makes it nutritious? As a group, share the different ingredients, and come up with a new recipe on your own, that incorporates Spirulina as a food supplement!

Pray and Sacrifice:

Lord, we ask you to pray for the children who are struggling at the orphanage to have hope and joy in their lives. We pray that our sacrifices help them feel comfort through the food, shelter, and clothing that MCA can help provide.

\$1 can help support the St. Terese Orphanage in Burkina-Faso

\$10 can help fund the orphanage for the construction of new collection basins (electrical system, seeds, etc.)

\$25 helps build a laboratory (for cultivation, harvesting, packaging) to increase the production of spirulina



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