

Answers to the Requirements

1) He was born with the name Joseph de Veuster. He became Damien of Molokai because he volunteered to stay at the island of Molokai where the government had sent the people with leprosy. He is now referred to as Blessed Damien of Molokai after the beatification ceremony by Pope John Paul II. (www.americancatholic.org)

2) His brother could not fulfill his dream of traveling overseas to actively participate in missionary work. Damien took up his brother's dream as his own and went in his place on a mission abroad. (www.americancatholic.org)

3) Ordained to the priesthood on May 24, 1864 at the Cathedral of Our Lady of Peace. (www.newadvent.org)

4) May 10. In Hawaii, they celebrate Father Damien's Feast Day statewide on April 15 (the day of his death). (www.newadvent.org)

5) Damien is most noted for his extreme devotion to caring and ministering to people with leprosy. Damien is considered the spiritual patron for Hansen's Disease, HIV and AIDS patients as well as outcasts. (www.americancatholic.org)

6) King David Kalakaua bestowed on Damien the honor *Knight Commander of the Royal Order of Kalakaua*. When Princess Lydia Liliuokalani visited the settlement to present the medal, she was reported as having been too distraught and heartbroken to read her speech. The princess shared her experience with the world and publicly acclaimed Damien's efforts. (www.wikipedia.com)

Visit www.NCCS-BSA.org for information on how to order the Footsteps of American patches.

Frequently Asked Questions

Who can work on this program?

All youth and adults.

Does the youth need to submit the answers to the requirements when they are done with the activity?

No. The answers should be reviewed by an adult. The application and patch fee are the only things that need to be submitted.

Will there be more than one Activity Patch?

Yes. There will be an activity patch for every American Saint. Five new activities will be added each year. If a new American saint were to be canonized, that person would be added to the rotation in a timely manner.

How long will this saint be available for me to work on?

Each saint activity will be available for scouts to work on for two years. After that, the activity will be rotated off and replaced with a new saint.

Is this activity considered a religious emblem, and will Cub or Boy Scouts receive their religious knot after completing the form?

No. The activity is considered a religious activity not a religious emblem. Cub and Boy Scouts will not receive a religious knot after completing the form.

Footsteps of American Saints



Blessed Damien of Molokai Activity



National Catholic
Committee on Scouting®

WWW.NCCS-BSA.ORG

Footsteps of American Saints

This program honors those men and women who led heroic lives of faith. Their words, their deeds, and their devotion to prayer and to the sacraments, inspire all American Catholics. In the church calendar for the United States, some have the rank of "saint" and are venerated by the universal church. Some have the rank of "blessed" and are venerated by the local church. Some have the rank of "venerable" and, while on the way to becoming a "saint", may be venerated by Catholics. Most of these men and women lived and worked in either North or South America. Many lived in what is now the United States. Others never set foot in our country, however their lives and work have had a huge impact on the Catholic American landscape. All of them sought to follow Jesus.

Requirements for Blessed Damien of Molokai

All – Read about this saint. You can find the answers to these questions on www.newadvent.org and www.americancatholic.org. Feel free to use other resources.

1st thru 5th Grades - Complete 4 requirements and 2 of the activities.

6th thru 12th Grades - Complete 5 requirements and 3 of the activities.

Requirements:

- 1) He took the name of a 4th century physician and blessed when he became a priest...Fr. Damien. What was his original name and why do we call him Blessed Damien of Molokai?
- 2) Before going to Hawaii, Blessed Damien of Molokai worked as a missionary. What were the circumstances that allowed him to travel to Hawaii?
- 3) When did he become a priest?
- 4) Blessed Damien of Molokai was given a memorial feast day by Pope John Paul II in 1995. When is that day celebrated?
- 5) What is Blessed Damien of Molokai most known for devoting his life to?
- 6) King David Kalakaua presented what honor on Damien?

Activities:

- 1) Discuss with your family or counselor, some of the values that you admire most about Blessed Damien of Molokai . What is he known for? How can you be more like him?
- 2) Draw a picture showing some of his accomplishments. Share this picture with your family.
- 3) Create a poster of hope and deliver it to a children hospital in your community.
- 4) Visit with the sick or elderly. Spend time learning what they like. Possibly bring a kitten or puppy from the pound to visit with the elderly for a couple of hours.

Requirements for Adults

- 1) Assist the youth with this Footsteps of American Saints activity
- 2) Share your thoughts with the youth about this Saint.
- 3) Review the youth requirements after they have completed the activity.
- 4) Fill out the application for this activity and send it along with the fee to the NCCS.

For more information about this Saint, check out the websites below.

- www.Catholic.org
- www.AmericanCatholic.org
- www.NewAdvent.org
- www.ewtn.com/saintsHoly